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American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine, press
releases, 1944.

PRESS RELEASE from

American Jewish Trade Union Committee For Palestine
Room 2500 245 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y. MU 3-1881

FOR RELEASE THURSDAY, APRIL 6th

The American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine, representing several hundred thousand organized Jewish workers, both A.F.L. and C.I.O., today demanded the immediate abrogation of the White Paper policy which bars further Jewish immigration into Palestine, and called for the reconstitution of that country as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.

In a declaration unanimously adopted at a meeting of its members, the Committee stated that "the American labor movement generally, embracing 12,000,000 members, is completely in favor of, and supports the aims of their Jewish co-trade unionists -- to help in the rebuilding of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth."

The declaration also urged passage by Congress "at the earliest opportunity" of the pending Palestine resolutions, introduced in the House by Representatives James A. Wright (Democrat, Pennsylvania) and Ranulf Compton (Republican, Connecticut) and in the Senate by Senators Robert F. Wagner (Democrat, New York) and Robert A. Taft (Republican, Ohio). The Palestine resolutions call on the United States to "use its good offices and take appropriate measures to the end that the doors of Palestine shall be opened for free entry of Jews into that country, and that there shall be full opportunity for colonization so that the Jewish people may ultimately reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

The Committee hailed President Roosevelt's statement of March 9th, that "the American Government has never given its approval to the White Paper... and that when future decisions are reached, full justice will be done to those who seek a Jewish National Home, for which our Government and the American people have always had the deepest sympathy."

Pointing out that the American Federation of Labor, at its last convention held in Boston in October, 1943, unanimously adopted a resolution calling for full implementation of the Balfour Declaration, and that the C.I.O., at its convention in November, 1943, also demanded abrogation of the Chamberlain White Paper, the Committee declared, "We know that these resolutions of the two great American labor organizations are a result of the generally prevailing sympathy of American organized labor toward the fate of the Jewish people, and indicate their willingness and determination to help them in the achievement of their goal."

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Branding the White Paper as "a cruel blow aimed at Hitler's first victims and staunchest opponents," the Committee appealed to the American Government for "speedy and direct action to effect the opening of Palestine's gates to Jewish immigration."

The text of the declaration follows:

"We, the undersigned, representing several hundred thousand organized Jewish workers -- both A.F.L. and C.I.O. -- in the United States, recognize it as our solemn duty, as Americans, as Jews, and as trade union representatives, to declare publicly that we are in full agreement with the demands being made for the immediate abrogation of the White Paper which bars further Jewish immigration into Palestine, and we call for the reconstitution of that country as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.

"We applaud and support all the efforts being made in the United States today to insure the reopening of the doors of Palestine to Jewish immigration and to its establishment as a Jewish Commonwealth.

"We are in complete agreement with the aims and purposes of the resolutions introduced in the House by Representatives James A. Wright (Democrat, Pennsylvania) and Ramulf Compton (Republican, Connecticut) and in the Senate by Senators Robert F. Wagner (Democrat, New York) and Robert A. Taft (Republican, Ohio), in which it is resolved 'that the United States shall use its good offices and take appropriate measures to the end that the doors of Palestine shall be opened for free entry of Jews into that country, and that there shall be full opportunity for colonization, so that the Jewish people may ultimately reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.

"We appeal to the members of both Houses of Congress to adopt in full these resolutions at the earliest opportunity.

"We applaud the President of the United States for authorizing on March 9th a statement declaring that 'the American Government has never given its approval to the White Paper of 1939... and that when future decisions are reached, full justice will be done to those who seek a Jewish National Home, for which our government and the American people have always had the deepest sympathy.

"We call attention to the positive action taken by both the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations at their respective conventions held late last year. The A.F.L. unanimously adopted the following resolution:

'The American Federation of Labor urges that the restrictions on Jewish immigration and settlement contained in the British White Paper of 1939 be withdrawn, and that the Balfour Declaration be so implemented that the hopes and aspirations of the Jewish people to build their own commonwealth in Palestine may be realized. Thus will this ancient people be enabled to take its rightful place among the democratic nations of the world, and make its full contribution to that progressive world order which we all pray will emerge from the horrible sufferings of this global war'
and it further

'Resolved, that the American Federation of Labor urges upon our Government and upon the Government of Great Britain, which has a special responsibility in the matter, that the Balfour Declaration be fully implemented, that the right of Jewish people to a national home in Palestine be reaffirmed, and that every aid and encouragement be given to enable the victims of Nazi persecution to settle upon their ancient soil and make it bloom once more as it did in the days of the prophets.'

"At its last convention in Philadelphia, the C.I.O. declared:

'We support the demands of Palestinian Jews for all opportunity for unrestricted participation on the battlefield and

for the unrestricted opportunity to make an agricultural and industrial contribution to the war effort. We join in their demands for the abrogation of the so-called Chamberlain White Paper which would close all Jewish immigration into Palestine by April, 1944, as discriminatory, unfair, unjust, and a hindrance to the war effort.'

"We are confident that these resolutions of the two great American labor organizations result from the generally prevailing sympathy of American organized labor toward the fate of the Jewish people, and indicate their willingness and determination to help the Jewish people in the achievement of their goal.

"We brand the White Paper as a cruel blow aimed at Hitler's first victims and staunchest opponents, and we appeal to the American government for speedy and direct action to effect the opening of Palestine's gates to Jewish immigration. The freedom-loving world which is today combatting the Hitler curse will not have fulfilled its duty to civilization if it will not free the Jewish people from its homelessness. The wrong that is being committed today can be righted only through the abrogation of the White Paper policy and the reconstitution of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

Max Zaritsky, Chairman
American Jewish Trade Union Committee
for Palestine

The officers of the Committee are Max Zaritsky, president of the United Hatters Cap and Millinery Workers Union of America, chairman. Vice-chairmen include: Isidore Nagler, Morris Bialis, Joseph Breslaw, and Harry Greenberg, vice-presidents, International Ladies Garment Workers Union; Joseph Schlossberg, secretary-treasurer emeritus, Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union, Joseph Gold, manager, Coat-Makers Trade Board, A.C.W.A., William Wolpert, secretary-treasurer, United Hebrew Trades, and Murray Kudish, vice-president, United Wholesale-Retail Department Store Employees Union of America. I. H. Goldberg, vice-president of the United Hatters Cap and Millinery Workers Union of America and Harry Wander, vice-president of the ILGWU are co-secretaries. Abraham Miller, secretary of the New York Joint Board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union, and Harris Horowitz, manager of the Bakers Union, are co-treasurers.

PRESS RELEASE from

American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine
Room 2500 245 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York MU 3-1881

FOR RELEASE: MONDAY, APRIL 24

SIDNEY HILLMAN DEMANDS WHITE PAPER REPEAL AND JEWISH COMMONWEALTH
IN PALESTINE

AMALGAMATED CLOTHING WORKERS HEAD SAYS PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND AMERICAN PEOPLE
TAKE THE SAME POSITION

New York -- Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, today demanded the immediate opening of Palestine's doors to free Jewish immigration, and declared that "this is the position, not only of the President of the United States, but also of great sections of the American people who feel the tortures visited upon a defenseless people."

In a declaration supporting the aims of the newly-organized American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine, Mr. Hillman denounced the British White Paper policy, which prohibits new Jewish immigration into Palestine, as "a travesty upon elementary justice and humanity," and urged that the remnants of the Jewish people be saved from complete destruction by "the immediate abrogation of the White Paper and the reconstitution of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

Asserting that this is the position of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, representing more than 5,000,000 American trade-unionists, Mr. Hillman pointed out that the C.I.O., in a resolution adopted unanimously at its national convention in Philadelphia last November, assailed the White Paper as "discriminatory, unfair, unjust, and a hindrance to the war effort."

The text of Mr. Hillman's statement follows:

"Justice demands the immediate abrogation of the White Paper, which bars

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further immigration into Palestine, and the reconstitution of that country as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.

"The soil of Europe is soaked with the blood of Jewish dead. They have been killed in the ghettos, they have been killed in the fields. Men, women and children. And as the Nazi hordes are being beaten into Roumania, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and the rest of Middle and Eastern Europe, their first victims, as always are defenseless Jews -- men, women and children.

"It is a travesty upon elementary justice and humanity to close the door to the one avenue of escape for the hapless Jews who still remain alive. As we wait, as we write, as we talk, they are being killed. Just that. They are being killed.

"It is imperative that appropriate measures be taken to open the doors of Palestine for free entry of Jews into that country.

"This is the position not only of the President of the United States but also of great sections of the American people who feel the tortures visited upon a defenseless people.

"It is the position of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, representing more than 5,000,000 American trade-unionists. The C.I.O., in a resolution adopted unanimously at its national convention in Philadelphia last November, urged the abrogation of the Chamberlain White Paper, declaring it to be 'discriminatory, unfair, unjust, and a hindrance to the war effort.'

"I wish to add my voice to that of millions of other Americans asking that the remnants of a people be saved from complete destruction at the hands of our common enemy. This can best be accomplished by the immediate abrogation of the White Paper, and the reconstitution of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine

Room 2500 • 245 Fifth Avenue
MUrray Hill 3-1881 New York 16, N. Y.

Dear Editor:

We would appreciate your using all or part of the following article, which seeks to bring to the attention of American labor some of the highlights in the current struggle to provide a permanent homeland for the homeless and oppressed Jews of Europe.

We would be most grateful if you would send us a marked copy of your publication.

THE COMMITTEE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN LABOR SPEAKS ON PALESTINE

By Max Zaritsky
President, United Hatters, Cap
and Millinery Workers of America

The American labor movement is aware of the desperate plight of the Jewish people because it is uniquely equipped to understand the full meaning of that plight.

American labor -- genuinely American in the sense that it takes literally the fundamental principles of human rights given to Americans in the Declaration of Independence -- has struggled and fought throughout its history for the right of the individual to enjoy those principles of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

And throughout its history, the American labor movement has always been the champion of the underprivileged, the disenfranchised, the people to whom basic human rights have been denied. As it has grown in strength, power and influence,

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organized labor in this country has extended the application of its principles far beyond the limits of the labor movement itself. It has led the crusade for human rights and liberty everywhere.

It is clear, therefore, why the American Federation of Labor, speaking as it does for millions of American workers, should have been the first organized labor group in America to protest against the oppression of the Jewish people; that it should have been the first organized American group to hail with enthusiasm the advent of Britain's 1917 Balfour Declaration, which called for "the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people;" that it should have welcomed the Balfour Declaration in an official statement adopted at the 1917 A.F.L. convention.

Nor is it surprising that the American Federation of Labor should have been the first organized group in the United States to understand the great danger unleashed upon the world when Nazism first appeared in Germany. We all remember the clarion call issued by President William Green, whose early warning in 1933 appears so prophetic today. He warned of the Nazi threat to humanity; his voice rang out on behalf of all American labor, not only in condemnation of the Nazi persecution of the Jews, but in a demand that the civilized world take action to stop such persecution. Small wonder, therefore, that it was the Federation which called for and inaugurated a boycott against Nazi products; that it was the Federation which, in one convention after another, reiterated its protest against the wanton oppression of the Jews in Germany and Eastern European countries.

Aware of the bitter consequences of such oppression, and interested in the free development of the Jewish homeland in Palestine, the A.F.L. greeted with real satisfaction the organization of the Histadruth, Palestine's democratic Jewish labor federation. In a resolution unanimously adopted at the Federation's 1943 convention in Boston, the A.F.L. extended the hand of friendship and encouragement to the workers of Palestine and said:

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"We know of the magnificent part that has been played by the sons and daughters of Jewish labor in Palestine in defending the gateway to the East against the Nazis. We wish for the Histadruth greater success in a greater land, in a land which has received full justice from the United Nations, in a land where every suffering, persecuted Jew who sought refuge found it, who sought the right to toil secured it, who sought human dignity and human freedom achieved it."

For American labor in general, and the A.F.L. in particular, has looked with favor and approval at the constructive work of Palestine's Jewish pioneers, and especially of its organized Jewish workers whose signal success in rebuilding the ancient, long-neglected land of Palestine on a sound, democratic foundation has served as an example to the peoples of the Middle East, just as the untiring efforts of the A.F.L. have served as an example to the entire American continent.

The promise of free continuation of the splendid accomplishment of the Palestinian Jewish workers — they who have made their ancient land bloom again as it did in the days of the prophets, was rudely halted in 1939 by a British "White Paper" which called an end to Jewish immigration into Palestine, and narrowly limited the areas where Jews might buy soil to settle upon, to build upon, and to give nourishment both to themselves and to the armies of the United Nations fighting in the Near and Middle East.

Accordingly, at the A.F.L. convention of last October, a ringing declaration concerning Palestine was adopted:

"How urgent is the need for full development of Palestine today; how much more urgent will that need be when civilization emerges victorious over the barbarians! For Palestine is the one country in the world that is prepared to give refuge and asylum to the victims of Hitlerite oppression, not on a temporary, but on a permanent basis..."

"The American Federation of Labor urges that the restrictions on Jewish immigration and settlement contained in the British White Paper of 1939 be withdrawn, and that the Balfour Declaration be so implemented that the hopes and aspirations

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of the Jewish people to build their own commonwealth in Palestine may be realized."

Several months ago, a committee of Jewish trade union leaders in the United States was organized. Known as the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine, it has received the endorsement of A.F.L. President William Green, who has accepted honorary chairmanship. This committee consists of the leaders of hundreds of thousands of affiliated Jewish trade-unionists -- among them, the leaders of such organizations as the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, the United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, the United Hebrew Trades, the Butchers' Union, Retail Clerks, and a multitude of other unions having Jewish membership.

The organized Jewish workers of America, acting through the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine, call upon every organized worker in the United States to support the position taken by the official spokesmen of American labor. Jewish workers here are aware of the deep appreciation which the hunted Jews of Europe and Palestine's organized labor movement feel for the tokens of sympathy and friendship expressed by the free American labor movement. They appeal to the conscience of all American workers to support the pleas of the tortured Jews for the opportunity to emigrate to Palestine and to create there, with their own hands and their own initiative, a permanent haven, a true homeland for a homeless people.

For there is a strong realization among Palestine's Jewish workers, and among the leaders of the Histadruth, that the only security for the homeless Jewish people lies in true nationhood -- that only through the free grant of such nationhood can the uprooted Jewish people live out their lives in security and dignity on the land into which they have poured so much love, so much labor and devotion.

American Jewish workers, sympathizing as they do with the Histadruth, ask three things for their fellow-workers in Palestine.

First, that the White Paper prohibiting Jewish immigration into the Jewish homeland be withdrawn. What other country is prepared to open its gates to a large influx of refugees?

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Second, that entry into Palestine for all Jewish refugees who are able to go there be facilitated.

Third, that permanent security be assured the Jewish people by the grant of nationhood so that they may enjoy the fruits of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.

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American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine

Room 2500 • 245 Fifth Avenue
Murray Hill 3-1881 New York 16, N. Y.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LABOR LEADERS SCORE LEAGUE FOR A FREE PALESTINE

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GREEN, THOMAS, ZARITSKY, OTHERS DENOUNCE UNWARRANTED USE OF SIGNATURES

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New York — William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, R. J. Thomas, President, U.A.W., C.I.O. and other prominent labor leaders forbade the newly-created "American League for a Free Palestine" from using their names on any documents issued "by the League or any of its sub-divisions, past or future," it was announced today by Max Zaritsky, President of the United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers of America, in an open letter to the American League for a Free Palestine.

At the same time, A.F.L. President Green made public a letter written to Congressman Andrew Somers, one of the League's sponsors, in which Mr. Green said: "Because I am already serving with the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine and other Jewish organizations formed for the purpose of promoting the Open Door Policy in Palestine, I deem it inadvisable to respond to your request to serve as a member of the sponsoring committee of the American League for a Free Palestine. I must, therefore, request that you discontinue the use of my name in the work of the American League for a Free Palestine and in the administrative policies of said organization."

The American League for a Free Palestine is a sub-division of the Hebrew Committee on National Liberation, which was recently under severe attack by all accredited Zionist agencies in this country for its attempt to establish a "Hebrew embassy" in Washington. At the time, the Zionist groups challenged the authority

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of Europe, are offshoots of the ambiguous Hebrew Committee of National Liberation.

Second, the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation is led by a "handful" of unidentified individuals. Why are they known to so few? Do they represent "The freedom movement of the Hebrew people of Europe and Palestine?"

I have been informed by thoroughly reliable sources that this nebulous group of individuals who have misused my signature and that of many others, are actually representatives of the notorious Palestinian Irgun--the anti-labor scourge of the Palestinian Jewish community and of the Histadruth, the Palestine Jewish Federation of Labor. The American labor movement has always had the deepest respect and sympathy for the valiant Histadruth, which speaks for the great majority of Palestine's Jewish workers. The Irgun runs counter to the recognized and democratically constituted agencies (including the Histadruth) which are working for Palestine; it defies the masses of Palestinian Jews whose exemplary pioneering lives are truly representative of the "freedom movement of the Hebrew people of Europe and Palestine." The disciplined laboring folk of Palestine, and their organized supporters in this country, are accredited spokesmen for the Palestine freedom movement; New York's Irgunist organizers are not.

It is unthinkable that men who stem from a Palestinian organization which is denounced as fascist by the Palestinian labor federation, should masquerade in America as humanitarians and liberals when, by devious unsavory means, their parent organization in Palestine has endeavored to undermine Jewish labor, has preached a hate campaign against the Arabs, and has subjected the peaceful Jewish community of Palestine to unmerited hardships during the past few months because of its own privately-conducted terror campaign.

Accordingly, I hereby serve notice that I do not authorize the use of my name by the American League for a Free Palestine; I demand its withdrawal from the "Proclamation" and shall not countenance its use in any further publicity put out by the League or any of its sub-divisions, past or future; and I have been authorized by the following of my colleagues in labor, William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, R. J. Thomas, President, U.A.W., C.I.O., Samuel Wolchok, International President, United Retail Wholesale and Department Store Employees of America, Leo E. George, President, National Federation of Post Office Clerks, and James Maloney, President, American Glass Bottle Blowers Association, to attach their signatures to this open letter.

MZ:GLF

Max Zaritsky
President, United Hatters, Cap
and Millinery Workers of America

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May 22, 1944

American League for a Free Palestine
11 West 42nd Street
New York 18, N. Y.

Gentlemen:

I was amazed to find my signature and the signature of other Americans who represent organized labor in the United States attached to a document entitled "A Proclamation on the Moral Rights of the Stateless and Palestinian Jews," issued under the imprimatur of the American League for a Free Palestine.

Over a year ago, the now-defunct Committee for a Jewish Army circulated the above petition among representative American citizens. As a spokesman for a branch of American labor, I was glad to join with other Americans in urging the creation of a special military unit of stateless and Palestinian Jews. Because I believed in the right of Jews to participate as Jews in this war against fascist aggression, I endorsed the Proclamation.

In doing so, however, I relied on the good faith of the men who circulated that petition. I was not prepared then, nor am I now prepared to permit the unwarranted use of my signature by a new organization, the American League for a Free Palestine, which I cannot endorse. I consider the transfer of signatures from the roster of one organization to that of another, for the sole purpose of creating an unjustifiable impression of strength, to be a high-handed, unethical procedure.

Upon examining the various pamphlets issued by your organization, I find the following statement concerning the self-styled "Hobrew Committee of National Liberation":

"The Hobrew Committee of National Liberation is not known to many. Its achievements and activities are. Within the past three years a handful of its members initiated, as spearheads in the fight for the survival of the Hebrew people, the following organizations in this country: The American Friends of a Jewish Palestine, the Committee for a Jewish Army of Stateless and Palestinian Jews, the Emergency Conference and the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe...The Hobrew Committee of National Liberation represents the freedom movement of the Hebrew people of Europe and Palestine on whose banner is inscribed: 'Survival and Freedom'. All the activities of this movement and its leadership are dedicated to and motivated by these two principles: 'Survival and Freedom'. The American League for a Free Palestine, therefore, recognized the aims of the Hobrew Committee of National Liberation as the only logical solution to the age-old problem of the Hebrew people."
(My underlines)

From this confusing list of multiple titles, two clear facts appear. First, all of these groups, including the highly-publicized Committee to Save the Jewish People

of "a handful of seven men" to speak for the Jewish people.

In his strongly-worded letter, Mr. Zaritsky referred to the transfer of his signature from a document issued by the Committee for a Jewish Army to the League's roster, charging the League with "high-handed, unethical procedure" in what he termed "the unwarranted use of my signature by a new organization, the American League for a Free Palestine, which I cannot endorse."

Referring to the Hebrew Committee on National Liberation, he declared: "I have been informed by thoroughly reliable sources that this nebulous group of individuals who have misused my signature and that of many others, are actually representatives of the notorious Palestinian Irgun--the anti-labor scourge of the Palestinian Jewish community and of the Histadruth, the Palestine Jewish Federation of Labor. The American labor movement has always had the deepest respect and sympathy for the valiant Histadruth, which speaks for the great majority of Palestine's Jewish workers.

"It is unthinkable that men who stem from a Palestinian organization which is denounced as fascist by the Palestinian labor federation, should masquerade in American as humanitarians and liberals, when, by devious unsavory means, their parent organization in Palestine has endeavored to undermine Jewish labor, has preached a hate campaign against the Arabs, and has subjected the peaceful Jewish community of Palestine to unmerited hardships during the past few months because of its own privately-conducted terror campaign," Mr. Zaritsky said.

The letter of disassociation with the American League for a Free Palestine was signed by Mr. Zaritsky, who further stated: "I have been authorized by the following of my colleagues in labor, William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, R. J. Thomas, President, U.A.W., C.I.O., Samuel Wolchok, International President, United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees of America, Leo E. George, President, National Federation of Post Office Clerks, and James Maloney, President, American Glass Bottle Blowers Association, to attach their signatures to this open letter." (Full text of letter follows)

American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine

Room 2500 • 245 Fifth Avenue
MUrray Hill 3-1881 New York 16, N. Y.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW YORK LABOR MAKES PALESTINE PLEA

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New York -- The Central Trades and Labor Council of the City of New York, representing 700 trade unions and almost a million American Federation of Labor members, on Thursday evening, May 25th, passed a resolution urging the American and British Governments "to bring about the immediate unequivocal repeal of the entire White Paper policy," which prohibits further Jewish immigration into Palestine.

The resolution demanded a new policy for Palestine, "consistent with the tragic needs of the Jewish people and the magnificent contribution made by the Jewish workers of Palestine to the war effort of the United Nations." The measure also urged that the Jewish people be given "equal status among the free nations of the world in the international planning for postwar settlement and rehabilitation."

This action of the Central Trades and Labor Council endorses the stand taken earlier by its parent body, the American Federation of Labor, which adopted a resolution at its last national convention urging full implementation of the Balfour Declaration, so that "the hopes and aspirations of the Jewish people to build their own commonwealth in Palestine be realized."

The session was presided over by Thomas Murtha, president of the Council, and the resolution was submitted on behalf of the Executive Council of the Central Trades by James C. Quinn, Secretary.

Full text of the resolution follows:

"WHEREAS, the tragic persecution of the Jewish people during the past decade has demonstrated only too clearly the pressing need for rebuilding Palestine as an

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assured Homeland to which hundreds of thousands of Jewish refugees may turn for permanent rehabilitation and security, and

"WHEREAS, the Jewish Homeland in Palestine, established in 1922 by action of the League of Nations, Great Britain, and the United States, has been relegated to ghetto status by the provisions against Jewish immigration and land settlement contained in the Chamberlain White Paper of 1939, and

"WHEREAS, the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate for Palestine, which provide for the free development of Jewish life and institutions in the Jewish National Home, have received the repeated and wholehearted approval of the American labor movement, and

"WHEREAS, the American Federation of Labor at its national convention in Boston, October 1943, passed a resolution urging that "the restrictions on Jewish immigration and settlement contained in the British White Paper of 1939 be withdrawn, and that the Balfour Declaration be so implemented that the hopes and aspirations of the Jewish people to build their own commonwealth in Palestine be realized," therefore be it

"RESOLVED, that the Central Trades and Labor Council of the City of New York, representing over one million workers, subscribes to the national American Federation of Labor resolution on Palestine, and urges our Government and the Government of Great Britain to bring about the immediate, unequivocal repeal of the entire White Paper policy, replacing it by a new policy which shall provide for free entry of Jews into Palestine - a policy consistent with the tragic needs of the Jewish people and the magnificent contribution made by the Jewish workers of Palestine to the war effort of the United Nations. Be it further

"RESOLVED, that this Council asks for the Jewish people equal status among the free nations of the world in the international planning for postwar settlement and rehabilitation."

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PRESS RELEASE from

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

Associated Organizations:

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrachi • Poale-Zion
342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

6/1/44

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

46 RABBIS DENOUNCE "LEAGUE FOR FREE PALESTINE"

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New York -- Forty-six American rabbis today protested against the use of their names in literature distributed by the American League for a Free Palestine, and denounced the League as "a denial of Jewish history and a perversion of the fundamental concept of the unity of the Jewish people and of Zionist aims."

In a formal statement the forty-six rabbis pointed out that more than a year ago they had signed a proclamation which was circulated by the Committee for a Jewish Army, but that in a recent booklet published by the American League for a Free Palestine the proclamation is reprinted and their names listed as endorsers. "This gives the impression that those who endorsed the proclamation also endorse this new organization which is announced as another of the creations of the self-styled 'Hebrew Committee of National Liberation,' whose membership is not named and the source of whose authority is a mystery," the rabbis' statement declared.

"We have noted with growing concern the various metamorphoses of this group from one paper organization to another. We regret their lack of cooperation with the duly constituted Zionist movement and with other national Jewish bodies in America, as well as their apparent efforts to undermine the very purposes for which the American Jewish Conference was brought into being. We protest against this use of our signatures as a definite and clear-cut distortion of our original intention. We demand that our names be withdrawn from this booklet. Moreover, we serve public notice that we do not authorize the use of our names in any future literature which may be published by the 'Hebrew Committee of National Liberation' and its various

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off-shoots -- those already in existence, such as the Committee for a Jewish Army, the Emergency Committee to Save the Jews of Europe and the American League for a Free Palestine -- and any that may be created in the future," the statement said.

The rabbis who issued the statement are:

Rabbi Aaron M. Ashinsky, Pittsburgh, Pa., Rabbi Samuel Baskin, Brooklyn, N. Y., Rabbi H. Dernicker, Bronx, N. Y., Chaplain Joshua Bloch, New Hyde Park, N. Y., Rabbi Jacob Besniak, Brooklyn, N. Y., Rabbi S. Baurer, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Rabbi Alexander J. Burnstein, New York, N. Y., Rabbi Abraham Burstein, New York, N. Y., Rabbi Mordecai Burstein, Kansas City, Mo., Rabbi Elias Charry, Philadelphia, Pa., Rabbi Mortimer J. Cohen, Philadelphia, Pa., Rabbi Nathan Drazin, Baltimore, Md., Rabbi Joseph B. Fain, Portland, Oregon, Rabbi Louis Feinberg, Cincinnati, Ohio, Rabbi Leon I. Feuer, Toledo, Ohio, Rabbi Jesse Joel Finkle, Newport News, Va., Rabbi Theodore Friedman, Jackson Heights, L. I., Rabbi Robert Gordis, Rockaway Park, N. Y., Rabbi Morris A. Gutstein, Chicago, Ill., Rabbi Gustav N. Hausman, New York, N. Y., Rabbi Michael Higger, New York, N. Y., Rabbi Edward Horowitz, Brooklyn, N. Y., Rabbi Robert P. Jacobs, Asheville, N. C., Rabbi Jacob H. Kaplan, Miami Beach, Fla., Rabbi M. A. Kaplan, Brooklyn, N. Y., Dr. Jacob Katz, Bronx, N. Y., Rabbi Reuben Kaufman, Paterson, N. J., Rabbi Julius Kerman, Lorain, Ohio, Rabbi Joseph Kessler, Arverne, L. I., Rabbi S. Joshua Kohn, Brooklyn, N. Y., Rabbi Nathan Kollin, Richmond, Va., Rabbi Solomon L. Levitan, Rock Island, Ill., Rabbi Felix A. Levy, Chicago, Ill., Rabbi Maurice Lyons, St. Louis, Mo., Rabbi Mairius Magnes, Brooklyn, N. Y., Rabbi Morris David Margolis, Jacksonville, Fla., Rabbi Max Moyer, Flushing, L. I., Rabbi David Rackman, Albany, N. Y., Rabbi Jacob S. Raisin, Charleston, S. C., Rabbi Max Raisin, Paterson, N. J., Rabbi Leon J. Risikoff, Brooklyn, N. Y., Rabbi Joseph M. Rosenberg, Norwich, Conn., Rabbi Samuel Rosinger, Beaumont, Texas, Rabbi Israel J. Sarasohn, Kenosha, Wisc., Rabbi Julius Silberfeld, Newark, N. J., Rabbi Samuel Vollman, Chicago, Ill.

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RABBI BOOKSTABER RESIGNS FROM
EMERGENCY COMMITTEE TO SAVE JEWS OF EUROPE

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Rabbi Philip D. Bookstaber of Harrisburg, Pa., member of the Executive Committee of the Emergency Committee to Save the Jews of Europe, today announced his resignation from the Committee in an open letter to Gabriel Wechsler, executive secretary of the group.

"There have been ... activities organized under the direct or indirect influence, inspiration and aegis of the Committee, such as is implied in the 'Embassy,' etc. This latest development has been most embarrassing to me personally and to the well-established and constituted agencies with and for Palestine, with which I am in accord," Rabbi Bookstaber said.

The text of the forty-six rabbis' statement follows:

"More than a year ago we were invited to give our endorsement to a 'Proclamation on the Moral Rights of the Stateless and Palestinian Jews' which was circulated by the Committee for a Jewish Army of Stateless and Palestinian Jews.

"In view of the situation then prevailing we did give such endorsement, in the hope that by our act we would help arouse public attention to the need of our brethren in Palestine for a military unit of their own in the common struggle against the forces of darkness.

"Now comes a new development. There has recently come to our attention a booklet published by the 'American League for a Free Palestine', which contains the 'Proclamation on the Moral Rights of the Stateless and Palestinian Jews' and lists our names, among others, as signatories. This gives the impression that those who endorsed the Proclamation also endorse this new organization which is announced as another of the creations of the self-styled 'Hebrew Committee of National Liberation', whose membership is not named and the source of whose authority is a mystery.

"We have noted with growing concern the various metamorphoses of this group from one paper organization to another. We regret their lack of cooperation with the duly constituted Zionist movement and with other national Jewish bodies in America, as well as their apparent efforts to undermine the very purposes for which the American Jewish Conference was brought into being.

"We protest against this use of our signatures as a definite and clear-cut distortion of our original intention. We demand that our names be withdrawn from this booklet. Moreover, we serve public notice that we do not authorize the use of our names in any future literature which may be published by the 'Hebrew Committee of National Liberation' and its various offshoots, -- those already in

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existence, such as the Committee for a Jewish Army of Stateless and Palestinian Jews, the Emergency Committee to Save the Jews of Europe, and the American League for a Free Palestine -- and any that may be created in the future.

"We regard the announced purposes of the American League for a Free Palestine as a denial of Jewish history and a perversion of the fundamental concept of the unity of the Jewish people and of Zionist aims. It is a misrepresentation of the community of interest among the Jewish people as a whole with respect to the reconstitution of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth. It is apparently designed to weaken the authority and influence of the Jewish Agency, which is recognized in the Mandate granted by the League of Nations to Great Britain as the spokesman for the Jews of the world in matters concerning the Jewish National Home.

"The Jews of America are urged to give increased support to the work of the recognized Zionist bodies which have been and remain effective instrumentalities in working for the ideal of Zion rebuilt.

"Those of our non-Jewish friends who may desire to help in fulfilling Jewish aspirations in Palestine are urged to affiliate themselves with the American Palestine Committee, under the chairmanship of Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York, or with the Christian Council on Palestine, which is led by Dr. Henry A. Atkinson as Chairman, and by Dr. Carl Hermann Voss as Secretary, both of which organizations have amply demonstrated their desire to expend their fullest energies for the restoration of the Jewish National Home."

American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine

Room 2500 • 245 Fifth Avenue
Murray Hill 3-1881 New York 16, N. Y.

FOR RELEASE:
THURSDAY, JUNE 1, P.M.
FRIDAY, JUNE 2, P.M.

PALESTINE LABOR FEDERATION ASSAILS BERGSON GROUP

CHARGES "LIBERATION" COMMITTEE DECEIVES PUBLIC

New York — The General Federation of Jewish Labor in Palestine (Histadruth) has cabled a denunciation of the "usurpatory aspirations of the committee of Peter Bergson and his friends," declaring that "this group has absolutely no authority to represent the political interests of the Jewish people or the Yishuv (Palestine Jewish community)," it was disclosed today by Max Zaritsky, chairman of the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine.

The Palestine labor federation's cable refers to the activities of a small group of young men from Palestine, headed by Mr. Bergson, who have established a number of committees here within the past few years. These committees include the Friends of a Jewish Palestine, the Committee for a Jewish Army, the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe, the League for a Free Palestine and the Hebrew Committee for National Liberation.

The cable was sent to Mr. Zaritsky and Isidore Nagler, chairman of the Administrative Committee of the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine, and was signed by Goldie Myerson and David Remez, Secretariat of the General Federation of Jewish Labor in Palestine.

Similar denunciations of the Bergson committees have been issued by labor leaders in the United States, including William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, R. J. Thomas, president of the U.A.W. - C.I.O., Samuel Wolchok, international president, United Retail Wholesale and Department Store Employees of

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America, Leo E. George, president, National Federation of Post Office Clerks and James Maloney, president of the American Glass Bottle Blowers Association.

The text of the Histadruth's cable follows:

"JERUSALEM

MAY 26, 1944

"MAX ZARITSKY, CHAIRMAN
ISIDORE NAGLER, CHAIRMAN ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
AMERICAN JEWISH TRADE UNION COMMITTEE FOR PALESTINE
245 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

"RUMORS ABOUT PUBLIC ACTIVITY AND USURPATORY ASPIRATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE OF PETER BERGSON AND HIS FRIENDS AMONG THE JEWISH AND NON-JEWISH PUBLIC HAVE WORRIED US FOR SOME TIME. IMPERATIVE YOU CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THIS GROUP HAS ABSOLUTELY NO AUTHORITY TO REPRESENT THE POLITICAL INTERESTS OF JEWISH PEOPLE OR PALESTINE YISHUV. THIS POLITICAL REPRESENTATION IS VESTED IN THE JEWISH AGENCY AND VAAD LEUMI. USURPATION OF THIS AUTHORITY MEANS UNDERMINING WHICH IS PARTICULARLY DANGEROUS AT THE PRESENT PERIOD. THIS GROUP MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE TO DECEIVE PUBLIC OPINION AND IT IS NECESSARY THAT YOU OPEN THE EYES OF THOSE FOLLOWING IT IN GOOD FAITH, BUT WHO ARE IGNORANT OF FACTS.

(SIGNED) EXECUTIVE, PALESTINE LABOR FEDERATION (HISTADRUTH)

BY GOLDIE MYERSON,
DAVID RENEZ, SECRETARIAT"

American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine

Room 2500 • 245 Fifth Avenue
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW YORK STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR CALLS FOR WHITE PAPER REPEAL; SUPPORTS MOVEMENT FOR JEWISH COMMONWEALTH IN PALESTINE

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Syracuse, N. Y. — Delegates to the convention of the New York State Federation of Labor, representing one and one-half million workers, today adopted unanimously a resolution urging "our Government and the Government of Great Britain to bring about the immediate and unequivocal repeal of the entire White Paper policy, replacing it with a new policy which shall provide for free entry of Jews into Palestine — a policy consistent with the tragic needs of the Jewish people and the magnificent contribution made by the Jewish workers of Palestine to the war effort of the United Nations."

The resolution also pledged support for the program of the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine which was organized "for the purpose of crystallizing the sentiment of American labor in behalf of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine."

Among the nineteen labor leaders who introduced the resolution were Joseph Breslau, vice-president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union; Charles Johnson, Jr., president of the Dockbuilders and Shorers Union; Martin T. Lacy, of the District Council, Teamsters Union; Louis Langer, secretary-treasurer of the Joint Board, Cloakmakers Union; Louis Lusfrano, president of the Textile Examiners and Finishers Union; Thomas Murtha, president of the Central Trades and Labor Council of New York City; Otto Pattberg, of the Bartenders Union; Alfred Peabody, of the District Council, Machinists Union; James C. Quinn, secretary of the Central

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Trades and Labor Council of New York City; David Siegel, president of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Joint Board; Abe Snyder, manager of Local 32, ILGWU; James Sweeney, of the Hotel and Restaurant Trades, and William Wolpert, secretary-treasurer of the United Hebrew Trades.

The text of the resolution follows:

"WHEREAS, the tragic persecution of the Jewish people during the past decade has demonstrated only too clearly the pressing need for rebuilding Palestine as an assured Homeland to which hundreds of thousands of Jewish refugees may turn for permanent rehabilitation and security, and

"WHEREAS, the Jewish Homeland in Palestine, established in 1922 by action of the League of Nations, Great Britain, and the United States, has been relegated to ghetto status by the provisions against Jewish immigration and land settlement contained in the Chamberlain White Paper of 1939, and

"WHEREAS, the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate for Palestine, which provide for the free development of Jewish life and institutions in the Jewish National Home, have received the repeated and whole-hearted approval of the American labor movement, and

"WHEREAS, the American Federation of Labor at its national convention in Boston, October 1943, passed a resolution urging that 'the restrictions on Jewish immigration and settlement contained in the British White Paper of 1939 be withdrawn, and that the Balfour Declaration be so implemented that the hopes and aspirations of the Jewish people to build their own Commonwealth in Palestine be realized,' and

"WHEREAS, we have observed with pride the splendid role played by the organized workers of Palestine in the upbuilding of their land, and the excellent record of the Histadruth, the Federation of Labor in Palestine, in defending the gateway to the East against the Nazis, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, that we, the undersigned, subscribe to the American Federation of Labor resolution on Palestine, and urge our Government and the Government of Great Britain to bring about the immediate and unequivocal repeal of the entire White Paper policy, replacing it with a new policy which shall provide for free entry of Jews into Palestine -- a policy consistent with the tragic needs of the Jewish people and the magnificent contribution made by the Jewish workers of Palestine to the war effort of the United Nations. Be it further

"RESOLVED, that we approve the program of the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine, organized by our fellow Jewish workers for the purpose of crystallizing the sentiment of American labor in behalf of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine, and herewith affix our signatures as sponsors of said Committee, pledged to its support and the carrying out of its program."

American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine

Room 2500 • 245 Fifth Avenue
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ZARITSKY HAILS NEW YORK STATE C.I.O.'S STAND ON PALESTINE

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SAYS PALESTINE IS ONLY REAL SOLUTION TO JEWISH PROBLEM

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New York -- Hailing the Palestine resolution adopted by the recent convention of the C.I.O. Industrial Council of the State of New York as "another important manifestation of American labor's demand that full justice be done to the Jewish people," Max Zaritsky, chairman of the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine, declared today that "only through the opening of Palestine's doors to unrestricted Jewish immigration and the establishment there of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth can the United Nations reach the core of the Jewish problem and do away with the basic cause of anti-Semitism -- the minority status of the Jew."

The C.I.O. convention, representing 1,000,000 workers in the state of New York, called for "the immediate redress of the great wrong committed against the Jewish people," and urged upon the government of Great Britain "the unequivocal removal of the White Paper policy, and the full implementation of the Balfour Declaration towards the ultimate establishment of a Palestinian Jewish National Home in accordance with the principles of democratic action."

The text of the resolution follows:

"WHEREAS: 1. The soil of Europe is soaked with the blood of Jewish dead. They have been killed in the ghettos; they have been killed in the fields and in special extermination camps such as Lublin. Today, as the Nazi hordes are being beaten back into Germany, their first victims, as always, are defenseless Jews -- men, women and children.

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"2. It is imperative that every possible measure be taken to rescue those victims of Nazi brutality.

"3. Justice demands the immediate abrogation of the White Paper, which bars further immigration into Palestine, and the reconstitution of that country as a free and democratic homeland for the Jewish people.

"4. It is a travesty upon elementary justice and humanity to close the door to an important avenue of escape for the hapless Jews who still remain alive. As we wait, as we debate, they are still being killed.

"5. We wholeheartedly endorse the stand of the CIO, which in a resolution adopted unanimously at its national convention in Philadelphia last November, urged the abrogation of the Chamberlain White Paper, declaring it to be "discriminatory, unfair, unjust and a hindrance to the war effort.

"6. We add our voice to those millions of other Americans of every faith who demand that the remnants of the Jewish people be saved from complete destruction at the hands of our common enemy.

"RESOLVED: that the CIO Industrial Union Council of the State of New York:

"1. Strongly urges upon the American and British governments that steps be taken to effect the immediate rescue of Jews in Axis dominated countries by opening the gates of the United Nations to receive them.

"2. Calls for the immediate redress of the great wrong committed against the Jewish people, and urges upon the government of Great Britain the unequivocal removal of the White Paper policy, and the full implementation of the Balfour Declaration towards the ultimate establishment of a Palestinian Jewish National Home in accordance with the principles of democratic action."

PRESS RELEASE

American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine

Room 2500 • 245 Fifth Avenue
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OHIO STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR DEMANDS
WHITE PAPER REPEAL AND SUPPORTS MOVEMENT FOR
JEWISH COMMONWEALTH IN PALESTINE

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Columbus, Ohio — The Ohio State Federation of Labor, meeting here, yesterday adopted a resolution calling on "our Government and the Government of Great Britain to bring about the immediate and unequivocal repeal of the entire White Paper policy, replacing it with a new policy which shall provide for free entry of Jews into Palestine — a policy consistent with the tragic needs of the Jewish people and the magnificent contribution made by the Jewish workers of Palestine to the war effort of the United Nations."

The resolution also pledged support for the program of the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine which was organized "for the purpose of crystallizing the sentiment of American labor in behalf of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine."

A similar resolution was adopted last month by the New York State Federation of Labor and two weeks ago by the C.I.O. Industrial Council of the State of New York.

The text of the resolution follows:

"WHEREAS, the tragic persecution of the Jewish people during the past decade has demonstrated only too clearly the pressing need for rebuilding Palestine as an assured Homeland to which hundreds of thousands of Jewish refugees may turn for permanent rehabilitation and security, and

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"WHEREAS, the Jewish Homeland in Palestine, established in 1922 by action of the League of Nations, Great Britain, and the United States, has been relegated to ghetto status by the provisions against Jewish immigration and land settlement contained in the Chamberlain White Paper of 1939, and

"WHEREAS, the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate for Palestine, which provide for the free development of Jewish life and institutions in the Jewish National Home, have received the repeated and whole-hearted approval of the American labor movement, and

"WHEREAS, the American Federation of Labor at its national convention in Boston, October 1943, passed a resolution urging that 'the restrictions on Jewish immigration and settlement contained in the British White Paper of 1939 be withdrawn, and that the Balfour Declaration be so implemented that the hopes and aspirations of the Jewish people to build their own Commonwealth in Palestine be realized,' and

"WHEREAS, we have observed with pride the splendid role played by the organized workers of Palestine in the upbuilding of their land, and the excellent record of Histadruth, the Federation of Labor in Palestine, in defending the gateway to the East against the Nazis, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, that we, the undersigned, subscribe to the American Federation of Labor resolution on Palestine, and urge our Government and the Government of Great Britain to bring about the immediate and unequivocal repeal of the entire White Paper policy, replacing it with a new policy which shall provide for free entry of Jews into Palestine -- a policy consistent with the tragic needs of the Jewish people and the magnificent contribution made by the Jewish workers of Palestine to the war effort of the United Nations. Be it further

"RESOLVED, that we approve the program of the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine, organized by our fellow Jewish workers for the purpose of crystallizing the sentiment of American labor in behalf of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine, and herewith affix our signatures as sponsors of said Committee, pledged to its support and the carrying out of its program."

American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW JERSEY STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR ENDORSES

JEWISH COMMONWEALTH

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MAYOR MURPHY COMMENDED FOR PRO-PALESTINE EFFORTS

- - - - -

New York — The New Jersey State Federation of Labor has unanimously adopted a resolution endorsing the "aspirations of the Jewish people to build their own Commonwealth in Palestine," it was announced today by Max Zaritsky, chairman of the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine.

The resolution urges "our Government and the Government of Great Britain to bring about the immediate and unequivocal repeal of the entire White Paper policy, replacing it with a new policy which shall provide for free entry of Jews into Palestine — a policy consistent with the tragic needs of the Jewish people and the magnificent contribution made by the Jewish workers of Palestine to the war effort of the United Nations."

The resolution also expresses approval of the program of the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine and pledges support to the Committee, which was organized "for the purpose of crystallizing the sentiment of American labor in behalf of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine."

Commendation for the pro-Palestine efforts of its secretary-treasurer, Mayor Vincent J. Murphy of Newark, is also included in the resolution, which urges that Mayor Murphy "be encouraged in his voluntary services to the Palestine movement."

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The text of the resolution follows:

"WHEREAS, our parent body, the American Federation of Labor, has consistently affirmed its whole-hearted interest in the rebuilding of a Jewish National Home in Palestine; and

"WHEREAS, we of the New Jersey State Federation of Labor have repeatedly emphasized our sympathetic interest in these aspirations; and

"WHEREAS, tragic circumstances of the war have proven convincingly and unqualifiedly the urgent need for rebuilding Palestine as an assured Homeland to which Jewish refugees may turn for security and rehabilitation of a permanent character; and

"WHEREAS, the American Federation of Labor at its national convention in Boston, October, 1943, passed a resolution urging that 'the restrictions on Jewish immigration and settlement contained in the British White Paper of 1939 be withdrawn, and that the Balfour Declaration be so implemented that the hopes and aspirations of the Jewish people to build their own Commonwealth in Palestine be realized;' and

"WHEREAS, we have observed with pride the splendid role played by the organized workers of Palestine in the upbuilding of their land, and the excellent record of Histadruth, the Federation of Labor in Palestine, in defending the gateway to the East against the Nazis,

"THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED that we, the undersigned, subscribe to the American Federation of Labor resolution on Palestine, and urge our Government and the Government of Great Britain to bring about the immediate and unequivocal repeal of the entire White Paper policy, replacing it with a new policy which shall provide for free entry of Jews into Palestine -- a policy consistent with the tragic needs of the Jewish people and the magnificent contribution made by the Jewish workers of Palestine to the war effort of the United Nations, and

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"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we approve the program of the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine, organized by our fellow Jewish workers for the purpose of crystallizing the sentiment of American labor in behalf of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine, and herewith affix our signatures as sponsors of said Committee, pledged to its support and the carrying out of its program, and

"FURTHER RESOLVED, that we delegates to the 66th Annual Convention of the New Jersey State Federation of Labor do commend the efforts of our Brother, Secretary-Treasurer, Vincent J. Murphy, who in this capacity and also as Mayor of the City of Newark, has during the past year, cooperated effectively with Zionist leaders throughout the nation in seeking to ease the problems which have arisen and whose efforts in this regard, and also as an honorary vice chairman of the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine, have won deserved recognition. We regard this measure of esteem as a creditable reflection upon the Federation and herewith resolve that Brother Murphy be encouraged in his voluntary services to the Palestine movement, and

"BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to the American Federation of Labor, the American Jewish Trade Union Committee and the American Zionist Emergency Council, with every hope that the ensuing year will see a marked change in developments that will augur well for the future of the Jewish Commonwealth."

American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW JERSEY STATE C.I.O. ENDORSES JEWISH COMMONWEALTH

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DEMANDS "UNEQUIVOCAL REMOVAL OF WHITE PAPER POLICY"

- - - - -

New York --- The New Jersey State Council, C.I.O., has unanimously adopted a resolution calling for the "establishment of a Palestinian Jewish Commonwealth in accordance with the principles of democratic action," and condemning the Chamberlain White Paper of 1939 as "threatening not only the existence of the Jewish Homeland, but the very lives of hundreds of thousands of homeless Jewish refugees in Europe." This was announced today by Max Zaritsky, chairman of the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine.

The resolution demands "the immediate redress of the great wrong committed against the Jewish people," and urges upon the government of Great Britain "the unequivocal removal of the White Paper policy, and the full implementation of the Balfour Declaration." It also expresses approval and support for the program of the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine, which was organized "for the purpose of crystallizing the sentiment of American labor in behalf of a free, democratic Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine."

The text of the resolution follows:

"WHEREAS, the decisions reached by the leaders of the United Nations provide for the self-determination, the independence and the sheer physical survival of all peoples, great and small, and

"WHEREAS, the Jewish people, who for the past decade have been persecuted and murdered by the fascist butchers, received in the years following the last war pledges from Great Britain, the League of Nations, and the United States, for the recreation of Palestine, as the national homeland of the Jewish people, which

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pledges were incorporated in the Balfour Declaration, the Mandate for Palestine, and the Anglo-American Convention of 1924, and

"WHEREAS, 550,000 Palestinian Jews have demonstrated their unflagging devotion to the democratic cause, accelerated the production of vital war materials, and sent their manpower into the armed forces, the field, and the factories to help speed the victory of the United Nations, and

"WHEREAS, the Chamberlain White Paper of 1939, which was denounced in a resolution passed by the 1943 convention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations as 'discriminatory, unfair, unjust and a hindrance to the war effort,' and which utterly disregards the pledges to the Jewish people, now prohibits further Jewish immigration into the Jewish National Home and curtails land sales to Jewish colonists, thereby threatening not only the existence of the Jewish homeland, but the very lives of hundreds of thousands of homeless Jewish refugees in Europe, therefore be it

"RESOLVED that the CIO Industrial Union Council of the State of New Jersey strongly urges upon the American and British governments that steps be taken to effect the immediate rescue of Jews in Axis dominated countries, and be it further

"RESOLVED that we call for the immediate redress of the great wrong committed against the Jewish people, and urge upon the government of Great Britain the unequivocal removal of the White Paper policy, and the full implementation of the Balfour Declaration towards the ultimate establishment of a Palestinian Jewish Commonwealth in accordance with the principles of democratic action, and be it further

"RESOLVED that we approve the program of the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine, organized by our fellow Jewish workers for the purpose of crystallizing the sentiment of American Labor in behalf of a free, democratic Jewish commonwealth in Palestine, and herewith affix our signatures as sponsors of said Committee, pledged to its support and the carrying out of its program."

American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NINETY FEDERATED LABOR GROUPS SUPPORT

JEWISH PALESTINE

- - - - -

New York -- Ninety Federated Labor groups in 28 states have adopted resolutions demanding the immediate repeal of the White Paper policy for Palestine and endorsing the program of the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine, which was organized "for the purpose of crystallizing the sentiment of American labor in behalf of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine." This was announced today by Max Zaritsky, chairman of the Committee.

Mr. Zaritsky also disclosed that more than 1,000 officers of these groups have agreed to act as sponsors of the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine and are "pledged to its support and to the carrying out of its program."

Emphasizing that the American Federation of Labor, at its last national convention, urged that "the restrictions on Jewish immigration and settlement contained in the British White Paper of 1939 be withdrawn, and that the Balfour Declaration be so implemented that the hopes and aspirations of the Jewish people to build their own Commonwealth in Palestine be realized," the resolutions call for a new policy for Palestine which will be "consistent with the tragic needs of the Jewish people and the magnificent contribution made by the Jewish workers of Palestine to the war effort of the United Nations."

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American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine

Room 2500 • 245 Fifth Avenue
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CIO CALLS FOR PASSAGE OF PALESTINE RESOLUTIONS

PENDING IN CONGRESS

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URGES ESTABLISHMENT OF JEWISH COMMONWEALTH

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Chicago -- The CIO Convention today urged Congress to pass the pending Palestine resolutions (H.R. 418 - 419 and S.R. 247) which call for unrestricted Jewish immigration into Palestine and the reconstitution of that country as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth. This was announced today by Irving Abramson, state chairman, CIO of New Jersey, who introduced the resolution on Palestine at the convention.

Demanding that "steps be taken to effect the immediate rescue of Jews in Axis-dominated countries," the CIO resolution urged upon Britain "the unequivocal removal of the White Paper policy, and the full implementation of the Balfour Declaration towards the ultimate establishment of a Palestinian Jewish Commonwealth in accordance with the principles of democratic action."

The resolution endorsed the "expressions of support for Jewish rights in Palestine which have come during the past year from leaders in all walks of life in the United States, the most notable of which were the stirring and historic declaration of the President of the United States giving his complete endorsement of the movement to reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth, and the forthright and unequivocal declarations in support of Jewish aspirations in Palestine adopted by both the Democratic and Republican parties and included in their platforms."

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A pledge of support for the program of the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine was also included in the resolution.

The text of the resolution follows:

"WHEREAS, the decisions reached by the leaders of the United Nations provide for the self-determination, the independence and the physical survival of all peoples, great and small, and

"WHEREAS, the Jewish people, who for more than a decade have been singled out for persecution and murder by the fascist butchers, received in the years following the last war pledges from Great Britain, the League of Nations, and the United States, for the recreation of Palestine as the National Homeland of the Jewish people, which pledges were incorporated in the Balfour Declaration, the Mandate for Palestine, and the Anglo-American Convention of 1924, and

"WHEREAS, the 550,000 Jews of Palestine have demonstrated their unflagging devotion to the democratic cause, have accelerated the production of vital war materials, and have sent their manpower into the armed forces and the factories to help speed the victory of the United Nations, and

"WHEREAS, the Chamberlain White Paper of 1939, which was denounced in a resolution passed by the 1943 convention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations as 'discriminatory, unfair, unjust and a hindrance to the war effort,' and which utterly disregards the pledges made to the Jewish people, now prohibits further Jewish immigration into the Jewish National Home and curtails land sales to Jewish colonists, thereby threatening not only the existence of the Jewish Homeland, but the very lives of hundreds of thousands of homeless Jewish refugees in Europe, therefore be it

"RESOLVED, that the Congress of Industrial Organizations, meeting in National Convention in the city of Chicago, strongly urges that steps be taken to effect the immediate rescue of Jews in Axis-dominated countries, and be it further

"RESOLVED, that we join most heartily in the expressions of support for Jewish rights in Palestine which have come during the past year from leaders in all walks of life in the United States, the most notable of which were the stirring and historic declaration of the President of the United States giving his complete endorsement of the movement to reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth, and the forthright and unequivocal declarations in support of Jewish aspirations in Palestine adopted by both the Democratic and Republican Parties and included in their platforms, and be it further

"RESOLVED, that we call upon the Congress of the United States to adopt the Palestine Resolutions (H.R. 418-419 and S.R. 247) now pending before it, thus giving positive expression to the will of the people of our nation, and be it further

"RESOLVED, that we call for the immediate redress of the great wrong committed against the Jewish people, and urge upon the Government of Great Britain the unequivocal removal of the White Paper policy, and the full implementation of the Balfour Declaration towards the ultimate establishment of a Palestinian Jewish Commonwealth in accordance with the principles of democratic action, and be it further

"RESOLVED, that we approve the program of the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine, organized by our fellow Jewish workers for the purpose of crystallizing the sentiments of American Labor in behalf of a free, democratic Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine, and herewith affix our signatures as sponsors of said Committee, pledged to its support and the carrying out of its program."

TEXT OF RESOLUTION ON PALESTINE UNANIMOUSLY
ADOPTED BY THE CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN
FEDERATION OF LABOR, NOVEMBER 30, 1944.

"WHEREAS, The inhuman slaughter of European Jewry continues unabated, and the Nazis -- intent upon completing their program to annihilate the Jewish people -- are devising new and more horrible methods of mass murder. The documented reports of the unparalleled crimes committed in the death camps of Maidanek, Oswiecim and Treblinka, in the ghettos of Poland, in the market places of Rumania and Hungary, have outraged civilized humanity. To date, approximately 4,000,000 innocent Jewish men, women and children have suffered horrible death by shooting, asphyxiation, starvation, strangulation and fire, and

"WHEREAS, We are determined that those Jews who have survived the holocaust shall be rescued and rehabilitated by the United Nations, and are equally determined that such rescue and rehabilitation shall conform to the particular needs and problems of uprooted European Jewry, and

"WHEREAS, Decisions affecting the future of the homeless Jews of Europe are being made daily by international agencies, such as the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration and the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, agencies which derive their authority from the peoples of the United Nations, and

"WHEREAS, The people of the United States have demonstrated their wholehearted sympathy with the plight of Europe's Jews and have expressed America's determination to bring about a just solution of this most pressing of human problems -- a solution which will take into account the real needs and desires of the Jewish people. During the past year the American people have called for the fulfillment of the pledge contained in the Balfour Declaration. An overwhelming majority of our people desire the opening of Palestine's doors to unrestricted Jewish immigration and colonization, and the re-establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth. These sentiments have been voiced through the forthright Palestine planks included in the platforms of both major political parties, and through the notable statements endorsing Jewish aspirations in Palestine made by a large majority of the membership of both Houses of Congress, and

"WHEREAS, The President of the United States, in a historic declaration made on October 15th, 1944, re-affirmed our country's traditional policy of support for the Jewish National Home in the following words: 'I know how long and ardently the Jewish people have worked and prayed for the establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth. I am convinced that the American people give their support to this aim and if re-elected I shall help to bring about its realization,' and

"WHEREAS, The American Federation of Labor has followed a policy of staunch and unwavering friendship for Jewish Palestine and has throughout the years supported the Jewish National Home and admired the magnificent accomplishment of Palestine Jewry, and

"WHEREAS, The American Federation of Labor has always had deep respect for and a feeling of kinship with the Histadruth, the General Federation of Labor in Palestine, and has during the past year supported the program so admirably carried out by the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine, and

"WHEREAS, Jewish Palestine has demonstrated its willingness and its ability to rehabilitate Europe's persecuted Jews and has, despite the Chamberlain White Paper of 1939 and other obstacles, fought the war against the common enemy with almost unparalleled devotion to the democratic cause, and

"WHEREAS, Resolutions, reflecting America's conviction that at long last justice must be done to the long suffering Jewish people, have been introduced into both Houses of Congress: These bi-partisan measures (HR 418-419 and SR 247) call for the free entry of Jews into Palestine and full opportunity for colonization, so that the Jewish people may ultimately reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth, and

"WHEREAS, The Secretary of War has recently announced that no military reasons stand in the way of action on the Palestine resolutions, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That the American Federation of Labor, in convention assembled, urges the passage at the earliest possible moment of the pending Palestine resolutions, and, be it further

"RESOLVED, That the American Federation of Labor calls for the reconstitution of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth and urges upon the Government of the United States to take speedy and definite action on the Palestine question -- action which will be in conformity with the historic, but as yet unfulfilled, pledges made to the Jewish people, and with the present needs of the persecuted Jews of Europe."



American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine

Room 2500 • 245 Fifth Avenue
Murray Hill 3-1881 New York 16, N. Y.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WILLIAM GREEN TO CALL ON ROOSEVELT TO IMPLEMENT PALESTINE PLEDGE

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ZARITSKY URGES CONGRESS TO ACT NOW

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New York -- Congress was urged to act speedily and favorably on the Palestine resolution (HR 418-419) which was approved this week by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, in a statement issued today by Max Zaritsky, president of the United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers International Union, who introduced the resolution on Palestine which was unanimously adopted by the Convention of the American Federation of Labor.

Mr. Zaritsky emphasized that the A.F. of L. Convention adopted a special committee report instructing its president, William Green, "to call upon the President of the United States to use his good offices to the end that the declaration made concerning the establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish commonwealth be implemented, the pledges made be fulfilled, and the Government of the United States assume its share of responsibility in the carrying out of the pledges and assurances given."

This action by the A.F. of L. will receive the hearty endorsement of the American people, Mr. Zaritsky declared. He added: "We have every confidence that President Roosevelt will take whatever steps are necessary to effectuate the noble sentiments contained in his own great statement of October 15th, in the American Federation of Labor resolution, and in the Wright-Compton and Wagner-Taft resolutions on Palestine. The American people have voiced their determination to end Jewish suffering and homelessness. They now look to Congress for effective action."

(more)

Mr. Zaritsky also pointed out that the A.F. of L. resolution on Palestine is "more than a reaffirmation of the Federation's traditional policy of support for Jewish aspirations in Palestine, or a declaration of sympathy with the plight of Europe's oppressed Jews. In clear and unmistakable terms, it calls for speedy and favorable action by Congress on the pending Palestine resolutions, HR 418 and 419 and SR 247. Now that the House Committee on Foreign Affairs has approved the Palestine resolution, there can be no deterrent to the early passage of this measure, which is a matter of life and death for the Jewish people," he said.

The text of the A.F. of L. resolution on Palestine is attached.

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