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Mr. Carter
Mr. Gray
Mr. Rosenman
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Phillips
Mr. Bernstein
Mr. Hassett
Mr. Gerstein
Mr. Ginsburg
Mr. Klaus
Mr. Cohen
Mr. Taylor
Mr. Rubinow
Mr. Leo Pfeffer
Mr. Gellman
Mr. Taylor

PROSKAUER LAUDS AIM TO LET JEWS IN

Praises 'Humanitarian Interest' of President in Studying Plan to Admit Refugees

Joseph M. Proskauer, president of the American Jewish Committee and former Justice of the Appellate Division of the New York State Supreme Court, issued a statement applauding President Truman's declaration that he was considering making a request to Congress for the admission of more refugees to the United States.

Lessing J. Rosenwald, president of the American Council for Judaism, conveyed the council's "deep sense of gratitude" to the President.

"Time after time we have urged," Mr. Rosenwald said in a letter to Mr. Truman, "that only by approaching the problem of all displaced persons could a solution be found for displaced Jews. Your recent statement wisely recommends such a broad program of universal humanitarian concern."

Mr. Proskauer termed the Truman statement "encouraging evidence of the President's deep and humanitarian interest in the welfare of these displaced persons."

The text of Mr. Proskauer's statement:

The statement of President Truman that the solution of the Palestine problem will not in itself solve the broader problem of the hundreds of thousands of displaced persons in Europe must strike a responsive chord in the hearts of all those concerned with the welfare of the tragic victims who have survived the Hitler tyranny. It is another and encouraging evidence of the President's deep and humanitarian interest in the welfare of these displaced persons. The gratitude not only of all Jews but of all who feel the responsibility for the salvation of these unfortunate survivors must go in full measure to President

Immediate immigration into Palestine is a vital element in the solution of the grave problem which confronts the world, but Palestine alone, as was announced in the Statement of Views of the American Jewish Committee, cannot and cannot be expected to be the sole solution of the Jewish problem. It is a source of pride to every American that the President has asked that America take the lead in urging upon the nations of the world the reception of the comparatively small number of refugees, which would go so far toward the salvation of hundreds of thousands of human lives.

Need for Concession Seen

With respect to the crucial factor of the Palestine situation, negotiations are in progress for conferences between the British Government, the Jewish Agency and the Arab states which will be of the deepest and most determinative consequence.

Never was there a time when it was more essential that in the consideration of this problem restraint, reasonableness and the spirit of mutual concession should prevail.

It has been officially announced that the Jewish Agency has adopted a basis for the negotiations which are about to be had.

Responsibility today rests primarily on the Jewish Agency, which is the only Jewish organization that has been invited to conference by the British. By its charter, the agency rests on the principle that it should voice the hopes of all friends of Palestine irrespective of whether they are Zionist or non-Zionist. I have reason to believe that at this particular juncture the agency is evidencing an intent to respect that principle. So long as it so continues, it is our duty to aid it in the discharge of its grave responsibility.

The details of its reported plan have not been published. Indeed, as it has been stated, it does not set out inflexible detail but rather a reasonable base on which to build discussion.

In so far as its salient features have been announced, it contains as its main objective the creation of a governmental unit into which Jews may immigrate as of right. All agree that this immigration is the true, main and immediate objective. This immigration is vital to the saving of human life.

Agency Called Conciliatory

The present conduct of the agency gives no indication of intransigence as to the method of creating or the exact nature of such a political unit. It purports to act in accordance with its 1931 resolution "that the Council instructs the executive to continue its work for the establishment under the mandate of harmonious relations between Jews and Arabs based upon the acceptance by both parties that neither is to dominate or be dominated by the other." This principle was strongly reiterated by the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry.

It is stated that the agency envisages a political unit with a bill of rights that will constitutionally guarantee political equality to Arabs and Jews.

It purports to recognize and be prepared to negotiate in friendly spirit proper recognition of Great Britain's role in the eastern Mediterranean.

It is my profound conviction that nothing should be done to complicate or make more difficult the arduous task that will have to be undertaken in these negotiations. Rancor, bitterness, vituperation and schism must be banished from our thinking and our conduct at this critical moment. Chauvinism must moderate its excesses and appeal to violence must cease. This is no time for either bomb or bombast.

If the Jewish Agency will adhere to the principles above suggested and can negotiate a plan acceptable to the British and the Arabs along these lines, it will certainly have taken a long step forward.

Indubitably true is the warning of President Truman "that no settlement of the Palestine problem can be achieved which will be fully satisfactory to all of the parties concerned and that if the problem is to be solved in a manner which will bring peace and prosperity to Palestine, it must be approached in a spirit of conciliation."

That utterance of President Truman should be the keynote of Jewish conduct during the trying days ahead.

Mrs. Roosevelt Criticizes Britain

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, in her copyrighted column in yesterday's New York World-Telegram, criticized Britain's policy on Palestine and asserted that dividing Palestine would not solve the problem.

"I think many people must feel as unhappy as I do over the fact that Jewish refugees on ships bound for Palestine are being taken to detention camps in Cyprus," she wrote. "Many of us will agree that resort to force by Jews in Palestine is deplorable, but I don't think it is hard to understand. Palestine does not belong to Britain, which governs it under a mandate. When people are desperate, I suppose that a show of force against them inevitably brings retaliation in kind. The British have certainly had force in evidence in Palestine."

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