



Labour's Declaration on the Congress Resolution

Minority Within Labour Faction

ALTHOUGH being in principle against the Partition of Palestine we have voted for the majority resolution adopted by the Political Commission, for it in no way commits Congress to any plan of partition but only empowers the Executive to negotiate with the British Government within certain definite limits for the purpose of clarifying proposals of the British Government on the matter. We voted out of conviction that the problem has not been fully clarified beforehand, and therefore, behoved us to leave the final decision to a newly elected Congress.

Every clear statement on the nature of the decision was given by Mr. D. Remez, speaking on behalf of the United Zionist Socialist Party. The views of the opponents of Partition within our ranks was expressed by Mr. Ch. Greenberg in the declaration made before the voting on the resolution and which supported the proposal before Congress. However, Dr. N. Goldman, who presided at that particular session, made a statement before putting the resolution to the vote that it was based on the same motives underlying this decision. We therefore wish to express our great surprise and dissatisfaction against the management of the "Congress Zeitung," the telegraphic agency "Palcor," and a number of general newspapers which followed them in mis-reporting the nature of the Congress decision and presenting it in such a form as to suggest that Congress has, so to say, accepted the Partition of Palestine. The majority resolution in actual fact does not define stand on that issue but leaves the final decision to the forthcoming Congress. No conclusion can be drawn on the principle of the matter merely on the basis of the statement at the last Congress. A matter such as this, which is of the highest importance to the Jewish people, we must be absolute and avoid any incorrect interpretation of the attitude of Congress that we cannot satisfy ourselves merely with the correct interpretation adopted by the Presidium in the interpolation of Mr. A.

Statements by Labour Leaders at Congress

IN view of the different interpretations which have recently appeared as to the exact meaning of the majority resolution adopted at Congress, it will be of interest to our readers to read the letter signed by sixty two members of the Labour Party on the subject and addressed to the Congress Presidium. We also give below the statement made by one of the leaders of the Histadruth, Mr. D. Remez, on behalf of the Labour Party, immediately prior to the voting and referred to in the letter, as well as a declaration made by Mr. Chaim Greenberg, a leading American Labourite, speaking on behalf of the minority within the Labour Party.

Chiseling and we request you therefore to publish this official statement to the Press and telegraphic agencies, laying down the correct meaning and content of the Congress decision."

[Then follow the sixty-two signatures.]

Declaration of D. Remez

MR. D. REMEZ, speaking on behalf of the United Labour Faction, excluding the Hashomer Hatzair, declared that his party would vote as one for the majority resolution proposed by the political commission. Our wing, he said, which is the largest at this Congress, includes all the differing opinions which have been expressed during the course of the discussions. There are amongst us absolute opponents to any form of the partition of Palestine and the abolition of the Mandate, as well as those who are prepared to consider any real plans for the establishment of a Jewish State. Every opinion within us was given full freedom of expression at Congress and it will be entitled to similar freedom throughout the development of affairs until the definite decision of the forthcoming Congress which is to be elected for that express purpose if that issue should arise again. We have all arrived at the unanimous conclusion that the final decision in this matter is to be handed over to that Congress which will be called together after a full clarification of the whole issue within the Zionist movement and the Jewish people. We therefore empower the Executive to conduct negotiations in accordance with the ex-

press terms contained within the proposed resolution. (Our readers will remember that Congress adopted this resolution which empowered the Executive to enter into negotiations with His Majesty's Government in regard to the proposed establishment of a Jewish State. In any such negotiations the Executive was to commit neither itself nor the Zionist Organisation, but in the event of the emergence of a definite scheme for the establishment of a Jewish State such scheme was to be brought before the newly elected Congress for consideration and decision).

Our movement united in its life and creative efforts and being significantly called "Union," sees this way out of the present conditions facing us as a true way out for the Zionist Congress as a whole. The sharp difference of opinion on the ways to be adopted—for only on the way have we divided and not on the ultimate object—especially dictates to us not to hasten the parting of the ways and prompts us to take a united decision, for all our ways are difficult and fraught with danger. We believe that our united efforts and our battle shoulder to shoulder is the best guarantee for our future.

Finally, permit me in the name of my faction to make one appeal. Whichever way the decision is to go, we will continue to travel with courage and faith on the road lying before us, in the knowledge that every day of practical work in Palestine—no matter under what circumstances—brings us a step forward in the realisation of our ultimate goal.

Declaration of Chaim Greenberg

CHAIM GREENBERG (U.S.A. Labour Party) said: "The short time allocated to me will not permit me to enter again into the discussion which has lasted so long, nor do I see any need for that, for the standpoint which I support has been very clearly expressed by B. Katzenellenson, Golda Myerson and Tabenkin (leading Labour opponents of Partition.—Ed.). I feel, however, that I am expressing the opinion of many of my friends when I declare that we do not regard the conclusions of the Political Commission as an agreement in principle to the partition of Palestine. We do not see in it, moreover, a final decision of the Zionist Movement either to take a definite path or to refrain from doing so. I must say that this is not a struggle between one faith against another faith, but rather a tragic fight between the lack of faith on the one hand as against lack of faith on the other. Some no longer believe in the possibility of continuing our upbuilding work under the supervision of the Mandate, while others have no confidence in the possibility of large scale national constructive effort without a disturbance in Palestine.

"Our deliberations lacked, to my regret, one particular point that I wish to emphasize now. We have all prided ourselves on the self restraint we practised in the difficult times that have passed over us within recent years. This hour calls again for self-restraint, but this time spiritual self-restraint, and that, unfortunately, was lacking here. Do not give a definite yes, do not answer with an absolute no, but send our leadership as an expedition upon the face of strange waters so that they can report to us on their return what they have found there.

"The present situation obliges us to vote for the conclusions of the Political Commission, but we do not, however, regard them as decisions in favour of Partition and will not regard them as such to-morrow and the day after. We voted for its conclusions not out of a feeling that we are surrendering anything, but we do so out of a deep Zionist understanding and positive humanity."

GOODWILL FLIGHT TO PALESTINE

Tel-Aviv, September 17th.
A French plane on August 15, carrying five French aviators, Mlle. Marie and M. Raymond Schumacher, took off from Lydda Aerodrome in the afternoon of August 21 bearing a message to the Tel-Aviv Municipality from Senator Justin Godart, President of the France-Palestine Commission. The plane was flying a 100 h.p. biplane, and took the route from Lydda thence to North Africa and then to the coast to Palestine.

Those who came to greet the plane were two young South African pilots, who had flown from Johannesburg the previous week.

In the course of his missive, which was handed to Mayor Isaac Rokach at the Town Hall by the French fliers, the Senator said:

"The wish of the France-Palestine Association is that the Jewish State should not be the outcome of a degenerate diplomatic compromise formed by the Mandatory Power to hide its failure in carrying out its obligations. Our desire is that the Jewish State should not be enclosed within frontiers which would create an insurmountable obstacle to the settlement of immigrants, which is guaranteed by treaties. We want a solution to the Jewish-Arab problem. The proposed Partition scheme does not solve the Jewish-Arab problem, as the disputes of neighbouring countries are always more serious than those of the inhabitants of the country itself. If

living together resulted in murder, separation into states would lead to war."

The body of the French plane was painted blue and white and it bore a red Shield of David.

[The two South African Jewish pilots mentioned are Mr. P. Hesselson and Mr. L. Fisher, both Johannesburg attorneys.—Ed.]

Chug Ivri

On Saturday, October 2, at 8.15 p.m., a meeting of the Hebrew Speaking Circle will be held at the Jewish Guild at which problems of Jewish Education will be discussed. Speakers: Rabbi M. I. Gervis and Mr. I. Bakst.

In view of the forthcoming conference of the Board of Jewish Education a large gathering is expected.

Johannesburg Talmudical Cultural Association

A simchath beth hasheiva function was held by the association at the residence of Rabbi I. Gervis. The chairman, Mr. D. Javett, welcomed the gathering.

Mr. S. Kessel, president of the Berea congregation, and Mr. I. J. Hersch, president of the Board of Education, delivered speeches concerning the importance of the function.

Rabbi I. Gervis spoke on the significance of the traditional festival, and Chief Cantor Steinberg entertained the gathering with some delightful songs.

A Variety Concert

The Chavurah Moshe, Eastern Districts Habonim, are holding a variety concert at the Jewish Guild Hall to-morrow night, the 2nd inst. at 8 p.m.

CUTHBERT'S FOR BEDROOM SLIPPERS