



The Jewish Labor Bund

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50th Anniversary of The Jewish Labor Bund

The 50th anniversary of the Jewish Labor BUND was celebrated throughout the world, wherever Jews live and toil. Special issues of BUND papers and periodicals, mass-meetings, and public rallies marked the golden anniversary of the beginning of a Jewish labor movement, the secularization of Jewish life, and the start of a modern Yiddish culture.

In addition to the activities in Poland and in New

York, accounts of which appear below, the 50th anniversary of the BUND was celebrated at well-attended meetings and rallies in Brussels, Paris, London, Stuttgart, Tel Aviv, Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, Miami Beach, Chicago, Boston, et al. During the month of January, anniversary celebrations will take place in Los Angeles, Montreal, and in other cities both here and abroad.

Message of the International Socialist Conference

The International Socialist Conference which opened its deliberations in Antwerp, Belgium, on November 28, 1947, unanimously resolved to send a message of congratulations to the BUND on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. The message was proposed by Louis de Bruckere, veteran Socialist leader of Belgium, and was supported by all delegates.

The BUND always deserved the place it occupied in the ranks of international Socialism. I feel certain that this position will continue to gain importance and weight. As it is for all of us, the day of victory is near for the BUND.

Your comrade and friend,

Leon Blum."

MESSAGE OF LEON BLUM

The following is the message from Leon Blum received by the BUND anniversary rally organized by a special anniversary committee in Paris:

"Dear Friends:

You know well the reasons why I cannot be with you this evening. Please accept my hearty and brotherly greetings.

I review in my mind all the heroic struggles waged with unflinching bravery throughout half a century; I think of all our comrades who gave their lives in the course of these struggles; I think of all the condemned and voluntary wanderers, and I experience a deep feeling of justice mixed with pride.

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Anniversary Celebrations in Poland

An entire week was set aside by the Jewish Labor BUND Organization in Poland for celebrations in connection with the BUND's golden anniversary. In the beginning of the Anniversary Week, a series of public meetings was held in various Polish cities and towns, such as Warsaw, Lodz, Wroclaw, Rychbach, et al. Crowds of Jewish workers flocked to these mass-meetings to listen to speeches extoling the BUND's glorious past, its importance in the struggle of the Jewish working masses, and its role in the present days. Representatives of the Polish Socialist Party and of the Polish Workers' Party appeared at all these meetings with messages of congratulation and encouragement.

The anniversary issue of the *Folkstsaitung*, the BUND paper in Poland (in Yiddish), appeared in greatly expanded form and contained many articles and photographs illustrating the activities of the BUND throughout the half century of its existence. Special emphasis was placed on the BUND's underground activities under Nazi occupation. The BUND periodical in the Polish language, "The Voice of the BUND," likewise published a special anniversary issue in which among other articles, a number of leading Polish Socialists analyzed the BUND's importance and achievements.

The anniversary celebrations in Poland were culminated by a special Anniversary Conference, which

took place in Warsaw on November 15, 1947, and which was attended by 1200 delegates and guests from all parts of the country. The conference was addressed by representatives of the Polish Socialist Party; the Polish Workers' Party; the Democratic Party; the Peasant Party; the Union Movement; and the Socialist Youth Movement. Messages of congratulation were received from the British Labor Party; the Socialist Parties of Norway, Sweden, Czechoslovakia, and Italy; and from BUND groups and organizations throughout the world.

The Conference was opened with a short address by Dr. Shuldenfrei, Chairman of the BUND Organization in Poland. After the congratulatory addresses by the representatives of the Polish political parties and of the Polish Government, Dr. Shuldenfrei gave a searching analysis of the BUND's accomplishments and its future aims. Luba Bielicka then spoke on behalf of the BUND Youth Movement, after which Marek Edelman, one of the commanding officers of the Ghetto Uprising, spoke on the underground struggle against the Nazi occupation. S. Fishgrund, Secretary of the Polish BUND, was the chairman of the Conference.

On the morning following the Conference, a monument for the BUND members who died in the underground struggle against the Germans in the ghettos of Poland was unveiled at the Warsaw cemetery.

Bund Anniversary Rally in New York

On Sunday, December 14, the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Jewish Labor BUND, marking the beginning of an organized Jewish labor movement, was celebrated at an impressive rally in New York City. 5,000 people packed Manhattan Center to hear prominent speakers exhort the BUND's role in emancipating the Jewish working masses of tsarist Russia; its growth and development in pre-war Poland; and its profound influence upon the Jewish labor movement in this country.

The meeting was opened on behalf of the World Coordinating Committee of the BUND and affiliated Jewish Socialist Organizations by Dr. Emanuel Scherer. The audience stood in solemn silence as the speaker recalled the names of the BUND leaders who had died in the heroic uprisings within the Nazi-established ghettos of Poland; who had been burned and gassed by the Gestapo; who had been put to death in the dungeons of the Soviet Secret Police; and who had given their lives for the cause of freedom-loving Socialism the world over. The speaker emphasized the revolutionary part played by the BUND in Jewish

life of the 18th Century. "Inasmuch as it revolutionized Jewish public life," he said, "the establishment of the BUND in 1897 was as important an event in modern Jewish history as were the French and American Revolutions in the history of their respective nations." Dr. Scherer also stressed the added import of the ideals of Democratic Socialism in our times. He then relegated the chair to N. Chanin, president of the special BUND Anniversary Committee sponsoring the gathering.

In his address, Mr. Chanin emphasized the important part played by BUND members in the establishment and success of Jewish labor organizations in this country. Himself a BUND member since his early days in Russia, Mr. Chanin remained close to the BUND all his life. Citing examples, the speaker showed that most of the important figures in the American Jewish labor movement had either been BUND members before they came to this country, or had been strongly influenced by the BUND's dynamic hold on the Jewish masses of Eastern Europe. "But the role of the BUND is not a thing of the past," he said. "We

are celebrating not only the BUND of past years, but the BUND of the future as well." At this point the most impressive moment of the mass-meeting occurred. A group of several score former concentration-camp victims, partisans, and ghetto fighters marched across the auditorium to the tune of the Jewish Partisans' Song, clad in blue-and-red uniforms and carrying red banners. A roar of applause rose from the audience as the colorful group halted near the stage decorated with portraits of BUND leaders and appropriate slogans. Vladka, a liaison girl of the Warsaw underground BUND and one whose name had been legendary in the ghetto and during the courageous Warsaw uprising, then addressed the meeting, handing a suitably inscribed red banner to 78-year-old John Mill, the only living member of the original 13-man group of BUND founders, for presentation to the BUND.

In acknowledging the honor, John Mill gave vent to the deep emotions enveloping him on the occasion of the anniversary. He described the dreary and apathetic state of the Jewish masses at the turn of the 19th Century, and the vitalizing effect of the BUND propaganda.

An address by David Dubinsky, President of the International Ladies Garment Union of America, was then read by Nathaniel Minkoff. Mr. Dubinsky deplored his inability to attend the meeting due to pressing work out of town. He greeted the gathering both on behalf of the ILGWU and in his own name, "in the name of one who received in the BUND school his first teachings in Socialism and in labor relations."

The next speaker was Joseph Baskin, Secretary-General of the Workmen's Circle, who saw in the founding of the BUND the final, successful attempt on the part of the Jewish workers to break the shackles not only of isolation imposed by the outside world, but also of their own feeling of impotence and inferiority.

The keynote address was delivered by Solomon Mendelsohn, who gave a searching historical analysis of the history of the founding of the General Jewish Workers' BUND of Russia, Lithuania, and Poland, as the organization was called at the time. He pictured the social and cultural forces in the Jewish life of the

19th Century and the beginning of the lifelong struggle between Zionism and the BUND ideology. "This was a dramatic and valuable struggle, a fight which mobilized all forces — both mental and material," he said. "Our differences were important ones; they touched upon the very roots of our existence. They did not remain floating on the surface of Jewish life, but reached its very depths. They concerned the Jewish *present*, but they also concerned the Jewish *future*." The speaker made it a special point to emphasize that just as the Zionists were always not only sceptical concerning the practicality of the BUND'S ultimate solution of the Jewish problem, — a turn towards Socialism — but also questioned the influence of a Socialist world on the specific Jewish problems; so did the BUND not merely sceptically regard the idea of a Jewish state in Palestine, but was also concerned about the paralyzing influence that such a state, if established, might have upon the development of Jewish culture and national values in countries throughout the world. In this light, therefore, the struggle between Zionism and the BUND is just as real, and perhaps even more important now, after the United Nations decision on Palestine, the speaker pointed out.

A great number of congratulatory cables and telegrams addressed to the rally were read by the chairman. Among these were cables from the British Labor Party, from Norman Thomas, from the Socialist Party of the U.S.A., from the Belgian Socialist Party, and from other labor and Socialist organizations both in this country and abroad.

Many famous personalities in the field of Jewish labor and politics, as well as a number of Jewish writers and journalists, were prominently seated on the stage. The artistic part of the rally included a concert by the Workmen's Circle Children's Choir directed by Michael Gelbart; a beautiful rendition of several labor and Jewish folk songs by the Adult Choir of the Workmen's Circle under the direction of Lazar Weiner; the solo singing of Richard Tucker of the Metropolitan; and a violin recital of Misha Mishakoff.

The rally was an impressive demonstration of Jewish labor in New York.

BUND Anniversary Publications

Special anniversary issues of various periodicals were published in many countries in connection with the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Jewish Labor BUND. The exact number of such publications cannot, as yet, be ascertained. There can already be no doubt, however, that all these anniversary publications both here and abroad contain a great deal of historical information of prime importance — information con-

cerning the history of the Jewish labor movement under the BUND banners that no future historian interested in this particular period of Jewish life could well afford to disregard. An incomplete list of these publications will be found below:

(1) UNSER TSAIT, New York, December 1947. The issue contains 208 pages of text, 16 pages of pictures, and 48 pages of messages of greeting from Jew-

ish labor organizations, individuals, and Socialist and labor groups all over the world. A special section of the magazine contains poetry and literary works written by famous Jewish writers for the occasion of the BUND's golden anniversary. The issue is divided into nine distinct sections. The entire magazine will remain an important commentary on Jewish problems and development in the past period of contemporary Jewish history. The publication was printed in 4,000 copies, and the entire printing has already been sold.

(2) FOLKSTSAITUNG, Warsaw, November 15, 1947. This issue of the newspaper appeared in greatly expanded form; it contains a great many photographs, illustrations, and articles by famous BUND leaders. The issue also contains greetings to the BUND's golden anniversary from the Polish Socialist Party and from Socialist leaders outside Poland.

(3) YUGNT VEKER, Lodz, Poland, Organ of the Central Committee of the TSUKUNFT ("Future") in Poland; the special issue contains a series

of articles and pictures of importance.

(4) UNSER SHTIME ("Our Voice"), Paris, France. The special issue is greatly expanded in form, and contains a great many interesting articles by BUND leaders from all over the world.

(5) DER VEKER, Brussels, Belgium, December 13, 1947. The issue contains greetings from the Socialist Party of Belgium and articles by a series of renowned BUND leaders. Also presented are the photographs of BUND leaders in Belgium who gave their lives during the German occupation.

(6) "Jewish Socialist Voice," London. The anniversary issue appeared in greatly expanded form.

(7) UNSER GEDANK ("Our Thought"), Buenos Aires, November 1947, contains a series of articles by BUND members in Argentina and in other countries.

(8) FOROIS, Mexico City, appeared in greatly expanded form and contains interesting articles on timely and historical topics.

The Jewish Labor Bund at the International Socialist Conference in Antwerp

At the first meeting of the International Socialist Conference in Antwerp, the Jewish Labor BUND, until then enjoying the rights of observer, was admitted as a full-fledged member of the international body. A three-man BUND delegation (Dr. M. Schuldenfrei, Poland, E. Nowogrodsky, U.S.A., R. Ryba, France) took part in the subsequent activities of the Conference.

The active part of the BUND in the work of both the economic and the political committees of the Conference resulted in the unanimous adoption by the Conference of two passages added to the general resolutions, one concerning the displaced persons, the other the struggle against anti-Semitism throughout the world. The passages in question read:

"The existence, more than two years after the end of the war, of several hundred thousand "displaced persons" is a reproach to mankind and an obstacle to European and world reconstruction. The Conference calls on all democratic governments to take immediate steps to offer these "displaced persons" the chance of beginning a new life and returning to productive work. The gates of all countries should be opened to these unfortunate victims of Nazism, Fascism and war."

"Anti-Semitism is a danger to democracy and peace. The Conference calls on all Socialists and all true democrats to oppose energetically any attempt to revive anti-Semitic propaganda, and it denounces anti-Semitism as a crime against humanity."

During the debate regarding the proposed admitting of the German Social Democratic Party to the International Conferences, Dr. M. Schuldenfrei read on be-

half of the BUND delegation the statement which we bring below. The BUND abstained from voting on the issue of the German Socialists.

STATEMENT ON THE GERMAN SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY SUBMITTED TO THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST CONFERENCE BY THE BUND

"The BUND delegation finds it impossible to speak in favor of admitting the German Socialist Party to the international Socialist bodies. In doing so, we refrain from appraising the general political views of the German Socialists; rather, as representatives of the Jewish Socialist Movement, we wish to submit the following reasons:

"Anti-Semitic propaganda was the most important ideological weapon helping the Nazis to organize and carry out the mass murder of the Jewish people — a crime of proportions hitherto unknown in the history of mankind. The vast majority of the German people took part in this crime, or at least enjoyed the material fruits thereof.

"In spite of this tragic annihilation of the Jewish people and the circumstances leading thereto, however, we wish to apply our international principles even with regard to the German working class and its Socialist Party. We thus remain fully aware of the fact that many German Socialist leaders have personally suffered under the Nazi regime; we thus remain convinced that the German Socialist movement embraces the part of the German population least guilty of the crime

which has been committed against the Jewish people. But because of this feeling of international solidarity, we believe to have been justified in expecting that, at least after the war was over and the Nazis were defeated by military force, the representatives of the German labor movement would embark upon a campaign of enlightening the German masses regarding Hitler's crime of murdering six million Jews, and would energetically concern themselves with uprooting the anti-Semitic tendencies in Germany, still strong at the present time.

"Today, almost three years after the end of the war, these expectations are not yet met by the labor parties of Germany; both the German Communist Party and the German Socialist Party have, so far, failed to condemn with sufficient clarity the Hitlerite crimes in the occupied territories in general, and, in particular, the annihilation of millions of Jews.

Statements on Palestine

In connection with the current discussion within the various BUND groups and organizations regarding the Palestine problem, we bring below a few of the resolutions and statements adopted by some of these groups. Although these materials antedate the United Nations decision on the partition of Palestine, it is thought worthwhile to present here the views of BUND groups throughout the world concerning this major development in Jewish post-war life.

Statement on Palestine and Zionism issued by the New York BUND Organization, 1947

The development of the Jewish Community in Palestine, its future advancement, the import it has acquired among the Jews all over the world after the annihilation of the European Jews by the Nazis, and the international efforts being made to solve the Jewish problem — urgently require that we apply the general principles of the BUND ideology to the situation in Palestine and that we formulate the attitude of the BUND toward this problem.

Any solution of the Palestine problem contradictory to the principles of democracy and justice is bound to be wrong. The only way out from the present situation is to achieve independence for the country as well as freedom for its entire population by a guarantee of the national rights of both communities.

A simple majority rule is not advisable under the prevailing conditions, while a minority rule over the majority is even less satisfactory. The concentration of the Jews as well as of the Arabs in separate districts of the country makes possible the application of the principles of territorial and cultural autonomy within

We have read the statement issued in this connection in July, 1947. This statement speaks of the Jewish people as the symbol of human suffering, and of the indemnity due our people. But the statement ends with but a general assertion that the German Social Democrats should fight anti-Semitism more energetically. This promise alone cannot suffice to express the will of re-educating the German working class in the spirit of anti-racialism.

"The blood of the slaughtered Jews is not yet dry. The cries of fright and desperation of the living remnants of Jews are not yet stilled. At a time like this, our conscience and the feeling of responsibility of Jewish Socialists tells us that the time is not yet ripe to determine the place to be occupied by the German Socialist Movement in the international Socialist family."

the boundaries of a common democratic state based on the principles of equal community rights for both Jews and Arabs. Only a solution creating an atmosphere of real democracy and freedom, of international brotherhood and mutual respect, will establish proper conditions for the future advancement of the Jewish community in Palestine.

Aware of the achievements of the Jewish community in Palestine, especially in the realm of economic rehabilitation of the country, social security, and national self-administration, we should not, however, disregard its faults, caused mainly by the Zionist ideological trend with which the community became imbued. Particularly dangerous and harmful are the worsening of relations with the Arab population and the curse imposed upon the Yiddish language, which tends to estrange the Jewish population in Palestine from Jewish life all over the world.

In accordance with the above-mentioned considerations, we propose the following *basic suggestions for the solution of the Jewish problem*:

(a) The peaceful co-existence of Jews and Arabs must be brought about by the renunciation of the Zionist goal of an independent Jewish state on the part of the Jewish community on one hand; and on the other, by the Arabs' recognition of the basic democratic principle proclaiming that a country belongs to its entire population. Palestine should thus be regarded as belonging both to the Arabs and the Jews.

(b) Palestine should become an independent state. Its freedom and the equal rights of its two communities should be internationally guaranteed. During the transition period, the country should be supervised by the United Nations.

(c) Discriminatory practices of every kind against Jews as well as against non-Jews should be stopped.

(d) Free immigration into Palestine, restricted only by the economic possibilities of the country, should be established. In this respect we do not discriminate between Palestine and other countries into which Jews wish to immigrate.

(e) Palestine is far too small to absorb all the Jewish Displaced Persons. The plight of these grief-stricken victims of Nazism must be ended by allowing free entry into all countries, Palestine included.

(f) All restrictions regarding the use of the Yiddish language should immediately be abolished. Yiddish should enjoy equal rights with any other language.

In connection with our suggestions for the solution of the Palestine problem we deem it advisable to declare:

1) The annihilation of the better part of the Jews by the beasts of Nazi-Germany, completed before the very eyes of the world, could not but increase desperate tendencies among the majority of the Jews still alive; cause many of them to be dominated by dangerous thoughts of divorcing themselves from the world; and help the growth of nationalism among Jews. The basic ideas of Zionism — suspicion of the non-Jewish world, a longing to isolate themselves through the creation of an independent state in Palestine, — embraced under the circumstances large sections of the Jewish population. These nationalist feelings among Jews, expedited by the above-mentioned circumstances, caused influential parts of the Jewish population in the United States, at present the largest Jewish community in the world, to support the Zionist aspirations for a Jewish state in Palestine, even while continuing to proclaim their allegiance to this country and their belief in peaceful cooperation between Jews and non-Jews in the United States.

2) The same nationalist trends made of Palestine a fertile ground for the growth of various extremist Zionist factions and groups; various Jewish terrorist organizations; and the so-called Revisionists, who employ Fascist methods to fight for the establishment of a Jewish state and for their own influence in the Jewish community of Palestine. The mentioned groups are a tremendous danger for the Jewish community in Palestine. They harm the name of Jews throughout the world, and they must therefore be combated with utmost determination. The fact that they are Jewish groups does not detract from their harmfulness, and they should be condemned and opposed by all people who are aware that Fascism is the enemy of mankind.

3) The tense nationalist trend enveloping large sections of the Jewish population paved the way for the irresponsible fight waged by the Zionist camp against the British Labor Government. The Zionist "War against Britain" has converted all those who permitted themselves to become involved in this struggle into enemies of a democratic Socialist government, a government that, despite some wrongs committed by it, is building new foundations for a new order of life and carries the hope of the working population of the world as well as the hope for a real redemption of the Jews. Since we remain convinced that the real solution of the Jewish problem is irrevocably connected with the victory of libertarian Socialism which will replace capitalism by a new way of life based on economic, political, and social democracy, we see but one way for the Jewish working masses, — to share the movement of International Socialism.

4) A Jewish state in Palestine does not constitute a solution of the Jewish problem. The vast majority of the Jews live and will remain living outside Palestine. The abolishment of anti-Semitism and all race discrimination, the granting of equal citizenship rights, and the satisfaction of the national and cultural aspirations of the Jews — this, the real solution of the Jewish problem, will have to be achieved outside the boundaries of Palestine.

5) However, even for the Jewish community in Palestine the creation of a Jewish state in a part of that country is not a solution. Such a Jewish state will inevitably remain too weak to guard its boundaries and its population in case of an armed conflict of some importance. It would become a brewing pot of international machinations, of various military preparations, and of war-mongering. Even barring an open war, the Jewish state will only increase the prevailing tension, insecurity, and danger for the Jewish community. Far from being a solution of the Jewish problem in Palestine, a Jewish state there would create a new permanent problem for the whole world, a new source of complications and dangers, a new source of anxieties for Jews inside and outside Palestine. The actual obstacles against the creation of a Jewish state are more powerful than the forces which favor its establishment and which will be in a position to protect such a creation built on a volcano. As they have been frequently during the past decade, great dangers and bitter disillusionment will be the lot of all those who stake their hopes on the creation of a Jewish state in Palestine.

6) The future of the Jewish community in Palestine and its advancement cannot be built upon latent

or open war against the Arab majority of the country as well as against the Arab countries surrounding Palestine. However, such a state of affairs would be the inevitable result of a creation of a Jewish state.

7) During the past 2,000 years of Jewish history the Jews became a nation of the world. The wheels of history cannot be turned back. The Jewish nation

scattered all over the world can exist further and develop to the best of its ability only under the conditions of freedom, democracy, and Socialism. Only thus will disappear the evils that raised anti-Semitism and only thus conditions can be created which would halt the sequence of catastrophies suffered by the Jews so frequently throughout their history.

STATEMENT ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE BUND IN FRANCE (October, 1947)

Jewish life all over the world bears today the consequences of the catastrophe which has befallen the Jewish population during the years of Nazi domination in Eastern Europe. We are burdened more than ever before with the responsibility for a national and cultural reconstruction and rehabilitation of the Jewish nation, a reconstruction which can be achieved only through a mutual effort of all the existing Jewish communities.

We must, first of all, attend to the elementary needs of the Jewish masses. It is our duty to do our utmost in order to speed up the rehabilitation of Jewish life, to strengthen the economic as well as social strongholds of the Jewish masses, and to fight energetically against anti-Semitism of every kind.

We must proceed with particular energy in our deliberate fight for the liquidation of the DP camps. All governments are to be blamed for the camps' prolonged existence. We shall not cease demanding the admission of all tragedy-stricken victims of Fascism into all countries, Palestine included.

This demand explains the attitude of our organization in the case of the "Exodus", which in our opinion was inevitably connected with the general solution of the DP problem. Our view was, at that time, in the best interests of the hundreds of thousands Jewish Displaced Persons.

Today as before we must proceed in our efforts to advance the Jewish language and Jewish culture. We must do our utmost to help the mother tongue of the Jewish masses to regain its proper place in Jewish life; and to wage a decisive battle against all tendencies of assimilation, no matter where they originate.

Simultaneously, in accordance with our primary duty as Socialists, we must try to imbue the Jewish masses with the Socialist ideal, to win them for the common fight with the non-Jewish workers for a new Socialist way of life, which will put an end to oppression and restrictions of all kinds, which will finally and radically solve the problems of mankind, the Jewish problem included.

We should strive now more than ever before to enhance the awareness of the Jewish masses that their

fate is inevitably tied up with the fate of the struggle waged by the working and progressive camp all over the world. We should influence the Jews to take up the fight against nationalist trends among them, tendencies caused by the unparalleled catastrophe which had befallen them.

At present, while bleak clouds loom on the horizon of France, while reactionary forces are mobilizing and commencing to endanger our democracy, it is our duty more than ever to defend the interests of the Jewish masses by our active participation in the struggle for democracy and freedom waged by the Socialist Movement of France. In our efforts to defend the Jewish masses, we shall take the initiative in mobilizing and utilizing all progressive forces within the Jewish community.

Jewish Communism

During the black years of occupation and war the Jewish masses stood united in their struggle to defend themselves and to participate in the underground campaign against Nazi Germany. This unity was achieved owing to our active efforts in bringing it about.

After the liberation of France this unity of effort still remained and contributed to the rehabilitation and strengthening of the Jewish community in France. However, the Communists are now undermining the unity achieved in past years by conducting an intolerable war against Socialists and by exhibiting a singular lack of loyalty within the common offices and bodies.

Following the assimilationist views which they did not renounce, the Jewish Communists are opposed to the establishment of Jewish branches of the existing trade unions and are against the building of Jewish craftsmen's organizations, veteran unions, etc. They have even opposed Jewish branches in general manifestations. A similar negative attitude harmed the advancement of Jewish national life in our community.

The Jewish Communists, bearers of an ideology based on dictatorship and opposed to democracy, are acting accordingly in our Jewish community. Their demeanor tends to harm the Jewish democratic organizations at a time when democracy is a basic condition

for the national existence of the Jews everywhere.

Contrary to the behavior of the Communists, we shall strengthen the unity among the Jewish population for the defense of their rights by opposing all Communist attempts to weaken the united institutions and by fighting against the anti-Socialist campaigns and anti-democratic pronouncements of the Communists.

Zionism

The overwhelming majority of the Jewish population — more than 90% of it — will remain outside Palestine. Zionism is thus in no way a solution for the Jewish problem. The harmful slogans of Zionism, like that of a European exodus and an exodus from the Diaspora, their tendency to jeopardize the well-being of the Jewish DP's, their opposition to the rehabilitation of the Jewish Communities outside of Palestine, all tend to increase the harmfulness of Zionism under the prevailing circumstances.

As a consequence of the Jews' position during the years between the two world wars and of the events

caused by the Second World War, the Jewish Community in Palestine grew in numbers. Supported by the Jews all over the world, the Jewish Community in Palestine has a number of social and national achievements to its credit.

Acknowledging the achievements of the Jewish Community in Palestine, we are at the same time deeply concerned about its existence and future advancement. For the policies of Zionism are clearly endangering the future and the development of the Palestine Jews.

We hold that everything in our power must be done in order to find means for a peaceful cooperation between the Jews and Arabs in Palestine as the only way to secure the existence of the Jewish Community in that country.

The Third National Convention of the BUND in France requests the BUND World Cooperation to put on the agenda of its Executive Committee meeting in December 1947 the problem of our comrades' activities in Palestine.

STATEMENT OF THE JEWISH SOCIALIST ORGANIZATION IN ENGLAND, AUGUST, 1947

1. The Jewish Socialist Organization in England condemns bitterly the Palestine terrorist groups striving to attain power by means of bombs and scaffolds. It also sharply denounces the entire Zionist propaganda, which is to blame for the Fascist acts committed by the most nationalistic faction of Jewish youth in Palestine — deeds which endanger the Jewish Community in Palestine as well as the Jewish Communities all over the world.

2. The Jewish Socialist Organization in England raises its voice in protest against all those who are engaged in inciting the grief-stricken Jewish DP's to illegal immigration into Palestine by boats which place their lives in danger and stand an exceedingly slim chance of reaching their destination. Particularly vicious has been the campaign of a "European Exodus", which implied the necessity for the Jewish inhabitants of various countries of Europe to run away from their homes where they wish to remain.

3. The Jewish Socialist Organization in England voices an appeal to the British Government to participate in solving the problem of the Jewish DP's by permitting at least 25,000 of them to enter England, and by simultaneously requesting the governments of all other democratic countries, and first of all the governments of the Dominions and of the United States of America, to admit numbers of the remaining Jewish DP's in proportion to the populations of their respective countries. Such a move would be the only way to

solve once and for all this tragic problem. The Jewish Socialist Organization of England published a similar resolution long ago, and appeals now to all Jewish and non-Jewish progressive associations and labor organizations to insist on such a solution of the DP problem.

4. The Jewish Socialist Organization in England is deeply convinced that the British Labor Movement as well as the British Government are fully aware of the political and social dangers involved in anti-Semitic activities of any kind in England, and particularly in those which recently took place in Liverpool and Manchester. We expect both the Labor Movement and the Government to do their utmost in their respective realms in order to protect the British citizens of Jewish origin, who are not responsible for the outrageous acts committed by Jewish Fascists in Palestine. Although the authorities, attending to their duties, have quenched the anti-Semitic attempts against the Jewish citizens, we are of the opinion that the population of England ought to be even more enlightened as to the dangerous implications of anti-Semitic propaganda, which always and everywhere was but a tool used by reactionary and Fascist elements. The Jewish Socialist Organization in England hopes that the Government as well as the Socialist Labor Movement will do everything in their power to prevent the recurrence of anti-Semitic excesses, which are harmful to the good name of British democracy.