

DIGEST OF NEWS AND COMMENT IN YIDDISH PRESS

OF INTEREST TO J.D.C.

May 16, 1922

ADOLPH HELD NEGOTIATES WITH "IDGESKOM" ON HELPING EMIGRANTS FROM RUSSIA

Riga - Adolph Held, Commissioner of "Hias" is at present conducting negotiations with the "Idgeskom" as to how Russian Jews wishing to go to America may best be aided. It is almost certain that the negotiations will bring good results.

(Forward, May 13, 1922)

THE "IDGESKOM" AND CHILD CARE

The correspondents of Yiddish newspapers, in describing the distress of the Jewish population in Soviet Russia, and particularly in Ukrainia, have always emphasized that the greatest sufferings fall to the lot of the innocent Jewish children, whose parents had either been killed, or are themselves destitute and ill and unable to care for their little ones. The "Idgeskom" is exerting all its energy and concentrating its main activity upon maintaining, feeding, clothing and educating these unfortunate Jewish children. Recently, owing to the changed policy of the Soviet Government, the latter was compelled to withdraw its support from many institutions, among them a great number of children's institutions.

But in spite of the extremely difficult situation, the "Idgeskom" succeeded in some places, where this was more important and possible, in the course of the two months, January and February, not only to preserve all children's institutions which had previously been under its jurisdiction or supported by it, but it even ~~managed~~ to extend its activity. The "Idgeskom" opened a number of new important institutions for children.

In Ukrainia alone the "Idgeskom" opened during the past two months (January and February) 97 institutions accomodating 5409 children. This figure would have been imposing even in ordinary times. And now, when you hear right and left of closing many institutions, or of desperate efforts to keep them up, how much determination, faith and energy is required to venture at this moment the opening of such a great number of children's institutions.

We give below the figures for the ~~last~~ two months, January and February, and the totals of the institutions and children, this table being only for the several Ukrainian Governments (provinces), and the institutions are both ordinary and boarding schools:

									Total
Government of Kiev	- Jan.	-20 inst.	-580 children.	Feb.	3 inst.	-400 child.	Inst.	-Ch.	
"	"	Podolia	" 12	" 580	"	" 5	" 504	" 17	1084
"	"	Wohlynia	" 4	" 225	"	" 2	" 140	" 6	365
"	"	Kharkov	" 1	" 60	"	" 2	" 70	" 3	130
"	"	Poltava	" 6	" 330	"	" 2	" 235	" 8	465
"	"	Yekaterinoslav	" 5	" 315	"	" 1	" 70	" 6	385
"	"	Zaporozhie	" 5	" 335	"	" 1	" 80	" 6	415
"	"	Donetz	" 6	" 365	"	" 3	" 180	" 9	545
"	"	Krementchug	" 3	" 180	"	" --	" --	" 23	180
"	"	Mikolaiev	" 8	" 450	"	" 8	" 410	" 16	860
Total		70inst.	3060children		27 inst.	1891	"	97	5409

In Mariampol the former home for 35 children was enlarged to accommodate 100, and a new one was opened for 80 more, so that 145 new places had been added.

And all these institutions were opened in the course of the two months (January and February); only few of them had been opened ~~in other regions~~ toward the end of 1921. It must not be forgotten that a number of such institutions have also been opened in other regions outside of Ukraina. Precise statistical data of these will be published on another occasion.

(Freiheit, May 14, 1922)

RELIEF FOR THE RADOMYSL CHILDREN'S INSTITUTIONS

At a recent session of the Kiev commission of the "Idgeskom" it was reported that in Radomyssel and in its district there are now 9 closed children's institutions, 6 schools and 2 workshops. There are no means for the further continuation of the work. The land of the children's homes must be sowed, but there is no seed. The debts are enormous.

The "Idgeskom" thereupon ~~was~~ resolved to advance for this purpose 200,000,000 roubles, out of the appropriations of the next four months.

(Freiheit, May 13, 1922)

KIEV "IDGESKOM" SUPPORTS INSTITUTIONS OF CULTURE LEAGUE

Kiev, May 10 - At the session of the Presidium of the Kiev "Idgeskom" it was resolved to appropriate 200,000,000 roubles for the institutions of the Culture League, the Art School, the School of Music and the Gymnasium (High School).

It was also resolved to give out for the month of March 39 Poud of flour for the teachers and scholars of the girls' trade school.

(Day, May 14, 1922)

MOST OF THE JEWISH CHILDREN'S INSTITUTIONS IN RUSSIA ARE IN A CRITICAL CONDITION

Moscow, May 10 - The withdrawal of the Government's support of the children's institutions is going on with rapid strides. The All-Russian Idgeskom exerts all its energies not to permit that the children's institutions should close. In this they partly succeeded. But everywhere the same outcry is heard: "means are wanting." A large portion of the means of the "Idgeskom" in Kharkov, Kiev, and Central Russia, was turned to the relief of the Jewish colonies. If aid will not arrive in time there is actual danger of ~~the~~ most of the children's institutions having to close. But so far the "Idgeskom" maintains most of them. It is, however, very difficult to extend the net of these institutions, as would be most desirable and necessary.

(Day, May 14, 1922)

THINGS BEGIN TO LOOK BRIGHTER IN JEWISH COLONIES

Moscow, May 10 - According to reports arriving here from Jewish colonies an unusually interesting constructive activity begins to develop there. Several machines have been bought, the work of irrigation has been carried out. Were it not for the scanty means, the most wonderful results could be reached here, in spite of the terrible famine which still prevailed in the colonies.

(Day, May 14, 1922)

CONVENTION OF "AMALGAMATED" ADOPTS RESOLUTION FOR
INSTALLING CLOTHING FACTORIES IN RUSSIA

Chicago - After a strong appeal by President Hillman, the Convention of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America unanimously approved the President's plan of installing clothing factories in Russia, which plan had previously been approved by the General Executive Board of the Union, and has adopted the following resolutions:

"Whereas Russia has suffered greatly from the war and from other calamities which caused famine and epidemics in the country;

"Whereas the United States of America was moved by the situation in Russia to help generously the starving Russians - a thing which is worthy of the highest praise;

"Whereas the war and the famine have hindered the economic reconstruction of Russia;

"Whereas the present problems of Russia cannot be solved by philanthropy or gifts, but only by economic cooperation with Russia and the Soviet Government of Russia, aiming at that normal condition, when Russia will again be able to use her enormous natural wealth to meet her needs;

"Whereas we are informed that the Soviet Government would welcome and is ready to accept industrial arrangements to manufacture clothing and conduct industrial enterprises in Russia,-

"We, therefore, declare our intention to join and cooperate with the Soviet Government of Russia, and we instruct the officials of this organization to make arrangements with the Soviet Government of Russia, according to their understanding and judgement, for the purpose of manufacturing clothing and carrying out such industrial enterprises as they will find possible; that in carrying out such work they may use such methods as they find best, either forming one or several corporations or taking stock of Russian companies, alone or together with the Russian government, or directly conduct an industry with or without the participation of the Soviet Government, and for this purpose we appropriate the amount of fifty thousand dollars, as an investment of this organization, and we also appropriate ten thousand dollars for such expenses as will be necessary in carrying out the work."

(Forward, May 12, 1922.)

THE "AMALGAMATED" AND RECONSTRUCTION WORK IN RUSSIA

(From an editorial in Forward, May 14, 1922)

The aim is: to make of the Jewish workers again a productive class, to put them on one level with the most advanced modern industries, to raise them to that worthy place in industrial life which they always occupied among the militant working classes of the nations,

Of-course the Amalgamated alone will be unable to carry out this colossal task. But the first step, the initiative is important. When the work is begun there will be found the means and the men to develop the work more and more.

Support must come on all sides. During his stay in Russia, the ~~Union~~ President of the "Amalgamated" has convinced himself that the Russian Soviet Government fully consents to his plan. We may be sure that the Soviet Government will take all necessary steps to create conditions favorable for the success of the enterprise.

"INTERNATIONAL" DONATES HALF A DAY'S WORK FOR TOOL CAMPAIGN

Cleveland - At a recent session the Convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union has adopted the recommendation of its General Executive Board to donate half a day's work of its many thousands of members to the \$1,000,000 tool drive planned by the People's Relief Committee. By this action the great Jewish labor organization endorses the campaign which is now being organized by the People's Relief.

Simultaneously with this resolution the delegates have also heard the recommendations of the European Relief Committee to approve the friendly relations now existing between the General Executive Board and the People's Relief Committee. Skulman and Goldovsky, chairman and secretary of the Relief Committee of the International, spoke about the great work of the People's Relief. In the name of their committee they recommended that the incoming General Executive Board should in the future continue the same close relations with the People's Relief, as existed heretofore.

The decision of the "International" to cooperate with the People's Relief in the coming \$1,000,000 tool drive is a step of the utmost importance and insures the success of the coming tool drive.

Ever since the beginning of the war the "International" has been one of the main supports of the relief organization which has been built up in America in the course of the last few years. A few years ago, the "International", during a campaign, sent in to the People's Relief a check for \$140,000.

(Forward, May 15, 1922)

JEWISH WORKERS OF UKRAINIA GET AMERICAN WAR MATERIALS

Part of the material left by the American army in France was sent to Ukrainia for the Jewish workers there. This material contains equipment and tools for shoemakers, carpenters, blacksmiths, etc.

This material was bought by the Paris office of the "Ort" for 165,000 Francs.

The tools were distributed by the Kiev Regional Committee among the Jewish cooperatives and trade schools. The distribution was carried out by a special committee of representatives of the "Ort" and of the local institutions.

The Berlin office of the "Ort" has sent for the Jewish colonists and artisans in Ukrainia, seed and agricultural machines in large quantities, part of this went through Stettin, the rest through Roumania.

There have already been sent about 40 carloads of seeds. Before the year is over, the "Ort" hopes to send seed and machines to the ~~amount~~ amount of 22,000,000 German marks. Half of this has already been sent.

(Forward, May 15, 1922)

PROMINENT LONDON JEWS ENDORSE RECONSTRUCTIVE WORK OF "ORT"

The Anglo-Jewish Relief Committee occupies in London the same place as the "Joint" in America. At the head of this committee are: Lionel de Rothschild, Claude Montefiore, Lord Swaythling and other prominent personalities.

The Committee has the following to say ~~in~~ in its Manifesto on this subject:

The "Ort" has already established a number of workshops in Lithuania, Poland and Ukrainia. It sent seed and agricultural machines to the Jewish colonies in South Russia and has developed greatly all sorts of trade schools for minors and technical courses for adults."

It is undoubtedly a great victory for the "Ort" that the Anglo-Jewish Relief Committee has now determined to do all it can through the "Ort" in order to reconstruct the economic life of the Jews and help the Jewish colonists and artisans by securing them tools, seed, raw materials, granting them loans, opening trade schools for them, etc.

(Forward, May 15, 1922)

"ORT" DISTRIBUTES MACHINES AND TOOLS AMONG ARTISANS

Warsaw, - The local "Ort" proceeded to distribute machines and tools for Jewish artisans. The machines are not given gratis, but are merely sold at a low price on instalments. The labor organizations guarantee that the artisans will pay their debts in due time.

(Day, May 13, 1922)

CONVENTION OF "ORT" COMMITTEES IN WOHLYNIA

Rovno, - A convention of the committees of the "Ort" in the province of Wohlynia took place here, to work out a general plan of activity and make preparations for installing new committees in the provinces.

One of the participants of the convention was ex-minister Moische Silberfarb, president of the Warsaw "Ort" Committee.

(Day, May 13, 1922)

"ORT" HELPS UKRAINIAN REFUGEES IN POLAND

The Polish Committee of the "Ort" develops a great activity to help the Russian and Ukrainian refugees by finding work for them. Of its more recent achievements in this field we shall mention here the following:

In Wolomen, near Warsaw, there was organized a cooperative for carpenters - refugees. The "Ort" gave this cooperative the necessary tools and enough cash to conduct the enterprise.

In the same town there was organized before Passover a Matzoth bakery, which employed 45 refugees. The bakery received of the "Ort" a Matzoth machine and 1,500,000 marks as a Loan.

In the last enterprise the Landsmannschaft of Zvenigrodka cooperated.

(Day, May 10, 1922)

CONVENTION OF UKRAINIAN JEWS IN NEW YORK

The National Convention of the Ukrainian Jews will take place in New York May 28-29, at the Pennsylvania Hotel. To this convention there are expected many representatives of organizations throughout the country, as well as of the Landsmannschaften in New York.

The Convention will take up a number of very important relief questions. The leaders of the movement consider this convention one of the most important for the past few years.

(Jew. Morning Journal, May 26)

"ORT," "IDGESKOM" AND PROMINENT AMERICAN JEWS WILL GREET UKRAINIAN CONVENTION

At the National Convention of Ukrainian Jews, which will be held on May 28-29 at Hotel Pennsylvania, there will be the representatives of the "Ort" Dr. Singalovsky and Leo Bramson, and of the "Idgeskom", Mr. M. Rashkes, and some prominent Jewish public men of America. The Ukrainian Federation will bring to the Convention report of a wide and ramified activity in behalf of the refugees and the orphans. Among other important questions there will be discussed the question of how to get rid of the pest of emissaries and delegates in Poland and Roumania and will propose to send a Unit of the Ukrainian Landsmannschaften in America.

(Forward, May 9, 1922)

UKRAINIAN FEDERATION GIVES \$100,000 TO "ORT"

At the last session of the Executive of the Ukrainian Federation, held at the residence of Dr. Krimsky, the delegates of the "Ort", Dr. A. Singalovsky and Leo Bramson reported on the activity of the "Ort" and of the plans of reconstruction in the ruined Ukrainian towns and in the Jewish colonies of South Russia.

After a long discussion it was resolved unanimously that the Ukrainian Federation will do its entire reconstruction work through the "Ort" and will give it not less than \$100,000 in the course of the coming year. It was also resolved to give the "Ort" delegation at once \$10,000 for children's technical schools in Ukraine and for tools for the Jewish agricultural workers in the provinces of Kiev and Podolia.

The coming convention of the Federation will consider plans of raising a great amount not only for reconstructive work, but also for the relief of the refugees and orphans.

(Forward, May 16, 1922)

DO NOT ADVISE SENDING PACKAGES TO POLAND

The "Hias" has received the following cable from its Warsaw office:

"Make it known to the Jewish public in America through the press that it is not advisable to send packages to Poland, for duties would amount to more than the worth of the package".

(Forward, May 8, 1922)

COMMENT ON "HIAS" WARNING

The "Morning Journal" comments editorially in its issue of ~~the~~ May 11 on the warning of the Hias not to send any packages to Poland. This warning corroborates what has long been known about Poland. The "Joint", the Red Cross and the great Hoover organization have found this out years ago. Before the duties have been made a legal practice there had existed other hindrances. And it never paid to send these packages for they never reached the persons to whom they were addressed, and at any rate the cost of sending them exceeded their actual worth. This is true not only of Poland, but of other countries as well, and of old Russia too.

The best way of helping relatives in those countries is to send them money or "food drafts". The food packages of the ARA are not sent from here, but are delivered from the warehouses in ~~those~~ those countries. And then the food packages can be traded for clothing or some other necessary articles, if

your relatives are well supplied with food. The distributing is done by a great organization, having many branches and representatives and rich in experience, so that an error in delivering is almost impossible. It is just the reverse in the case of sending food packages otherwise.

(Morning Journal, May 11, 1922)

NO BREAD OR POTATOES IN CRIMEA

Riga, May 8 - The Moscow "Izvestia" publishes descriptions of people coming from Simpheropol of the terrible conditions prevailing there. Hundreds are dying daily of hunger. People who go out into the street in search of food do not return. Typhus is raging throughout the region. 200,000 people are literally dying of starvation. For months the population has not seen bread or potatoes.

And bad as it is now, it is feared that things will become still worse. Owing to the drought and other causes, there will be next month not less than two million starving people.

(JCB.Service, May 10)

GREAT FIRES IN ODESSA

Berlin - Our Odessa correspondent informs us that in the course of the last few months there occurred great fires in Odessa. An entire street was destroyed by a recent fire. The fires are believed to be caused by an organization of incendiaries who have been found out and whose object it was to burn the entire city.

(Forward, May 9, 1922)

TO CONFER CONCERNING EMIGRATION FROM RUSSIA AND UKRAINE

Warsaw - Adolph Held, chief European Director of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society of New York, has been invited by Dr. Friedhof Nansen, Immigration Commisar of the League of Nations, to a conference at Genoa to consider facilities for the emigration of persons from Russia and Ukraine desirous of joining their relatives overseas.

(JCB.Service, May 9)

WARSAW AIDING RUSSIA'S STARVING JEWS

Warsaw - The appeal to come to the aid of the starving Jews of Russia has met with an unexpected and gratifying response. The entire population has been stirred by descriptions of the misery in Russia and the Ukraine, and has come forward with surprisingly large contributions, the largest contribution being that of Rabbi Alter, the Chasidic dignitary, known as the "Gerrer Rebbe."

(JCB.Service, May 11)