

Jews in Palestine Bitter Over Chamberlain Sellout

PALESTINE, (by mail).—The Jewish settlement here received with deep sorrow, through the Jerusalem radio, the official "White Paper" of the Chamberlain-Halfax-MacDonald Government. The Balfour Declaration with all its interpretations of a National Home for Jews in Palestine is dead.

The blow for the Jews in Palestine did not come suddenly. Many days before that they knew that it was inevitable, that all maneuvers of the Zionist leadership in London, in Washington, to cancel the "White Paper" would not help as they did on previous occasions. The present rulers in England, deeply entangled in the present crisis, could not go on any longer with the two-faced hypocritical promises to the Zionists.

In the dangerous situation for the British Empire in the Mediterranean, under the pressure of the Arab masses in Palestine and of the Arab governments in the countries around Palestine, the Chamberlain regime attempted to make things more convenient for itself by throwing overboard the fake pledges and declarations, including the Balfour Declaration with all its exaggerated hopes and dreams.

The new "White Paper" contains no less hypocrisy, and perhaps even more, than all the former ones with regard to the Palestine question. The only difference is that here we have everything in reverse form: instead of promises to the Jews there are pledges to the Arabs, pledges foggy enough to be put in such a style as "If it shall be the wish of the Lord."

The broad Jewish masses who until now were lulled with sweet dreams which the near-sighted Zionist leaders created, now see their real situation. The "White Paper" has aroused the Jewish population in Palestine as never before.

With the approach of a new world war the Arabs too are an important factor, because they are concentrated in millions in the Mediterranean area. Thus the British Government turned away from Zionism—and the hopes of many Jews throughout the world—hopes of salvation, of their own country some day in Palestine, have suddenly passed away like a dream.

Stormy waves of embitterment, of hatred and scorn of the London extortionists are rising now in all corners of the Palestine Jewish settlement, among the adult and the young—regardless of party and line. This time even the top circles of the Jewish agency, the official Zionist leaders could not prevent expression of disillusionment of the Jewish population in Palestine. At a closed conference of the narrow Zionist Action Committee it was decided to organize a campaign of protest and certain forms of passive resistance.

The representatives of the Histadruth (Jewish Trade Unions) in the National Council and the in the Jewish Agency yielded to the demand of the fascist-like Revisionists, and they together with the reactionary bourgeois Zionist representatives ordered that no labor organizations raise on that day their own flags in the mass demonstration.

On May 17, at 8:00 P. M. all public amusement-places, all movie-houses, theatres and cafe-houses were closed. The streets were wrapped in darkness. One may say that the entire settlement listened

in to the radio broadcast with great interest. After this these masses of people that were streaming into the streets especially in Tel-Aviv, kept cursing the British Government and its main figures—Chamberlain, Halfax and MacDonald—who had to do with the burial of the Balfour Declaration.

In Jerusalem the Chief Rabbi Herzog publicly tore up the "White Paper," and the Zionist leader Usischkin declared in his speech that the Jewish people has survived Torquemada and the Tsarist government and will also survive the present British rulers, who are the biggest enemies of the Jews in the whole world.

Usischkin in his speech addressed also the Arabs. This address was not very clever, but the fact alone that in this movement a person like Usischkin did find it necessary to address himself to Arabs shows what sort of emotions stir in the hearts of the Zionists. Usischkin said: "To you, the Arab population of the country, we send our word in this hard moment. Until now in the course of twenty years the British Government has deceived us. Jews. Now it announces ten years of cheating you."

Briefly, the day of protest passed with the Jewish masses grinding their teeth in anger, but facing an unclear road taken by the official leaders of the settlement and of the Zionist movement. The government is aware of this, just as it is aware of the Revisionists' plague in the settlement and therefore it tolerates their hooliganism, that has to help the government in splitting the Jewish settlement and thus to make it easier for the government in carrying out its plans.

The attitude of the Communist Party of Palestine is that the best way to serve the interests of the Jewish settlement and aims is to bring a true peace in its relationship with the Arab population of the land. In this moment the Palestinian Communist Party shows a maximum of effort to calm down the mutual anger of both peoples in the country and to direct their attention against the fascist menace from without and from within.

The attitude of the Communist Party of Palestine finds its expression in its issued appeals, in its illegal press, as well as in all the organizations where its members and sympathizers are active.

In the Arab neighborhood the Communist Party points out that Hitler's and Mussolini's agents are now interested in aggravating the relations between Jews and Arabs in the country. The Communist Party of Palestine points out that one has to consider the international situation, that the Fascist agencies are far from being interested in improving the conditions of the Arab masses, but just the opposite: they are interested in helping crush every movement for liberation and independence of the colonial lands, as one can learn from the Albanian example.

In the Jewish neighborhoods the Communist Party calls for fight against the adventurist appeals of the Revisionists and those under their influence and also other Zionist groups to organize armed revolts, which would result in the complete destruction of the Jewish settlement.

The Communist Party of Palestine points out that for many years it has warned the Jewish settlement not to trust British Imperialism,

not to rely upon its promises, because under each change in the situation of the settlement they will be betrayed and all promises forgotten. Now with its new "White Paper" the Chamberlain government confirms the correctness of the Communists and especially of the Palestine Party, in its warning that only in an understanding reached with the Arab people is there a way out for the Jewish settlement in its difficult situation.

The Palestine Communists, being devoted body and soul to the interests of the Jewish settlement, to their accomplishments, demand the greatest vigilance in the interests of the settlements from all those who have their eyes to reality. And that reality is a very bitter one: a wall of enmity between Jews and Arabs; open betrayal on the part of the British; an imminent danger of war with the fascist countries and a possibility of Italian attacks, especially air-raids, and a very hard economic situation with masses of unemployed.

Therefore the Communists urged by all means to seek an understanding with the Arabs. Although the Communist Party has its opinion and program for the future shaping of the land, for the collaboration of both peoples, it does not at this moment put forward any program, but only one slogan: unity, one united front of all those that stand for a form of government which is built upon a par-foundation; all those that stand for the idea that the Jewish minority reach 40 per cent of the population, and all the others, so the group of "Mapai" (Right Poale Zionists) that goes with Kaplan-sky; so the Hashomer Hatzoi, Poale Zion, Brith Sholom, and all those that understand now the urgency of an understanding with the Arabs—all those should form one single front that should function for the benefit of such an understanding.

Another thing: The Communist Party, realizing the danger of Revisionism, of their senseless attacks upon the Histadruth, as well as upon the Zionist organization headed by Weizman and Ben-Gurion; realizing that through such attacks the atmosphere can be poisoned with wild fascist venom amongst the backward sections of the population, has decided therefore to call upon all Communists and Communists' sympathizers to support the present leadership of the National Council and of the Jewish agency with Weizmann at its head.

The Communist Party declares, that it does that not because it considers Weizmann's course to be correct—on the contrary! It does that because the progressive workers cannot be indifferent to the fate of the settlement.

Of course, a settlement under a progressive leadership would have been better than under leadership of Weizmann, but it is better to have Weizmann than Jabotinsky. Because the Revisionists only want to draw in the settlement into an entanglement of a bloody adventure, that may bring a new, third destruction.

In spite of the fact—that it is necessary to direct sharp criticism at the leadership of Histadruth, the Communist Party also calls for defending the Histadruth, its very existence, against the wild Revisionist attacks.

In this most trying moment the Palestine Jewish settlement can see who are its enemies and who are its real friends.