

An editorial from the *Unzer Sztyme* (Our Voice), published by the Central Committee for the Liberated Jews in the British Zone at Bergen-Belsen at the end of 1945.

Unzer Sztyme (Our Voice)

Organ of the liberated Jews in the British Zone

PUBLISHER: Central Committee for the liberated Jews in the British Zone – BERGEN-BELSEN

EDITORIAL STAFF: Rafael Odevahi – David Rosental – Paul Trepman

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“Unzer Sztyme, c/o Central Jewish Committee, 618 Mzl. Gov. Det., B.A.O.N.”

Editorial.

ON THE THRESHHOLD OF THE NEW-YEAR.

The year 5706 is coming slowly to an end, and on the threshold of a New Year it is customary to look back into the past as well as gaze into the future.

A year which had started in the joyful atmosphere of the liberation and which aroused to many hopes in the Jewish tortured hearts, is coming to a sad end.

It would be useless to try to conceal our disappointment. Broken promises, curtailed hopes, news of pogroms and persecutions leave us numb with pain and astonishment. The liberation of Europe did not bring freedom to our suffering people. But hope never dies, and on the eve of this New Year we Jews have more than one reason to believe in a brighter and sunnier future. We must not overlook these.

Our greatest enemy lies torn and dismembered and criminals who instigated the murder of millions of our brethren await the sentence after their trial. They will not escape just punishment and there is consolation and a lesson in this.

In Palestine the Yishuv displays a fine example of solidarity and organization. The whole community stands like one man behind the rightful representatives, the government of the future - - the Jewish Agency. We all must be proud of the stand of the Yishuv, so courageous and so dignified because they fight so that we may live; for Palestine is for us “The Country” – the only country in the world.

In this hour let us also think of the Jews of the free countries of the world who did not go through the horrors of concentration camps and the tortures of organized extermination. We know that every Jewish heart, wherever it may be, beats with sympathy for the millions who have died and for the thousands who have survived and still suffer. We can be assured that world Jewry has the problem of the remnant of European Jewry at heart, and that their solidarity will find its expression in every plan of

action which is directed towards the rehabilitation and reconstruction of their shattered lives. Therefore, let us not despair at this solemn moment but let us gather our forces and make resolutions which would strengthen our bodies and our minds for the continuation of the struggle, the struggle for our physical and national existence. And when the Shofarim will break the silence of the Synagogues we will all in contemplation think of this great miracle – the miracle of our survival “Am Yisrael Chai.” The people of Israel still alive, and we are not afraid to face the future.

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