

JEWISH WAR FUNDS RAISE 1/2 MILLION

MR. SHERTOK ON RECRUITING

HAIFA, Thursday. — Over half a million pounds have been raised by the Jewish War Needs Fund since its inception a year ago, it was announced at the Palestine Conference of the Fund held at the Maccabi Hall here last night.

Representatives of various Jewish institutions from Haifa and other parts of the country were present at the gathering. The Jews were urged to expand their total war effort both by sending their sons and daughters to the Services and by increasing their contributions to the War Needs Fund.

The principal speaker of the evening was Mr. M. Shertok, Head of the Political Department of the Jewish Agency. Mr. Shabbetai Levy, the Mayor of Haifa, was in the chair.

Mr. S. Nathanson, Chairman of the Haifa Branch, reported that some LP89,000 had been raised for Jewish war purposes in Haifa alone since last August. About one-third of Haifa's contributions had come from the industrial sector, while trade contributed about one-fourth.

Mr. Shertok declared that the War Needs Fund was an integral part of their war effort in Palestine. The longer the war lasted, the greater would be the task of supporting soldiers' families, particularly those whose sons or husbands had given their lives in the fight against the arch-enemy.

Supreme Sacrifice

At this point, Mr. Shertok asked the gathering to observe a minute's silence in memory of the 130 Jewish soldiers who recently lost their lives at sea. Other Jewish men were on their way to replace their fallen comrades, but while they were all prepared for the supreme sacrifice, these men and their families should feel that the Yishuv stood by them.

Reviewing recruiting efforts, Mr. Shertok stated that so far Palestine Jewry had sent some 23,000 men and women to the three Services in addition to some 7,000 men recruited for local defence purposes and in the Police Force. These figures compared favourably with recruiting in England and America, he said, the more so when it was remembered that recruiting here was entirely on a voluntary basis.

More Recruits Wanted

Mr. Shertok urged an all-out effort to give a fresh impetus to the recruiting drive and called upon the Yishuv to swell the numbers of the men and women in the Services.

Turning to the future, Mr. Shertok said that a new order in this world could not be attained without a solution of the Jewish problem. Though the white Paper was still marketable value in this country, "the political world stock exchange had never registered the White Paper shares so low as at present," he stated.

Other speakers included Mr. N. L. Lifschitz of Tel Aviv and Mr. J. Saphir, Mayor of Petah Tikva.

The meeting was closed with an appeal by Mr. S. Levy to treble Haifa's contribution to the War Needs Fund within the