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Coffee Urges Wide Probe Of Anti-Semitism in U.S.

By Adam Laphin
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WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 20.—“Investigation and exposure of all fascist groups in the United States including the Silver Shirts, the Ku Klux Klan and the German Nazi camps,” was called for last night by Representative John M. Coffee of Washington.

☛ Coffee made his plea before more than 1,500 persons who crowded the auditorium of the National Press Club to attend the opening session of the National convention called by the Jewish People's Committee

“All intelligent persons should view with tremendous alarm the spread of fascism throughout the world and in the United States as well,” Coffee said.

“I have been in the fight against fascism and its nefarious hand-maidens, anti-Semitism, all my life,” he declared.

JEW PROTEST POGROMS

The convention was called to protest against government pogroms against Jews in Poland, which delegates were inspired and protected by the government. Committees were sent today to call on President Roosevelt, Polish Ambassador Jerzy Potocki, and Secretary of State Hull.

Potocki refused to see the committee headed by Joseph Brodsky of New York, but Hull received a group representing the conference.

Edward J. Aranow, head of the delegation, said that Hull “had been very sympathetic,” and he assured the delegates “that action can be expected.”

The demand was made on Hull that the United States government declare itself in opposition to the persecution of and discrimination against the Jewish people which prevails in Poland.

TREATY GUARANTEED RIGHTS

A memorandum was submitted to him which pointed out that both the United States and Poland are signatories to a post-war treaty which binds Poland to respect the equality to all national minorities and which guarantees “special protection” for the Jews of Poland.

Delegates to the convention, numbering more than 1,000 and representing 250,000 people, came from all walks of life and from cities throughout the United States. There were represented various political and economic beliefs.

Chairman of the sessions was Ben Gold, president of the International Fur Workers Union.

Early this morning the delegates marched along Pennsylvania Avenue to the Department of State carrying banners demanding action against the persecution of Jews in Poland.