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JEWISH POPULATION OF EASTERN PROVINCES DWINDLING BECAUSE OF ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES GERMAN PREMIER TOLD BY JEWISH DEPUTATIONS VISITING HIM AT VARIOUS POINTS ON HIS TOUR: POLISH-GERMAN TARIFF WAR DESTROYED JEWISH TIMBER AND SAW-MILLS INDUSTRY AND GROWING NETWORK OF AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATIVES ELIMINATED JEWISH GRAIN AND CATTLE-TRADERS: ONLY ELEVEN THOUSAND JEWS LEFT IN EASTERN PRUSSIA.

Berlin, Jan. 15th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Jewish life in Eastern Prussia, which was once in a flourishing state, the capital of the Province, Koenigsberg, having been among the pioneers of Jewish culture in Germany, is dying out because of the economic distress, which has overtaken the Jews there much more than the rest of the population, owing to the specific character of Jewish life there and the almost complete annihilation of those industries in which the Jews were for the most part engaged, the German Federal Prime Minister, Dr. Bruening, who is now touring the Eastern Provinces of the Republic, has been told by Jewish deputations which he has received in the various towns and cities he has visited. A detailed report of this specific Jewish distress in Eastern Prussia, which has resulted in great numbers of the Jewish population leaving it for other parts of the country, was presented to the Premier in Koenigsberg itself, by a deputation of the leaders of the local Jewish Community.

The German-Polish tariff war, they explained to the Premier, while hitting all sections of the German business world, had almost completely destroyed the large timber and saw-mills industry which had been practically entirely in Jewish hands, and the great extension of agricultural co-operatives had wiped out the numerous Jewish grain and cattle-dealers who had at one time been among the most important and most prosperous sections of the community in those parts. The result was that thousands of Jews left without any means of livelihood had emigrated or gone to live in other parts of Germany, and the Jewish population of East Prussia had sunk down to 11 per cent. of the pre-war Jewish population. Before the war East Prussia had over 120,000 Jews, and to-day it had no more than 11,000. Koenigsberg alone had before the war over 5,000 Jewish inhabitants.

Similar conditions apply in those provinces of what before the war was Eastern Prussia, and now form part of Poland - Posen, Pomerania, and the Polish parts of Silesia. Jewish life in these Provinces has dwindled to such an extent, that in many towns where there were once prosperous Jewish communities, there are no Jews left at all now, and the synagogues standing empty have been seized and converted in many places into churches. A special Conference is being opened at Grudziadz on the 25th. inst. (as reported in yesterday's J.T.A. Bulletin) to consider what can be done so that these one-time Jewish possessions can be restored to Jewish ownership.

There have been anti-Jewish disturbances of a serious character in Koenigsberg and other parts of East Prussia, a particularly bad outbreak occurring in 1928, when antisemitic processions took place almost nightly in the city, with banners inscribed "Out with the Jews" and swastikas affixed to the doors of all Jewish houses.

HITLERISTS TRYING TO FORCE THEMSELVES INTO GERMAN GOVERNMENT: DIS-APPOINTED BY PREMIER'S LATEST DECLARATION AGAINST COLLABORATION WITH HITLERISTS IN NEW COALITION BUT ADOPTING METHOD OF PLANTING HITLERIST MINISTERS IN STATE GOVERNMENTS WITH VIEW TO EXERCISING PRESSURE THROUGH THEM ON FEDERAL GOVERNMENT: MINE OWNERS' FEDERATION SUPPLYING HITLER WITH FUNDS RHINELAND PRESS REPORTS: MONEY PAID OUT BY PRESIDENT OF FEDERATION WHO IS OF JEWISH ORIGIN.

Berlin, Jan. 15th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Hitlerists, still flushed by their big victory in the Parliamentary elections of last September, which made them the second largest Party in the State, and believing that as such they should have a right to a place in the Government of the country, are making strenuous efforts to force the Federal Government to rearrange the composition of the Coalition Government in such a way that it should include at least one Hitlerist Minister. They are consequently deeply disappointed by the latest declaration made by the Federal Prime Minister, Dr. Bruening, during his present tour in the Eastern Provinces, that there is to be no collaboration by the Government with the disruptive forces of the Radical Right (the Hitlerists) who have by ~~their irresponsible~~ propaganda brought Germany to the edge of the abyss. Finding the way barred in that direction, they have pinned their hopes to the method of planting as many Hitlerists as possible as Ministers in the various States, as in Thuringia and Brunswick, in the belief that in this way they will be able to exercise sufficient pressure on the Federal Government to induce it to make room for at least one Hitlerist representative in the Federal Cabinet. In pursuance of this aim, they have even proposed now to the Democratic Party in Saxony that they will join it in the formation of a Coalition Government there, but the Democratic Party has refused to consider the suggestion.

The Hitlerists are meanwhile continuing to receive large sums for their propaganda and organisation activities from some of the big industrialists of Germany, and to-day the Rhineland Press carries a report that Hitler himself is in the big industrial town, Essen, conducting negotiations with the mining magnates there who have just given him hundreds of thousands of Marks for his Organisation. The money was handed to Hitler, the report adds, by the President of the Mining Federation, Herr Loewenstein, who is said to be himself of Jewish origin.

ALLEGATION THAT JEWS ARE HIRING ASSASSINS TO REMOVE HITLERIST LEADERS COSTS HITLERIST EDITOR 200 MARKS FINE: ACTION BROUGHT AGAINST HIM BY UNION OF GERMAN CITIZENS OF JEWISH FAITH.

Berlin, Jan. 15th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The publication of the allegation made by numbers of Hitlerist speakers lately that the Jews, terror-stricken by the tremendous growth of Hitlerism, were plotting to have some of the leaders of the Hitlerist movement assassinated, has cost the editor of the Hitlerist paper "Eisenhammer", Roehrig, a fine of 200 Marks, as a result of an action brought against him by Dr. Julius Brodnitz, the President of the Central Union of German Citizens of the Jewish Faith, and Dr. Hollaender, the Director of the Union. He had written in his paper that the Central Union of German Citizens of the Jewish Faith had hired ~~France-tireurs~~ to assassinate the Hitlerist leaders.

CUZA EXPECTED TO DISAVOW ROUMANIAN ANTISEMITIC STUDENT MOVEMENT  
BECAUSE SHOWN TO HAVE AIMED AT DEPOSING HIM FROM LEADERSHIP  
IN FAVOUR OF CODREANU.

Bucharest, Jan. 15th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Professor Cuza, the septuagenarian leader of the antisemitic movement in Roumania, will probably disavow the terrorist antisemitic movement, whose leaders, Codreanu, Totu, Danila, and others, have been arrested following the discovery of a wide-spread plot to overthrow the Government and establish a Fascist regime in Roumania, it is stated here, since the documents seized by the police at the terrorist headquarters show that it had been intended also to get rid of Cuza himself, by assassination, if necessary, and replace him by one of the younger men, like Codreanu.

NEW SECRET ANTISEMITIC ORGANISATION DISCOVERED IN ROUMANIAN SCHOOLS:  
POSTERED BY TEACHERS SAYS REPORT: HUNDREDS OF SCHOOL CHILDREN  
TO BE EXPELLED SAYS MINISTRY OF EDUCATION.

Bucharest, Jan. 15th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The existence of another secret antisemitic organisation of school-children who were encouraged to join by some of their teachers, has been discovered as a result of continued investigations made in the schools. Immense quantities of material have been found showing that the school-children were being incited to take part in terrorist activities. Hundreds of pupils will be expelled from the schools as a result of these disclosures, the Ministry of Education states.

WHAT CODREANU TOTU DANILA AND THE REST WERE PLOTTING.

Bucharest, Jan. 15th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Charges of plotting to overthrow the constitutional authority have been brought against the following antisemitic leaders: Zelea Corneliu Codreanu, Stelescu, Chief of the Battalion in Galatz, Moise Lefter, Jon Banier, Chief of the Jassy Battalion, Nicolas Totu, Chief of the Kimpolung Battalion, Jon Danila, Chief of the Borsha Battalion, and Amos Horatiu Pop, Chief of the Turda Battalion, it is reported here. The proceedings against them are being taken under the provisions of the Marcescu anti-sedition law.

The accused are charged with having organised a movement for "integral Roumanianism and the removal of Jews from all spheres of activity", and for that purpose to have been preparing a revolt to overthrow the Government and to establish a regime in which they would be able to accomplish their aims. The organisations, the statement says, were thus by subversive means seeking to dispense with the authority of the legally elected Government and the representative political parties, destroy the principle of democratic representation through general and free elections, and set up a dictatorship on Fascist lines. For this purpose the two organisations, the Iron Guard and the Archangel Michael, were organised as military bodies armed for military combat. The organisations were making final preparations to effect a coup d'etat by force of arms. All legions were under the command of a supreme chief, whom they were bound by oaths of allegiance to obey without question till death. The organisations were arranged in battalions, one in each area, with platoons and cells. A cell, the smallest group of the organisation, consisted of a chief and 13 legionaries, sworn to loyalty to their chief till death. The legionaries and their chiefs were provided with uniforms. The chiefs also had swords. The salute was the old Roman salute of extending the right arm, employed also by the Fascists and the Hitlerists. The legion had in its gift two distinctions, a medal known as the "Knight of the Cross", and a medal "For Work And Sacrifice". These distinctions were conferred on members for exceptional services.

In addition to the organised legions, the names of whose members are now known to the authorities, there were also certain bodies of outside sympathisers with the movement, and a supplementary body of "musketeers". These people did not take the oath of allegiance, but were pledged only by hand-shake and word of honour.

The movement started with five battalions, and lately numbered twelve. It is impossible, the statement says, to establish the exact number of the legionaries, but the documents found suggest that there were over 5,000 throughout the country. Nothing is yet known of the number of their sympathisers throughout the country. Most of the active legionaries were students of the universities or the Lyceums, and the sympathisers were State officials, farmers, etc.

The documents seized by the authorities show that active preparations had already been made for actual fighting. All orders sent by headquarters to the area commanders called on them to be ready for battle. That this was not a metaphor employed to indicate a propaganda fight, is shown by the fact that all the preparations made indicate that a real battle was intended, with the employment of arms and in regular military formation.

ALGERIAN ANTISEMITIC PAPER CONTINUES FURIOUS ANTI-JEWISH CAMPAIGN  
AFTER DEATH OF ITS FOUNDER-EDITOR DEPUTY MOLLE WHO WAS MAYOR  
OF ORAN.

Paris, Jan. 15th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Expel all immigrant Jews, the "Petit Oranais", the Algerian daily published in Oran, which was founded and owned and edited by Deputy Molle, the Mayor of Oran, who died suddenly last week, writes, continuing the violently antisemitic policy of its founder.

We demand drastic measures, it says, to put a stop to the Jewish question in French North Africa. We want our frontiers closed against Jews. We do not want Jews to be given naturalisation. No Jew ought to be allowed to call himself a Frenchman. We demand further a complete economic boycott against Jews in all branches of trade, the enforcement of a numerus clausus in the universities and schools and the exclusion of Jews from all scientific bodies, sports societies and other organisations and institutions. We regard the Jews as a minority nationality, alien to the French people. We demand the confiscation of Jewish property as a means of restoring to the French people the millions which were stolen from it by Jewish bankers and swindlers, by means of speculation and fraud, before, during and after the war.

THIRTY YEARS AGO MANY TOWNS IN FRANCE RESOUNDED TO CRIES "DOWN WITH  
JEWS!" SENIOR DEPUTY OPENING NEW SESSION OF FRENCH PARLIAMENT  
RECALLS: BUT NOW AFTER FRIENDSHIP BORN OF TRENCHES OLD PREJUDICES  
HAVE DISAPPEARED HE SAYS.

Paris, Jan. 15th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Thirty years ago many towns in France resounded to the cries: "Down with the Jews", or "Down with the clergy", Deputy Maurice Sibille, the oldest member of the French Chamber said, in presiding to-day by seniority at the opening of the new Parliamentary session.

The war, he went on, saw Freethinkers, Jews, Catholics and Protestants all doing their duty side by side, with the friendship born of the trenches. After the Armistice the custom grew up of soldiers commemorating their dead comrades by going from the Catholic Cathedral to the Protestant Church and to the Synagogue, so that all the fallen, whatever their religion, should be properly honoured. The old prejudices, Deputy Sibille said, have now disappeared.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS NO INTENTION OF MAKING OR INVITING ANY STATEMENT ON PASSFIELD WHITE PAPER AT LEAGUE OF NATIONS COUNCIL MEETING OPENING ON MONDAY: WAILING WALL COMMISSION'S REPORT ALSO WILL NOT BE PRESENTED TO SESSION: BUT BRITISH DELEGATION CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF PRIVATE CIRCULATION AMONG MEMBERS.

Geneva, Jan. 16th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Palestine question is definitely not on the agenda of the session of the League of Nations Council which is opening here on Monday, the first held after the publication of the Passfield White Paper. There is a reference to it only in the Report of the last session of the Mandates Commission, which transmits to the Council its decision to consider the White Paper at its next session.

Mr. Arthur Henderson, the British Foreign Secretary, who is presiding over the Council, has no intention of making or inviting any statement on the White Paper, the J.T.A. representative learns from an authentic source.

The British Government will also not submit to the present session of the Council the report of the Wailing Wall Commission, the J.T.A. representative learns authentically. It is possible, however, that the report will be unofficially circulated among the members of the Council. Even this has not yet been definitely decided, but the British Delegation is at present considering the advisability of such action.

If the League's Council should decide, as M. Marinkovitch, the Rapporteur on Mandates, told the J.T.A. representative yesterday he might recommend to it, that the White Paper should come up for consideration at its next session in May, instead of waiting till September, there would have to be an extraordinary sitting of the Mandates Commission.

BRITISH BETRAYAL OF JEWISH PEOPLE SAYS SOUTH AFRICAN ZIONIST CONFERENCE DEMANDING WITHDRAWAL OF WHITE PAPER: OPPOSED TO JEWISH AGENCY NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOVERNMENT BEFORE WITHDRAWAL OF WHITE PAPER.

Cape Town, Jan. 15th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

A resolution protesting strongly against the British Government's betrayal of the Jewish people and demanding the withdrawal of the White Paper has been adopted here by the Conference of the South African Zionist Federation.

The Conference has declared itself opposed to negotiations between the Jewish Agency and the British Government before the withdrawal of the White Paper. The Conference has also given its approval to the decision of the Vaad Leumi against the participation of Palestine Jewry in the proposed Palestine Legislative Council.

NEXT ZIONIST CONGRESS IN ITALY?: INVITATION EXTENDED BY ITALIAN ZIONIST FEDERATION WITH APPROVAL OF ITALIAN GOVERNMENT.

Rome, Jan. 15th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The holding of the next Zionist Congress at the Adriatic summer resort of Abbazia, in case the February Congress arranged for Carlsbad is postponed, is being recommended to the Zionist Executive in London by the Italian Zionist Federation.

Abbazia, it is pointed out, is not far from the big Jewish centres of Eastern and Central Europe, which is an advantage in the matter of communications, and it contains a number of suitable halls in which a Congress of this size and character could be conveniently held, as well as sufficient good hotel accommodation for the delegates.

The Italian Government has already been approached, the J.T.A. representative here learns, and has informed the Italian Zionist Federation that it has no objection to the Congress being held in Italy. The Italian press and public opinion, it is stated, would welcome the holding of the Congress on Italian territory.

11/1/31.

The Italian Zionist Congress, which concluded its sessions recently at Milan, has given occasion to a pointed article in the "Popolo di Roma", which is understood to come direct from Signor Mussolini, the Rome Correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" reported in the latter part of 1928. In this article, the Correspondent said, the Duce takes exception to the evident attitude of the Italian Zionists regarding nationality. He asks sharply whether they consider themselves a religion or a nation. Jews in Italy have, he declares, happily become merged in the general population and no antisemitism exists in Italy to-day. Three Premiers of the Jewish race have in recent times governed the country and no objection was raised. In reading the reports of the Italian Zionist Congress at Milan, the writer in the "Popolo di Roma" went on, one is surprised to find that Zionists seem to take it for granted that they are Jews and not Italians. The Italian people had hitherto imagined that Jewish subjects were Italians in nationality and Jewish only in religion. What is the inference that will eventually be drawn is not suggested in the article by Signor Mussolini, the "Telegraph" Correspondent concluded, but it is evident, he added, that the language of the Italian Zionists has caused some irritation.

The Presidium of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Italy immediately issued a statement on the article which was reprinted from the "Popolo di Roma" in other Italian papers. If it is demanded that the Italian Zionists should state whether they are a religion or a nation, the statement said, we refer to the patriotism of the Italian Jews, Zionists and non-Zionists alike, both in war and peace. The Italian Jews feel also deep attachment for Palestine, the land of their fathers, where God revealed himself to the Patriarchs. At the same time they regard themselves with good right as an integral part of the Italian people, with whom they stand together, now as in the past, and for all future. This statement was presented to Signor Mussolini and to the Ministers of Justice and of Education and Public Worship.

Dr. Weizmann, Mr. Nahum Sokolov, Dr. Victor Jacobson, and other leading Zionists have from time to time visited Rome in the interests of the Zionist work and have had interviews with Signor Mussolini, who has been understood to be sympathetic to Zionist aspirations. The late Lord Melchett when he was in Rome a couple of years ago had a lengthy audience with Signor Mussolini, after which he told the J.T.A. representative there that Signor Mussolini was very sympathetic to the Jewish colonisation efforts in Palestine.

#### JEWS APPOINTED ADMIRAL AND GENERAL IN ITALY.

Rome, Jan. 15th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Captain Pontromoli, who is a close relative of Professor Aldo Pontromoli, who was lost on the "Italia" Polar Expedition under General Nobile, has been appointed an Admiral of the Italian Fleet. Professor Aldo Pontromoli was a grandson of the Italian ex-Premier, the late Luigi Luzzatti, the "Grand Old Man of Italian Jewry", his mother being Luzzatti's daughter.

Umberto Pugliese, also a Jew, has been appointed Major-General in the Italian Army.

#### JEWS OF CHILE ORGANISE COMMUNITY.

Santiago, Dec. 12th. (J.T.A. Mail Service).

The foundations of a Jewish Community in Chile have just been laid at a big meeting held here, which has appointed a provisional committee to organise a Chevra Kadishah, and acquire a Jewish cemetery. It was suggested that the Chevra Kadisha should be organised on similar lines to that in the Argentine.