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NEILL MALCOLM APPOINTED REFUGEE HIGH COMMISSIONER; NORMAN BENTWICH TO DIRECT ASSISTANCE AND SETTLEMENT

GENEVA, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- It was officially announced today that Sir Neill Malcolm, retired British major-general has been appointed League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Coming from Germany. The appointment became effective on February 14.

While Sir Neill succeeded to the position from which James G. McDonald resigned on December 29, his duties will be different. He will confine himself to the legal and political aspects of refugee work, leaving the problem of economic assistance and settlement to private organizations.

Assistance to refugees will be carried on temporarily under the direction of Norman Bentwich, director of the High Commission. He is a professor at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and former attorney-general of Palestine.

It was understood that in the future refugee work will be conducted by an organization working under the plan proposed by the British delegation headed by Sir Herbert Samuel in the United States, where by 100,000 Jews will be expatriated from Germany in four years at an estimated cost of \$15,000,000, about half of them going to Palestine.

Sir Neill will serve until next September's meeting of the League Assembly, when measures for permanently aiding refugees will be considered and the High Commission may be absorbed by the Nansen International Office.

One of his first duties will be to call an inter-governmental conference, to which the United States will be invited, to set up a system of legal protection for refugees. It was understood that he accepted the position after a discussion with Joseph Avenol, League Secretary General.

In an interview today with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Sir Neill declared that he will confine himself to the legal and political aspects of the refugee question, adding that economic assistance will be left to private organizations.

"I am entirely concerned with the political and legal side, after the people become refugees," he asserted. "That is to say, I have nothing to do with political and internal conditions in Germany. And even when the refugees are out of Germany, the League concerns itself purely with the political and legal status of the people.

"The League does not concern itself with their economic position," he continued. "This must be entirely the concern of philanthropic and charitable organizations. There is a clear division between the work which the League is going to do and that which the League and the High Commissioner were doing."

A veteran military leader, Sir Neill served with the British forces in India, South Africa and the Somaliland and in the World War. He retired in 1924 at the age of forty-four and is former chairman of the Royal Institute of International Affairs, president of the British North Borneo Company and of the British South Africa Company.

SWITZERLAND BANS GUSTLOFF'S NAZI ORGANIZATION

BERNE, Switzerland, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- The Swiss Government decided today to prohibit activities of the Nazi party headed by Wilhelm Gustloff, who was assassinated by David Frankfurter, Yugoslavian Jewish medical student.

Immediate steps were taken to make the ban effective. The Federal Council decided to instruct cantonal authorities to watch closely the activities of German students in Swiss universities.

A decision was adopted to deport a German student whose connection with the Gestapo, German secret State police, had been shown.

It was understood that the Government acted swiftly in issuing the ban in order to carry out its decision before a successor to Gustloff could be nominated.

The proposal was taken up after Swiss newspapers had carried on a vigorous campaign for weeks against continuance of the party.

NAZIS MOVE TO STRIKE AT JEWS IN REPRISAL FOR GUSTLOFF ASSASSINATION

BERLIN, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- The Nazis are preparing to strike at the German Jews for the assassination of Wilhelm Gustloff, Nazi leader in Switzerland, by a Yugoslavian Jewish medical student.

On the heels of the banning of Gustloff's party in Switzerland, it was learned today that measures of retaliation against the Jews

will be definitely taken up at a special conference of Nazi Party leaders in Munich on Thursday.

The conference will be held preceding the celebration of the anniversary of the founding of the National Socialist Party on February 24.

It is not yet known whether the reprisals will be announced after the session or whether they are to be proclaimed during the celebration. The Nuremberg anti-Jewish laws were promulgated during a similar celebration last September 15.

It is assumed that the reprisals will have a profound effect on the economic existence of the Jews in the Reich. The field of business and commerce remains as perhaps the only one where the status of the Jews has not been completely fixed.

Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels' newspaper, Der Angriff, declared in an editorial that the Nazi Government would turn a deaf ear to foreign opinion in connection with the ousting of the Jews from commercial life of the Reich. This was taken as an additional indication that such laws were impending.

Urging that the Jews be eliminated first from trading in raw materials, the paper asserted that "the cry which will then break out should not influence us."

POLISH JEWISH LEADER COMMITS SUICIDE; COULDN'T STAND PERSECUTION

WARSAW, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- Leaving a letter declaring he could no longer stand persecution of Jews, Hirsch Epstein, president of the Jewish Community of Lomza, committed suicide with veronal today at Bialystok. He was sixty-two years old.

Mr. Epstein had just returned from a conference of Jewish leaders in Warsaw called to combat a Parliament bill for banning kosher slaughtering. His son had been killed fighting for Poland against Russia in 1920.

Meanwhile, the suicide of a notorious anti-Semite occurred in the town of Konin, where anti-Jewish riots took place recently. Szelski, known as an anti-Jewish leader, took his life while police were searching his house.

In attempting to search the premises, the police were attacked by anti-Semites. They were forced to fire on them, killing one.

JEWISH DEPUTY SCOUTS PREMIER'S PROMISE TO SUPPRESS ANTI-SEMITISM

WARSAW, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- Premier Koscialkowski's attack on anti-Semites in Poland was scouted today by Deputy Emil Sommerstein, who, in an address to the Sejm, criticized the Government for laxity in dealing with anti-Jewish agitators.

Replying bitterly to a statement by the Premier that anti-Semites were violating the law and disturbing order, Scammerstein charged the authorities with failing to restrain agitation in the anti-Semitic press which, he said, was inspiring outbreaks against the Jews.

He declared that economic anti-Semitism was rampant and that an anti-Jewish boycott was gathering momentum. Pointing to recent disorders in Polish universities, the Jewish deputy declared that they aroused only Jewish protests.

He charged that the Parliament bill for banning kosher slaughtering was a measure proposed in order to punish the Jews for the protests.

"Jews have the right to work for bread," he asserted, "and we shall not renounce that right. We cannot allow ourselves to continue being oppressed."

He declared that "foreign methods" were being introduced in the drive against the Jews and the Jewish religion.

The premier declared yesterday to the Sejm that anti-Semitism violates the authority of the Government and undermines the foundation of the State. He promised that the Government would not hesitate to suppress anti-Semitic as well as Communistic activities.

He said that the Government would maintain the security of its citizens regardless of their nationality and creed.

JEWISH OLYMPICS OPEN IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

BANSKA BYSTRICA, Czechoslovakia, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- On the heels of the closing of the Winter Olympic games in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, 2,000 Jewish sportsmen from twelve countries assembled today in this town high in the Tatra Mountains for the opening of the Second Winter Maccabiah, Jewish Olympic games.

The games were opened with ceremonies in which representatives of the Czechoslovakian Government participated. A parade was held with music provided by the Army Band.

ESPIONAGE BY GERMAN LABOR FRONT REVEALED

BERLIN, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- An official statement of the German Labor Front today disclosed that its commissioners had organized a widespread system of espionage in commercial enterprises.

The statement condemned the practice and urged its termination as "against social honor." It revealed that among the devices used for spying on business men is a special apparatus whereby the Labor Front commissioners listen to all telephone calls.

NAZIS SHELVE BAN ON PALESTINE TOURIST CERTIFICATES

BERLIN, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- It was reliably learned today that the authorities have shelved for the time being a proposal to discontinue the issuance of hotel certificates which tourists in Palestine can use in lieu of currency.

Meanwhile, in order to obtain the certificates, which are used because of restrictions on export of currency, a tourist must obtain approval of the Gestapo, secret State police.

The report that the certificates would be cancelled troubled many Jews who would have been prevented from spending contemplated vacations in Palestine during the forthcoming Jewish holidays of Purim and Passover.

JAILED FOR SAYING STORM TROOPERS BOUGHT FROM JEWS

BERLIN, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- For having stated that he knew storm troopers who patronized a Jewish-owned shop, a fifty-six-year old Jew in the city of Limburg was sentenced today to two weeks in jail and ordered to pay court costs.

He was originally fined ten marks for "slandering the reputation of the storm troops," but the court imposed the heavier penalty after an appeal from the prosecutor.

NAZI ARTISTS TO BOYCOTT JEWS

BERLIN, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- The newspapers reported today the formation of an "Artists' Front" in western Germany whose by-laws state that "no member will retain personal, social or commercial contacts with Jews or with descendants of Jews."

PALESTINE JEWS ASK ADDED SUM FOR HEALTH, EDUCATION

JERUSALEM, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- A delegation from the Jewish National Council visited High Commissioner Sir Arthur Grenfell Wauchope today and demanded increased allotments from the treasury for Jewish health and education activities. Sir Arthur took the demand under advisement, promising a prompt reply.

In the presence of Sir John Hathorn-Hall, chief Government secretary, the treasurer and the heads of Government departments, the delegation declared that Jewish health and education activities faced a crisis because of the Government's attitude.

The spokesman asked particularly increased sums for the medical institutions which were maintained by Hadassah, organization of America women Zionists, which are being turned over to the Jewish National Council and for hospitals in the colonies.

PAPER PROTESTS PALESTINE "NUMERUS CLAUSUS"

JERUSALEM, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- Davar, Labor Zionist daily, protested today against a numerus clausus said to have been introduced by the Palestine Government against Jewish workers in Government workshops and enterprises.

The paper cited a number of cases in which, it said, Jews were not admitted to positions even at the same wage as Arabs, although in general the Jewish wage scale is much higher.

LORD BALFOUR'S NIECE HITS LAND CURBS

LONDON, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- Contemplated restrictions on sales of Arab lands in Palestine were held detrimental to the Holy Land today in an address to the Parliamentary Palestine Committee by Mrs. Edgar Dugdale, niece of Lord Balfour, who in 1917 framed the Government's declaration promising to create a Jewish homeland.

With a number of members of the House of Lords attending, Mrs. Dugdale urged careful consideration of the land curbs before taking action because of the importance of the land question.

She emphasized that the restrictions would be detrimental to the interest of the entire Palestine community.

BIRMINGHAM U. TO BOYCOTT HEIDELBERG CELEBRATION

LONDON, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- Professor Charles Grant Robertson announced today that the University of Birmingham had decided in a resolution not to participate in the anniversary celebration of Heidelberg University in Germany.

In a letter to The Times he made known that the university had declined the invitation and urged that Britain boycott the observances.

C.E. RUSSELL HITS BRITAIN'S POLICY ON PALESTINE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- Only as an independent State can Palestine fulfill the just aspirations of the Jewish people, Charles Edward Russell told leaders of orthodox Jewry at the convention banquet of the Mizrahi-Zionist Organization of America.

The president of the Pro-Palestine Federation declared that England has "manifestly no intention of carrying out the provisions of the Balfour Declaration."

"Not only Jews but fair-minded people everywhere that have the liberal outlook join in emphatic protest against British policy," he said.