

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Latest Cable Dispatches

230 FIFTH AVENUE, N. Y. C.

Phone: ASHland 4-3093

NEW YORK, N. Y.

VOL. 1 No. 170.

Wednesday, Feb. 26, 1936.

ASHES OF BERLIN JEW WHO WAS ARRESTED FOR "RASSENSCHANDE" DELIVERED TO "ARYAN" WIFE

BERLIN, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- Excitement was created in Jewish circles today when the ashes of Fritz Baron, a Berlin Jew, were delivered to his "Aryan" wife. He had been arrested on a charge of "Rassenschande" (race defilement).

Accompanying the ashes was a statement explaining that Herr Baron had died during a police inquiry.

It was believed, however, that the body had been cremated to destroy signs of torture.

Meanwhile, the National Socialist Party Correspondence, official Nazi organ, issued a statement contrasting Germany's "fairness in dealing with the Jews" with anti-Semitic excesses in Eastern Europe.

The statement blamed the Jews for the world's opposition to the restoration of the Reich's colonies, adding that while the Jewish question was settled in a legal manner, the German policy to colonial natives was "inspired by a desire of protection and promotion of their culture."

GERMAN PROFESSOR EMBRACES JUDAISM IN PROTEST AGAINST NAZIS

VIENNA, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- Professor Emil Grenauer, of Hamburg University, his wife and seven children have embraced Judaism as a protest against Nazi persecution of Jews, it was disclosed today by the newspaper, Gerechtigkeits.

"I feel it my duty to save the honor of the German people; therefore I am adopting the Jewish faith with my wife and seven children to join the Jewish sufferers, regardless of my 'Aryan' blood," he was quoted as having declared in a letter to the Senate of the university.

His letter to the Senate was written, the report said, after the dismissal of Professor Sternberg, a Jew, seventy-eight years old, from Heidelberg University.

OXFORD TO BOYCOTT HEIDELBERG CELEBRATION

LONDON, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- It was officially announced that Oxford University would not send a delegation to the 550th anniversary celebration of Heidelberg University in Germany.

Professor Gilbert Murray issued a statement to the press concurring with the decision on the ground that forty-four "non-Aryan" professors had been dismissed from Heidelberg.

POLISH MINISTER ASSERTS GOVERNMENT WILL COMBAT ENDEKS

WARSAW, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- Minister of Interior Ladislaw Raczkiewicz asserted during a debate at a plenary session of the Sejm (Parliament) today that the Government would do its utmost to combat the "unhealthy nationalism" of the anti-Semitic National Democratic Party.

In a discussion of the Jewish question, he attacked the Nationalists for introducing "the anarchy of criminal acts" into politics and for inciting the population against the Jews.

Several deputies joined him in assailing the Nationalist party. Others blamed Jewish leaders for anti-Semitic excesses, charging that they did nothing to improve "objectionable Jewish habits" or to diminish the number of Communists in their ranks.

Emil Sommerstein, Jewish deputy, sharply denied the Communist accusation, demanding that the Government take action under the Constitution to end "the reign of terror."

POLISH GOVERNMENT PRESS SAYS ANTI-SHECHITAH BILL WILL BE PASSED

WARSAW, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- Government-inspired statements in the newspapers today said that the bill for banning kosher slaughtering would be passed at the present session of the Sejm (Parliament). The proposal is being considered by a special Sejm committee.

Meanwhile, the City Council of Grautenz in Polish Pomerania passed an ordinance prohibiting shechitah under an old law passed in the days when Pomerania was part of Germany. The Kalisz City Council announced a similar ordinance.

GUARDIAN HITS POLISH EXCESSES

LONDON, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- The liberal Manchester Guardian demanded in an editorial that Poland "end the infamies of its anti-Semitic excesses, which are a disgrace to the Polish people and Government."

AGRICULTURAL LABORATORIES INAUGURATED AT REHOBOTH

JERUSALEM, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- The new agricultural laboratories ~~at the Daniel Sieff Research Institute in Rehoboth~~ were inaugurated today with ceremonies during which High Commissioner Sir Arthur Grenfell Wauchope expressed the hope that they would help in solving Palestine's land problems.

Other speakers were Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and head of the Institute, and ~~Dr. Y. Vilkansky~~ *Dr. Y. Vilkansky* *Director Agria Exp Station of Rehoboth*

VIENNA JEWS DEMAND PROBE OF LEAFLET

VIENNA, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- The Jewish Community demanded today a police investigation into the origin of leaflets distributed in many districts last night, bearing the six-pointed Jewish star and exhorting Jews to buy only from co-religionists. The community denied in a statement that the leaflets had come from any Jewish source.

Jewish traders expressed alarm over the circulars, seeing in their distribution an attempt to mislead Gentiles into boycotting Jews.

GREEK KING GETS "SEFER TORAH" IN VISIT TO SYNAGOGUE

SALONICA, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- Visiting the city of Ioannina, King George attended services in the local synagogue today and received a golden Hebrew Scroll of the Covenant. Afterward, he visited the Jewish quarter of the city, walking afoot on Max Nordau Street. He expressed enthusiasm over the visit.

GEORGE BACKER LEAVES FOR LONDON TODAY

NEW YORK, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- George Backer, president of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, will sail for London tomorrow on the Manhattan for a tour of the J.T.A.'s European offices.

He will consult with important Jewish leaders in London and organize a board for the J.T.A. European system similar to the one recently established in New York. He will also visit branch offices in Warsaw, Prague and Paris.

BELGIUM ISSUES NEW RULE ON REFUGEES

BRUSSELS, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- The status of political refugees was regulated by a new decree ordering them to make a declaration within a week after their arrival in Belgium to a special consultative commission. Jewish exiles from the Reich are particularly affected by the order.

NEED OF FUNDS FOR EMIGRATION STRESSED AT PARLEY

LONDON, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- Need of increased funds for transferring German Jews to Palestine was emphasized by J.L. Cohen, honorary secretary to the British Jewish delegation which recently visited the United States, in an address at the opening session of the Poale Zion organization, Labor Zionist group.

Meanwhile, it was disclosed that Sir Herbert would take an active part in organizing the appeal of the Council for German Jewry, which is to be set up under plans announced in the United States. He will address meetings in London and other cities within the next few months. It was expected that the Jewish Colonization Association, financed by the late Baron de Hirsch, would contribute to the fund.

At the conference, Mr. Cohen, in describing the delegation's mission to America, said that no one would take the responsibility for advising the German Jews to emigrate, adding that the Jews themselves were anxious to leave.

J. H. Middleton, general secretary of the British Labor Party, greeted the parley in the name of British Labor.

DAMASCUS JEWS CAUGHT BETWEEN POLICE ORDERS AND ARAB THREATS

DAMASCUS, Syria, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- French gendarmes are forcing Jewish and Armenian shopkeepers to open their stores, which have been closed by Nationalists. Meanwhile, Arabs sent threats to the Jews that they would be murdered in their homes if they did not keep their shops closed.

LEBRUN AIDS FRENCH PALESTINE COMMITTEE

PARIS, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- It was announced that President Albert LeBrun has accepted the honorary chairmanship of the French Palestine Committee after Dr. Nahum Goldmann, of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, and Senator Juston Godard, president of the French Palestine Committee, had an audience with him.

LITHUANIAN POGROM GROUP HEADED BY OFFICIALS BROKEN UP

KAUNAS, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- An organization at Viekšnai headed by Government officials which aimed to incite anti-Jewish pogroms was broken up today when the officials were dismissed from their positions. A number were punished, in addition, with jail sentences of two weeks and ten days.

The organization was discovered by the police, who disclosed that it had planned to start anti-Jewish excesses on market days.

Meanwhile, violent anti-Jewish agitation was begun throughout the country by the Versliniki, organization which aims to oust the Jews from the economic life of Lithuania.

Calling for a boycott of Jews, the organization characterized them as "a dirty spider which has thrown a net over the whole of Lithuania."

INQUEST ORDERED IN MURDER OF PALESTINE POLICEMAN

JERUSALEM, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- An inquest has been ordered for next Saturday into the murder last December of a Jewish police sergeant, Moshe Rosenfeld, and a British policeman, Nott, by Arab brigands. Indictments calling for a death penalty will be issued.

REPORT ACCORD BETWEEN ARAB LEADER AND GOVERNMENT

JERUSALEM, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- A protracted "family struggle" between Arab leaders and the Government was believed ended today as a result of the reported action of Haj Amin el Hussein, the Grand Mufti, in effecting a reconciliation between Ragheb Bey Nashashibi, former mayor of Jerusalem and head of an Arab political party, and the authorities.

PALESTINE COMMUNIST SEIZED

TEL AVIV, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- Tahr Achmed, head of the Palestine Communist organization, has been arrested and will be deported.

ISRAEL KASEL DIES IN HAIFA

HAIFA, Palestine, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- Israel Kasel, Zionist leader and head of the Palestine Salt Co., is dead, at the age of sixty-five.

RABBI NUCHEMZE DEAD

JERUSALEM, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- Rabbi Nuchemze of Rachmistrivki died here at the age of eighty-five.

FUNERAL SERVICES HELD FOR REUBEN WEISSMAN, JEWISH PLAYWRIGHT

NEW YORK, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held today for Reuben Weissman, the "grand old man of the Yiddish theatre," who died at his home yesterday from natural causes. He was 81 years old.

Mr. Weissman was an organizer of the Hebrew Actors Union and the Jewish Theatrical Alliance, although he himself was never an actor. He was known as the first professional prompter of the Yiddish stage in America.

REPORT NEW PARAGUAY GOVERNMENT ANTI-SEMITIC

WARSAW, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- The official Polish Telegraphic Agency reports that the new Paraguayan Government is anti-Semitic. It states that Colonel Rafael Franco, the provisional president, has issued a manifesto declaring that while patriots fought on the front, foreigners flooded the country and Jews "sucked the land dry."

LEAGUE UNIT TO ASK INVESTIGATION OF NAZIS

GENEVA, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- The juridical and political commission of the International Union of League of Nations Societies has decided to submit to the union's annual conference in Glasgow, Scotland, a resolution condemning Nazi treatment of the Jews and demanding that the League investigate the situation.

MCDONALD'S LONDON OFFICE CLOSED

LONDON, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- It was officially announced that the London office of James G. McDonald, former League of Nations High Commissioner for German Refugees, has been closed.

Meanwhile, a Norwegian named Storting contributed 5,000 kroner for non-Jewish German refugees.

RUMANIAN JEWISH FEDERATION FORMED

BUCHAREST, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- A federation of the Jewish communities of Old Rumania, Bessarabia, Bucovina and Transylvania has been formed. A committee of six was established to conduct the organization's affairs.

BRITISH LEADERS LAUD COLONIZATION WORK IN PALESTINE

NEW YORK (JTA) -- Any future program for the continued upbuilding of the Jewish National Home in Palestine will depend for its success upon the cooperation extended to the Palestine Foundation Fund, it is declared by David Lloyd George, former Prime Minister of Great Britain, Mr. Simon Marks, English philanthropist, and Leopold Amery, former Colonial Secretary, in messages made public here by the United Palestine Appeal.

Denying statements that establishment of the council would lead to friction and discord, Lord Plymouth declared it would serve as an alternative to violent propaganda and public demonstrations.

He attacked the proposal for a Royal investigation commission, warning that it would be regarded by the Arabs as an excuse by England to "break its pledge." He added that he hoped the Jewish people would take a place in the council and cooperate in the work for reform.

After Lord Plymouth's address, Baron Snell, Laborite, withdrew a motion he had made in opening the debate that the Government reconsider the council project. In offering the motion, Lord Snell asserted that Palestine was unfit for and did not desire central self-government at present.

He urged a ten-year program for the development of local self-governing institutions in Palestine.

Lord Lytton, noted colonial administrator, paying tribute to the High Commissioner, whose insistence, he stated, was responsible for the project, criticized it as a "very dangerous proposal." He advocated the sending of a Royal commission to the Holy Land.

"These proposals fill me with great alarm," asserted Lord Lothian. He characterized the council proposal as "a dangerous experiment which should not be proceeded with until a reasonable community of feeling is established between Arabs and Jews."

Quoting the Balfour Declaration, in which the British Government promised to establish a Jewish homeland, Lord Lothian stated that "civilization owes redress to the people who, for 2,000 years have been a homeless minority, their sufferings being vividly brought home by what is going on in Europe today."

Declaring that a system of responsible government could not grow from the present proposals, he said: "We ought to delay action until the principle of the mandate is reasonably accepted." He supported the Royal commission proposal.

Baron Jessel and Viscount Elibank warned against Arab supremacy in Palestine. They suggested a council whose members would be appointed. (The present proposal provides for elective and appointive members.)

The Earl of Mansfield proposed postponement of the entire council proposal.

The proposal might possibly help Arab politicians, but not the Arab people as a whole, said Baron Melchett, adding that the council would not bring peace. He asserted that the High Commissioner was misguided and that there was not "the remotest chance" of useful reforms under the proposal.

"The Government is not taking a straight, constructive line, but is trying to temporize and satisfy both sides," declared Baron Marley, adding that the Palestine problem was important to many nations.

DENY WAUCHOPE GOING TO LONDON

LONDON, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- Colonial Secretary J.H. Thomas stated in the House of Commons today that Sir Arthur Grenfell Wauchope, High Commissioner of Palestine, did not intend to visit England in the near future.

Reports had been current in Palestine to the effect that Sir Arthur would go to London in March.

POLISH JEWS PROTEST BAN ON RADIO SPEECH AGAINST SHECHITAH BILL

WARSAW, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- Jewish organizations protested to the Government today against the refusal of the Government-owned radio station to permit the broadcasting of an address by Senator Moses Schorr, leading rabbi, on the Parliament proposal for banning kosher slaughtering.

In denying Prof. Schorr radio time, the broadcasting commission had explained that previous radio addresses on the subject were in favor of the bill, expressing the "Government's viewpoint, and that therefore conflicting addresses could not be permitted.

JEWISH LEADER TO BE TRIED IN BUCHAREST

BUCHAREST, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- Dr. Mayer Ebner, Jewish leader and former deputy, has been called before a military court, charged with attacking the Government, it was disclosed today. The date of the trial has not been set.

He told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the charges were based on his criticism in the Ostjuedische Zeitung of a statement by Foreign Minister Nicolae Titulescu that Rumania could not absorb a single German refugee.

Mr. Titulescu had informed the League of Nations Council in Geneva on Jan. 24, in denying a rumor that Rumania would accept 50,000 refugees, "I want to state here and now that there is no truth to it. Rumania cannot accept even a single man.

WISE, BOHN ATTACK PROPOSALS FOR EXODUS OF GERMAN JEWS

NEW YORK, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- Proposals for exodus of German Jews were attacked today by Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the American Jewish Congress, and Dr. Frank Bohn, chairman of the Emergency Committee for Aid to German Refugees, addressing 800 persons at a luncheon of the congress women's division in the Commodore.

"There is to be no exodus from Germany," declared Dr. Wise. "The German Jews have the right to remain in Germany. The thing we will oppose with every part of ourselves is a plan to save Jewish money at the expense of Jewish honor the world over," He continued:

"We of the American Jewish Congress are not interested in saving Jewish wealth, but in preserving Jewish security and honor. Any plan to strengthen Nazism through the establishment of a Schacht bank and sale of Nazi goods will meet with our determined opposition.

"We will help the Jews of Germany, but first of all we will go on with our opposition to the Nazis, and we will not surrender the right of the Jews or of any other group to live as free men in Germany."

At the same time he stated that Jews who were exiled from the Reich should be aided in going to Palestine.

Rabbi Wise took occasion to attack reports of a newspaper interview with Avery Brundage, chairman of the American Olympic Committee, in which he had said that if other means failed, federal subsidy would be sought for the American Olympic team.

"Not one dollar will he ever have from our Federal Government," Dr. Wise stated.

Dr. Bohn criticized the plan for expatriating 100,000 Jews from Germany as an "enormous folly" on the grounds that it was "impossible of execution" and that it would be impossible to find room for that many refugees. He proposed instead that the 175,000,000 English-speaking people protest to the Nazis.

Carrie Chapman Catt, women's leader, denounced persecution of minorities. Mrs. Stephen S. Wise, chairman of the women's division, urged intensification of the anti-Nazi boycott.

U.S. TO HAVE SEVENTY DELEGATES AT WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

NEW YORK, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- The United States will be entitled to 70 of the 300 delegates at next August's world Jewish congress, according to additional details of the Paris conference of the Executive for the World Jewish Congress last weekend released today by the American Jewish Congress. The statement, dated Paris, said the exact date and place will be set by an implementing Committee of the Executive.

Clarifying accounts of the meeting, it was explained that while Louis Lipsky opposed direct ballot in the United States in election of delegates to the congress, he maintained that the system of organization representation was democratic.

TOSCANINI TO LEAD PALESTINE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

NEW YORK, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- The story of how Arturo Toscanini, noted conductor, agreed to conduct the opening concert next Oct. 24 of the Palestine Symphony Orchestra although he dropped most of his other commitments was told to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today by Bronislaw Huberman, founder of the orchestra and noted violinist.

He said he visited Mr. Toscanini, a close personal friend, seeking aid for the orchestra. He broached the idea to Mr. Toscanini of conducting a monster benefit concert in New York to finance the Palestine concerts.

Then, hesitantly, he mentioned an idea that had been lurking back in his mind, that, perhaps -- and he knew Mr. Toscanini was cancelling many engagements -- perhaps he might come to Palestine to conduct the opening concert.

The famous maestro responded with enthusiasm. He would be glad to go to Palestine -- even weeks before the concerts and see the country. He would like to conduct several concerts. Perhaps he would even take the orchestra on a tour to Egypt.

And this despite the fact Mr. Toscanini will not return to the New York Philharmonic Symphony Society next season and has cancelled all other engagements for the year except three, one of them being the Salzburg Festival.

Mr. Huberman had stated in the invitation that acceptance "would constitute a historical landmark both in the struggle against Nazism and in the upbuilding of Palestine."

The conductor's acceptance climaxed a record of friendship to the Jews which had been marked by his refusal to conduct at the Bay-reuth Festival in 1933 and his signature to a cable to Chancellor Hitler protesting persecution in Germany.

The Palestine orchestra will give sixty concerts in eight months, repeating each one at popular prices and giving twenty additional concerts for agricultural colonists. The National Broadcast Co. will broadcast the opening concert.

The orchestra will be composed principally of outstanding German musicians denied the right to work in their own country. It numbers among its personnel many former first chair members of the foremost German symphony orchestras. Its conductors for the initial season will include Issay Dobrowen formerly of the San Francisco Symphony, Hans W. Steinberg, formerly director of the Frankfort Opera, and Michael Taube.