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MALCOLM SEEKS AID OF 18 PRIVATE REFUGEE GROUPS

GENEVA, April 9. (JTA) -- First step toward establishment of closer relations between the League of Nations and private Jewish and non-Jewish refugee organizations has been taken by Sir Neill Malcolm, new High Commissioner for Refugees Coming from Germany, it was revealed today.

In a circular to nine Jewish and a like number of non-Jewish private refugee aid bodies, Sir Neill stresses the importance of establishing contact between the organizations and the High Commissioner. Although the mutual relationship has not yet been determined, the High Commissioner states, concrete proposals will be submitted later. He advises the organizations meanwhile to continue to assist individual cases and to build up mutual relations between each other in order to coordinate their activities.

The circular announces the steps Sir Neill is taking to carry out the recently adopted recommendations by the League Council for assistance to refugees. Among these are convocation in August of an intergovernmental conference and negotiations with various Governments regarding employment and settlement facilities for the refugees from Germany.

PALESTINE JEWRY INDIGNANT OVER "ERETZ ISRAEL" RADIO BAN

JERUSALEM, April 9. (JTA) -- Rising indignation of the Jewish population over the Palestine Broadcasting Company's action in ruling the words "Eretz Israel" off the air, is disclosed today in the Hebrew newspapers.

The papers publish columns of letters from readers demanding that the Jewish officials connected with the recently-founded Government broadcasting station resign because of their acquiescence to the act.

Jewish holders of radio licenses, it is revealed, are being urged to return them to the Government in protest.

The dispute over use of the phrase, which is Hebrew for "The Land of Israel," started shortly after inauguration of the broadcasting service on March 30, when Arabs protested. The protests were followed by decision of the station officials to substitute the initials "Aleph Yud" for the Hebrew name.

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Vaad Leumi Protests to Wauchope

JERUSALEM, April 9. (JTA) -- The Jewish National Council (Vaad Leumi) today delivered a formal protest to High Commissioner Sir Arthur Grenfell Wauchope on the recent action of the Palestine Broadcasting Company in ruling off the air the words "Eretz Israel," used by Jewish announcers in referring to Palestine. Sir Arthur intimated to Isaac Ben Zvi, president of the council, that the Chief Secretary of the Government is considering the matter.

FRANKFURTER TRIAL SET FOR SEPTEMBER

GENEVA, April 9. (JTA) -- Trial of David Frankfurter for the assassination of the Swiss Nazi agent, Wilhelm Gustloff, will be held at the September session of the Grison Cantonal Court, it was stated here today.

Frankfurter, Jewish medical student who said he killed Gustloff Feb. 4 in protest against Hitler's persecution of the Jews, is reported by the local newspapers to be receiving numerous donations for his defense. He will be defended by the noted Zurich lawyer, Dr. Eugen Curti, who will be assisted by Jerome Devries of Amsterdam.

The youthful assassin is in a depressed condition, the papers report. "He weeps continually," one paper states, "and everything appears to him as in a dream."

RATNER, AGRO-JOINT FINANCIAL HEAD, DEAD IN MOSCOW

MOSCOW, April 9. (JTA) -- Michael Ratner, financial director of the Agro-Joint, American organization for settling Jews on land in Russia, died here on March 26 after a period of illness, it was disclosed today. He was 44 years old.

He had been connected for ten years with the Agro-Joint and was one of the closest collaborators of Dr. Joseph A. Rosen, head of the organization.

He was a jurist by education, but became an expert on finance, working for a long period in banks in America and England. Mr. Ratner also did translation of literary works.

TOTAL WORLD JEWISH POPULATION SET AT 16,240,000

WARSAW (JTA) -- A total world Jewish population of 16,240,000, of whom 5,000,000, or 30 per cent, live in the Americas, was reported by the Jewish Scientific Institute in a statistical survey published in the publication, Yivo Bletter.

The survey, conducted by Jacob Lestschinsky, economist and writer, as of the beginning of 1936, shows the world Jewish population increased 1,300,000 in the last ten years. The natural increase in the Jewish population fell off as a result of a decrease in the birth rate.

The distribution of the Jews has remained stationary. More than 60 per cent of them, about 10,000,000 live in Europe, 5,000,000 in the Americas, more than five per cent, or 500,000, in Asia; and the rest, about 30,000, in Australia.

More than 10,000,000 Jews, or two thirds, live in three countries. The United States has 4,450,000, Poland has 3,150,000 and Soviet Russia, 3,080,000.

The Jews are scattered over thirty countries, of which only four -- the above three and Rumania -- have more than 1,000,000. Seventeen countries have more than 100,000 Jews. The number of Jews shows an increase in every country except Germany, Austria, Hungary, Switzerland, Italy and Turkey.

NAZI JAILED FOR "SULLYING" FIGHT ON JEWS

BERLIN (JTA) -- A Nazi's threat to denounce a Jew to the police for an imaginary offense unless he got 1,000 marks has cost the author eighteen months imprisonment and loss of civil rights for three years for "sullyng the purity of the fight against the Jewish people."

It was testified in the Greizer court that the defendant had threatened a Berlin Jewish tradesman to report to the police that the Jew had committed an offense against German schoolgirls in 1926.

The public prosecutor scored the accused for trying to explain his action on the basis of hatred of Jews and charged he had merely wanted money. "By such methods," the prosecutor said, "an entirely false picture is given to foreign nations about the German attitude toward the Jews."

NO PASSOVER SERVICES IN REICH TOWNS FIRST TIME IN 100 YEARS

BERLIN, April 9. (JTA) -- For the first time in a century Passover communal services are not being held in a number of small towns throughout Germany, it was disclosed today.

The reason ascribed for this situation is the inability to find a "minyah" (ten men, the minimum number necessary for Jewish public worship) as a result of the sharp decrease in the Jewish population of small towns.

A survey disclosed today that the Passover celebrations throughout Germany have thus far passed without incident.

7,000 JEWS OUSTED FROM EGG TRADE IN REICH

BERLIN, April 9. (JTA) -- Easter eggs in Germany this year for the first time will be purely "Aryan", it is announced today by Der Angriff, official Nazi organ, in reporting the elimination of 7,000 Jews from the egg trade.

This Easter, the paper comments, the population will be provided with "pure Aryan Easter eggs." It adds that before the Nazis came to power, Jews comprised twenty-four per cent of the industry, but now it is completely "judenrein" (free of Jews).

NAZI SPORTS PAPER ASSAILS JEWS, PACIFISTS, NEGROES

BERLIN, April 9. (JTA) -- Jews, pacifists and Negroes are sharply attacked in the current issue of the Reich Sportblatt, official sports publication.

The forthcoming Max Schmeling-Joe Louis fight, scheduled to be held in the United States in June, is used as a springboard for the attack. The paper criticizes the North German Lloyd line's proposed excursion to the United States to enable a large contingent of Nazi rooters to witness the match on the grounds that Louis is a Negro and hence a "non-Aryan."

"Much as we like to encourage such excursions," the paper writes, "we would prefer that a trip like this does not take place."

DR. GLUECK TO TRACE ROUTE OF ISRAELITES IN WILDERNESS

CINCINNATI, April 9. (JTA) -- Dr. Nelson Glueck, archaeologist and newly-appointed director of the American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem, said today he expects to trace the exact route followed by the Israelites in the exodus from Egypt.

He declared in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he hopes to find important copper mines on the Sinai peninsula which will serve as a clue to the route of the Hebrews' wanderings. He will sail on the liner Excalibur June 9 and arrive in Palestine June 28 to take up his research. Dr. Glueck is the only American Jew engaged in archaeology in Palestine and Transjordan.

"Where there are copper mines there were trade routes," Dr. Glueck said. "Last year we were able to find mines, both copper and iron, from the Dead Sea down to the Gulf of Akaba. I am convinced that I can find more mines all the way down to Serabit el-Khadim in Sinai, where ancient Egyptian copper-workings have been discovered."

He explained that the Israelites, in their line of march from Egypt would probably have followed the route of the Sinai copper mines. In tracing this route, Dr. Glueck will attempt to penetrate forbidden Midian, made famous by Lawrence of Arabia and, centuries before, by Moses and his father-in-law, Jethro; He said the district belongs to Ibn Saud, King of Hejaz, "and it's terribly difficult to get into his territory."

Dr. Glueck intends to continue his explorations into ancient Ammon and Gilead and trace the ancient trade routes from Palestine to Yemen. "We will travel on camels and will have to carry supplies and water," he said. "We won't touch the Mecca and Medina region -- all non-Mohammedans are unconditionally barred from that territory."

Chemical analysis of some of the iron ore found on his last expedition to Palestine shows sixty per cent pure iron content, he said.

32 ZIONIST LEADERS OPPOSE WORLD CONGRESS, POLL REVEALS

NEW YORK, April 9. (JTA) -- Dr. A. J. Rongy, chairman of the National Council Committee of the Zionist Organization of America, made public today the results of a questionnaire poll he had taken among members of the committee, according to which 32 of the 50 who replied oppose immediate convocation of a world Jewish congress, 13 favor it and 5 are non-committal.

With the questionnaire Dr. Rongy included a letter in which he expressed opposition to the congress on the grounds that it might detract from the importance of Palestine and Zionism, and that holding of the congress would be used to political advantage in the United States to stir up anti-Semitic feeling during the forthcoming presidential election.