

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Latest Cable Dispatches

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Sunday, May 3, 1936.

MOSLEM SABBATH MARKED BY BOMBINGS; GERMAN JEW STONED

JERUSALEM, May 1. (JTA) -- Many Arabs were injured today in a clash with police during a demonstration at Acre. Two bombs exploded in Jaffa and two in Jerusalem -- in the Musrarah and Meah Shearim quarters -- without causing damage.

A German Jew, Dr. K. Felberg, was gravely wounded in Haifa when his car was stoned by an Arab mob as it passed a demonstration. An operation was performed on him at the Haifa Hadassah hospital, and his condition was afterward reported serious.

Other incidents reported here today included a volley of shots fired in the Jewish settlement of Ein Vared, injuring no one, the arrest of three Arabs for uprooting trees at the Tel Yoseff settlement and three more incendiary fires in the Jezreel and Hefer valleys.

The second Moslem sabbath since the recent outbreak of disorders -- coinciding today with May Day -- passed without demonstrations in Jerusalem as Arabs peaceably left the Mosque of Omar after services.

Police had taken precautions to prevent disorders. The Old City was heavily guarded and a barricade was set up at the entrance to the Jewish quarter. Jewish shops remained open under police protection.

Dr. Hussein Khalidi, mayor of Jerusalem and leader of the Arab national Executive Committee formed to direct the anti-Jewish general strike earlier had told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency no demonstrations would be held.

To avoid possible provocations, the Histadruth Haovdim, Jewish general federation of labor, decided to hold no May Day demonstration today, but issued a proclamation urging Jewish workers strongly and publicly to protest recent anti-Jewish terrorism, arson and disturbances and to demand that "an end must be put by strongest means to violence and crime which have begun to govern the country."

Funeral services were held this morning in Jerusalem for a Hungarian Jew, Eliezer Witenstein, 26, who was burned alive yesterday when his dairy truck was halted by Arabs at Ramleh.

An eyewitness story was told today by the truckman's injured helper, Aron Levy, who went home after treatment at Hadassah hospital. He said Witenstein was burned to death when his truck, swerving aside from an Arab automobile which deliberately blocked the way, overturned and caught fire.

The official version of the incident did not mention Arab responsibility, saying the truck accidentally skidded, turned over and caught fire, resulting in the driver's death.

Hebrew newspapers were aroused over the incident, demanding that measures be taken to ensure safety on the roads. Davar, Laborite daily, asked the Government to make the Arab Executive Committee responsible for the death since the Arabs blamed escaped.

Meanwhile, all Arab harbor workers returned to work at Haifa. Davar reported that Egyptian British military forces had reached Haifa. Several Arab scouts were arrested in the Tul Karem district for forcibly preventing Arab laborers from working in Jewish-owned groves.

Haaretz, Hebrew daily, reported all Jews employed in public works in Jaffa suddenly dismissed. The paper complained this was helping to make the Arab strike complete.

FIRE DESTROYS JEWISH BUILDING IN OTWOCK; 12 ENDEKS ARRESTED

WARSAW, May 1. (JTA) -- Twelve anti-Semitic Nationalists (Endeks) were under arrest today on suspicion of arson in connection with a fire at Otwock last night which destroyed a building occupied by twelve Jewish families. There were no casualties.

The fire destroyed three Jewish shops in the building, a bakery, grocery and watchmaker's shop.

A police investigation determined that the fire broke out simultaneously in four parts of the building. Doors and windows were obstructed with barbed wire by the arsonist to impede firemen's efforts to put out the blaze.

It is believed the fire was an act of vengeance by the Endeks, who have been spreading the rumor that Tadeus Olszanko, one of their leaders, had been slain by Jews as a notorious Jew-baiter. Olszanko, it had been established two days earlier, was killed by another Endek named Wrubel.

A delegation of Jewish leaders visited the authorities and demanded protection for Jews since Endek attacks on Jewish shops and Jews are becoming more frequent.

The Yiddish paper Nasz Przegląd was confiscated for reporting the fire.

PART-JEWISH CHILD AWARDED TO "ARYAN" MOTHER

BERLIN, May 1. (JTA) -- The Supreme Court at Dresden has confirmed a district court's verdict refusing custody of a child to its part-Jewish father and awarding it instead to the divorced "Aryan" mother, it was disclosed today.

In handing down its verdict, the high court ruled as follows:

"It makes no difference whether the father was brought up in the Christian faith and that he had also declared his willingness to bring the child up as a Christian, because the Christian education of the father does not change his racial way of thinking and feeling.

"His willingness to educate the child in a Christian institution is insufficient for the elimination of the Jewish influence which is liable to return."

200 LITHUANIAN JEWISH FAMILIES TO EMIGRATE TO BUREYA

KAUNAS, May 1. (JTA) -- Two hundred Lithuanian Jewish families will emigrate this month to Biro-Bidjan, autonomous Jewish territory in the Soviet Far East, it was announced here today. They are the first group slated to go from this country in accordance with the Soviet Government's recently announced plan to accept non-Russian Jews for settlement in Biro-Bidjan. Each family is required to pay \$200 toward the traveling expenses.

REICH ACTS TO SPUR JEWISH EMIGRATION TO ITALY

BERLIN (JTA) -- The German Government is directly seeking to encourage Jewish emigration from the Reich to Italy, according to an official report made public here, revealing that the Reichsministry of Economics has made an offer to permit the transfer of Jewish capital from Germany to Italy and that a central Jewish organization is now in contact with the interested ministries in the German and Italian Governments as to the terms.

While negotiations regarding the offer are still proceeding, applications for the transfer of capital amounting to 900,000 marks have been filed with the Reichsbank by forty German Jewish families during the past three months. The report discloses that during 1935 more German Jews were permanently settled in Italy than in any other European countries. According to the figures cited by

this report, 169 Jews were permanently settled in Italy as compared to 77 in England and 65 in France. These figures, of course, do not refer to the thousands of refugees who are temporarily residing in various European lands.

The offer of the Reichsministry of Economics to transfer Jewish capital to Italy was first made to the central Jewish bodies last October. The report just issued reveals that this offer was a direct outcome of the Italo-Ethiopian conflict. The transfer, unlike all other similar schemes proposed, does not involve the export of German goods and thus does not affect the anti-Nazi boycott.

As a result of Italian currency regulations, Germany now has large reserves in Italy which cannot be withdrawn either in currency or in materials that Germany requires. The Reich financial authorities are therefore willing to use up part of these reserves by putting them to the credit of German Jews emigrating to Italy in exchange for German Jewish capital on deposit in German banks. The transactions, according to the terms offered, would be on exceptionally advantageous terms for the Reichsbank.

In the first place, German Jews accepting the offer, would have to pay the "flight-tax" on all capital they export. This amounts to twenty-five percent of the amount involved. In the second place, the rate of exchange fixed by the Government is on the gold-standard. This would mean that the emigrants would get far fewer Italian lira for their marks than otherwise because of the difference between the actual worth of the lire today and its gold standard value. A German Jew transferring capital from the Reich to Italy under these conditions would stand to lose almost one-half of the amount available for transfer.

Notwithstanding this and the additional fact that export of currency from Italy is barred, it is expected that relatively large numbers of Jews will accept the proposition and emigrate to Italy during the current year, primarily because of the increasing difficulty for Jews to continue in any line of activity in Germany, because of the belief that German currency will be devaluated in the near future and because of the fear that new anti-Jewish discriminations expected immediately after the conclusion of the Olympic Games may involve expropriatory measures.

AMERICAN LIBERTY LEAGUE REPUDIATES ANTI-SEMITISM

NEW YORK, May 1. (JTA) -- The American Liberty League announced that a regular meeting of its administrative committee at the Empire State Building today adopted a resolution declaring "false and without foundation" allegations that it was anti-Semitic.

The resolution said that because of "the studied attempt" made to convey the impression the league was anti-Semitic, it wished to

deny that it "is opposed to any individual or to any groups of individuals because of creed, race or color."

Asserting that "the league resents the attempt of those who, because of self-interest or for any other reason, seek to convey impressions concerning its attitude that are wholly erroneous and for which there is no possible basis of fact," the resolution called attention to the first plank of the league's ten-point platform:

"To preserve American institutions which safeguard, to citizens in all walks of life, the right to liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Therefore to uphold American principles which oppose the tendency shown in many countries to restrict freedom of speech, freedom of the press, religious liberty, the right to peaceable assembly and the right to petition the government; and to combat the growth of bureaucracy, the spread of monopoly, the socialization of industry and the regimentation of American life."

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MANCHESTER GUARDIAN BRANDS ARAB STRIKE "ORGANIZED BLACKMAIL"

LONDON, May 3. (JTA) -- The Manchester Guardian in an editorial on the Palestine disorders brands the development of the Arab general strike and the refusal of an Arab delegation to come to London for a conference on the proposed Palestine Legislative council as "no more than organized blackmail of the British Government." The Guardian is the first important British newspaper to comment editorially on the current situation in the Holy Land.

The editorial declares "it would be a great mistake for the Government to make any concession to demands which such methods are used to support."

"The legislative council," it continues, "is probably dead in any case, not because of the Arab opposition, but because of the stronger objections by Jews and the majority of the British Parliament; but the Arabs must not be allowed to think the policy of violence and aggression is the best way to secure self-government for themselves and gradual abolition of the mandate."

JEWS RETURN TO WALLING WALL; ARABS TO FORM OWN TRADE GROUP

JERUSALEM, May 3. (JTA) -- Despite continuing tension a number of orthodox Jews visited the Walling Wall to pray yesterday for the first time in several days. They completed their devotions without being molested. (An official communique reported the Sabbath eve and morning passed quietly.)

Arab merchants of Jerusalem today decided to establish a separate Chamber of Commerce to segregate Arab from Jewish commercial life.

Two police officers were among those injured in Friday's clash at Haifa between police and Arab demonstrators, during which two Arabs were reported killed and many wounded.

The funeral yesterday morning of one of the slain Arabs passed without incident.

Arab newspapers reported that one Jew was seriously wounded near Yadzur Friday when Arabs stoned a Jewish-owned bus.

A manifesto published by the National Arab Strike Committee states the general strike is only the first step in the fight against the Jews and the Government and reveals that cessation of tax payments is being planned.

SIR ISAAC ISAACS ARRIVES IN LONDON TO REPORT ON AUSTRALIA

LONDON, May 3. (JTA) -- Sir Isaac Isaacs, first Australian Governor General, arrived here yesterday to report to King Edward upon his stewardship.

The Times in an editorial welcomes Sir Isaac "as the doyen of Australian public life, a great lawyer and a distinguished servant of his country and of the Empire."

TORONTO STUDENTS, WAVING SWASTIKA, RAID MAY DAY PARADE

TORONTO, May 3. (JTA) -- A group of thirty University of Toronto students were today nursing wounds they incurred when, bearing a huge black and white swastika flag and adorned with swastika emblems, they attempted Friday to break up a May Day demonstration of some 20,000 persons in Queens Park, seat of the Provincial Government.

The students marched around the Parliament buildings and into the crowd shouting "Heil Hitler!" and "Viva Mussolini!" They had to be rescued from the demonstrators by the police, who kept them in the Parliament buildings for safety.

CANADIAN GROUP WIRES NAZI CRUISER ANGER AT PROPOSED VISIT

TORONTO, May 3. (JTA) -- It was announced today that the Canadian League Against War and Fascism has sent a radiogram to the commander of the German battle cruiser Emden, now off the Atlantic Coast, voicing resentment at the proposed visit of cruiser and crew to Canadian waters.

"The people of Canada will deeply resent a visit from the representatives of the most brutal Government in all history, the oppressors of the great German people and the main instigators of war in the world today," the radiogram said.

STUDY PROJECT TO TRANSFER REICH JEWISH FARMERS TO SO. AMERICA

BERLIN (JTA) -- Possibilities for transferring Germany's Jewish agriculturalists to South and Central American countries where they can continue to work on the land are now the object of intensive study by central Jewish organizations.

Despite the figures given by the census of June, 1933 - after the Nazis came to power - showing only 4,167 Jewish families directly engaged in farming, the survey has already revealed that in the State of Baden alone, the number of Jews on the land is over 9,000 while there are 12,000 more working on the land in Hessen-Nassau. There are also hundreds of Jewish farming families in the Rhine section and in Upper Silesia.

The condition of these Jewish farmers, whose average land holdings are four to eighteen acres is most serious because of their isolation and the vigorous boycott in the provinces. They are denied membership in the cooperatives which refuse to market their produce, to lease them the threshing machines and other farm machinery used jointly by the farmers of the various districts, or to sell them supplies.

Large numbers of them have been forced to sell the land held by their families for generations and to move to the towns where, unable to find new employment, they are living on the money realised from the sale of their farms.

Special interest in the fate of these victims is being taken by the Jewish Colonization Association which recently sent a special investigator here to study the situation and report on what can be done to re-settle them on the land in countries having possibilities for agricultural elements, particularly those countries in South America where the Jewish Colonization Association has been colonizing Jews on the land for many years.

The investigator, Dr. Aronstein, a noted colonization expert, visited over 77 villages in the state of Hessen-Nassau alone and in personal talks with hundreds of Jewish farmers there learned that most of them are extremely anxious to emigrate and are willing to undertake the pioneer work that might be necessary to establish themselves in the Argentine, Chile, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay.

A large number of Jews from this section of the Reich who have already settled in these countries have adjusted themselves easily to the new conditions and have written optimistically to their relations and friends in Germany.

The first group of German Jewish farmers and their families has already left the Reich for South America under the Jewish Colonization Association project. The organization requires that families

to be re-settled in South America include between three and five male members able to work on the land and trained for this work. Over a thousand families in Hessen-Nassau alone meet these qualifications. The organization is also training qualified Jewish youths for farm work.

The Hilfsverein der Juden in Deutschland, which is assisting the emigration of German Jews to overseas lands other than Palestine, is helping the Jewish Colonization Association in this project and is now registering groups of Jewish farmers ready to emigrate.

SPANISH STUDIED AT GERMAN-JEWISH SCHOOLS

BERLIN (JTA) -- The Spanish language, which has never been taught in German Jewish schools, is being added to the curriculum of the Jewish school system in Germany.

The Jewish community organizations have decided to introduce the study of Spanish and Portuguese so that Jewish children who may later emigrate to countries where these languages are spoken will find the task of adjustment easier. The geography and economics of Latin America is also to be taught in the "ghetto" schools.

MCDONALD TO GET GOTTHEIL MEDAL

NEW YORK, May 2. (JTA) -- James G. McDonald, former High Commissioner for Refugees will receive this year's Gottheil Medal awarded by the Zeta Beta Tau fraternity to the American who has done the most for Jewry, it was announced today.

The award is made on the basis of a poll of a jury of editors representing the Anglo-Jewish press. Presentation will be made at the fraternity's banquet in Syracuse, N.Y., May 9.

The award to Mr. McDonald is made "by reason of his extraordinary service in caring for thousands of Jewish refugees from Germany whose misery he toiled unceasingly to alleviate, and by reason of his dramatic and scholarly letter of resignation accurately analyzing the problem of the German Jew, vividly portraying its agonizing consequences and fearlessly pointing out the unnecessary but effective obstacles to a humane solution."

The Gottheil Medal was established in honor of Dr. Richard J.H. Gottheil of Columbia University for many years President of Zeta Beta Tau. Previous recipients of the medal included Governor Herbert H. Lehman, Felix M. Warburg, the late Julius Rosenwald, Rabbi Stephen Wise, Dr. John Haynes Holmes, Rev. Everett R. Clinchy of New York City, Father J. Elliott Rose of Charlottesville, Virginia and Rabbi Morris S. Lazaron of Baltimore.