

NEWS

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TELEGRAPH
TELEPHONE

JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

347 MADISON AVE., N.Y.C.

VOL. II. NO. 102.

Friday, December 4, 1936.

"DEFENSE OF FREEDOM AND PEACE" MOVEMENT LAUNCHED IN LONDON

LONDON, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- Prominent figures in all walks of life launched tonight, with a great mass meeting at Albert Hall, a significant non-partisan movement to organize public opinion the world over in active defense of democracy and freedom and to combat dictatorships and persecution.

Known as the "Defense of Freedom and Peace," the movement is headed by outstanding personalities of all parties, including Winston Churchill, noted statesman; Sir Walter Citrine, secretary of the British Trades Union Congress; Sir Norman Angell, Nobel Peace Prize winner; Wickham Steed, former editor of The Times; Lady Violet Bonham-Carter, Lord Lytton and Philip Guedalla, historian and director of the World Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi Council.

In addition, the movement has the support of Sir Austen Chamberlain, Archibald Sinclair and other British public figures.

Before a capacity audience tonight, Sir Walter, who presided at the meeting, outlined the principles on which the movement was organized and which it intends to pursue.

According to a prospectus drawn up by the movement's leaders at an organization meeting recently, these principles are embodied in the following declaration:

"The cause of ordered freedom is in danger. Peace itself is in jeopardy. The foes of both are vocal, organized and strong. 'Defence of Freedom and Peace' offers common ground to all who hold that without peace freedom cannot be sure; and that without freedom, there can be no true peace.

"The central mass of temperate, tolerant humanity must not be found feeble in action and leadership. Parliamentary governments of self-ruling peoples need, therefore, to know they are upheld by the resolute will of citizens who are ready to stand for the rights of man and for justice among the nations.

"The ideals enshrined in the League Covenant and the Kellogg Pact grew out of man's bitter need for uncountable sacrifice. Those ideals alone stand between the world and nameless woe. Great Britain must be strong to bear her part in banning war from the life of nations, so that well-guarded peace may lighten the burden of the peoples and offer to states great and small just redress for proved wrong.

"British leadership and action may yet save peace and civilization. The aim of 'Defence of Freedom and Peace' is to prosper this work."

In the course of his opening address, Sir Walter roundly condemned Nazi persecution of Jews as "without parallel in modern history," and predicted that it would fail of its goal, although at great cost in "human suffering and misery."

Sir Walter announced the three-fold objective of the movement as:

"To unite British citizens, irrespective of politics or creed -- in defense of freedom, secured by democratic government and public law; in resistance to all efforts to diminish or destroy this freedom by violence at home or attack from abroad; and in support of our international duty to join with others in preserving peace and withstanding armed aggression."

Others scheduled to address the meeting were Mr. Churchill, Lord Lytton and Lady Violet. Tonight's meeting will be followed by others throughout the country.

AGENCY HELPING TO BAR ENTRY OF COMMUNISTS, COMMISSION TOLD

JERUSALEM, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency for Palestine is doing its utmost to prevent immigration of Communists into the Holy Land, according to testimony by Moshe Shertok, head of the agency's political department, made public today by the British Royal Commission.

A communique by the commission said Mr. Shertok made the statement in reply to a question by Sir Horace Rumbold.

The investigating body held a private session today at which it heard testimony by Sir John Hathorn-Hall, chief Government Secretary. The next public session is scheduled for Dec. 8.

PALESTINE CONCERT OF EXILES UNDER TOSCANINI TO BE WIDELY BROADCAST

JERUSALEM, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- The first concert of the Palestine Symphony Orchestra, composed of musicians in exile from Germany, under the baton of Arturo Toscanini will be broadcast throughout the Near East by the Palestine Broadcasting System, it was disclosed today.

The recently-inaugurated Government station is now completing arrangements, it was revealed, to broadcast part of the program on December 30 at the Edison Theatre, carrying the music to Arab peasants and Jewish farmers in the remotest parts of the country.

S. W. Luntov, director

Negotiations commenced last Spring when Mr. Toscanini, Bronislaw Huberman, the Austrian Jewish violinist who founded the orchestra, and Stephen Fry, program director of P.B.S., were reported to have met in America.

The National Broadcasting Company was said to have been seeking to pick up the program for broadcasting in the United States, but it was understood that these arrangements had not been completed to date because of technical difficulties.

Toscanini and Huberman are planning to fly here together from Italy at the end of this month. The orchestra is rehearsing meanwhile under Hans W. Steinberg, German refugee conductor.

The concert under Toscanini will open with Weber's "Oberon" overture and include works of Brahms, Mendelssohn, Schubert and Beethoven's third "Léonore" overture.

The orchestra will later give modern works by Steinberg, Schoenberg and Shostakovich. Among the soloists will be Adolf Busch, violinist, and Benno Moisewitch. Conductors to follow Toscanini will be Steinberg, Issay Dobrowen and Michel Taube.

JEWISH MEMBERS BOYCOTT JERUSALEM COUNCIL MEETING

JERUSALEM, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- Jewish councillors boycotted a meeting of the Jerusalem municipal council today in protest against Mayor Hussein Khalidi's policy of non-cooperation with the Jewish deputy mayor, Daniel Auster.

TEL AVIV COUNCIL BARS MAYOR ROKACH FROM COMMITTEES

TEL AVIV, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- A majority of eight in the municipal council started a policy today of keeping Israel Rokach, Government-appointed mayor, off important committees by excluding him from the financial committee.

A motion for inclusion of Mayor Rokach in the committee was defeated 8 to 7 after an hour's debate. Mr. Rokach was nominated by the Government in Jerusalem to fill the post made vacant by the death of Meier Dizengoff after a controversy had developed over who was entitled to the position.

THOMAS MANN'S CITIZENSHIP CANCELLED BY GERMANY; PROPERTY SEIZED

BERLIN, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- The Reich Government today cancelled the German citizenship of Thomas Mann, world-famous German writer, and ordered confiscation of his property, the Havas News Agency reported. Mr. Mann is not Jewish.

The nationality of 38 other Germans was withdrawn. At the same time the Government ordered the expulsion of two newspaper correspondents --

Walter Bing of France who served in the German forces during the World War, and Karl Robson of the London Morning Post.

Mr. Mann, who has criticized the Nazi regime, is considered the greatest living German writer. A self-exile, he is living at Kussnacht, near Zurich, Switzerland.

REICH JEWISH DOCTORS TO BE PERMITTED TO PRACTICE IN ITALY

BERLIN, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- Jewish physicians who took Italian examinations in 1934 will be permitted to practice medicine in Italy if they apply before Jan. 23, according to a statement today from the Reichs Representation of Jews in Germany, quoting the Italian official gazette.

MALCOLM IN BELGRADE TO PUSH FACT ON REFUGEES

BELGRADE, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- Sir Neill Malcolm, League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Coming from Germany, arrived here today to negotiate with the Government on ratification of the inter-governmental convention on the legal status of refugees adopted by a conference under League auspices in Geneva last July. He will proceed to Budapest tomorrow.

LIKENS POLAND'S TREATMENT OF JEWS TO THAT UNDER PHARAOH

WARSAW, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- Treatment of the Jews in Poland was compared to that under the Pharaoh of Egypt in an address yesterday by Deputy Leib Minzberg in the Sejm (lower Parliamentary house).

He declared Nationalist economists must agree that the economic problems of Poland cannot be solved by Jewish emigration and a boycott against the Jews.

Deputy Isaac Rubenstein pointed out that Premier Skladkowski, in his address Monday to the Sejm, had only dealt with one of the evils against the Jews -- violence -- but had not mentioned the economic boycott.

The emigration problem is a problem for the whole population, not only the Jews, declared Deputy Emil Sommerstein, adding that anti-Semitism was on a political, not economic basis.

WARSAW POLICE CLOSE KHEILLA MEETING; ARREST 15

WARSAW, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- A government official last night closed a meeting of the Jewish Community and fifteen persons were arrested after orthodox Jews and labor Zionists had protested against interference by the authorities in Jewish communal affairs.

LAW FORMALITIES SCRAPPED IN REICH PROPERTY SEIZURES

NEW YORK, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- Property of German Jews suspected of intending to go abroad permanently has already been seized without legal formalities, the New York Times reported today in a Berlin dispatch giving additional details of the new exchange law empowering such action by the Exchange Control Service.

The law gives the Exchange Control Service the right to seize and administer the fortune and property of any citizens suspected of an intention to go abroad permanently, the Times dispatch states. According to the report, an addendum to the law provides that even suspicion is not necessary, thus relieving the exchange control functionaries of the "embarrassing business of proving their suspicions in the courts."

The report continues:

"Those whose bank accounts, securities and other property are taken over under this decree can employ their property or any portion of it only with specific permission of exchange officials.

"The new law was published along with a long list of stricter amendments in the general foreign exchange control regulations.

"The process of seizure and administration of the holdings of suspected persons has been, in the case of Jews, already applied without benefit of formal law. Some time ago Jews suspected of a desire to flee the Reich were ordered to deposit a certain percentage of their fortunes with a Reichsbank subsidiary.

"While the new law was created solely for purposes of exchange control in theory at least there is nothing to prevent the regime from employing it against any one for any reason. Apparently there is no limit on the period of time private property may be sequestered in this fashion. An appeal to the review boards of the Foreign Exchange Control Administration is possible, but apparently there can be no appeal to the courts.

\$15,000 SENT TO POLAND FOR JEWISH RELIEF

NEW YORK, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- The American Committee for Relief of Jews in Poland announced today it has sent a remittance of \$15,000 to Warsaw.

JEWS ORDERED TO KEEP SHOPS OPEN ON SATURDAYS IN TRIPOLI

TRIPOLI (JTA) -- The Italian Governor of Tripoli has issued an order prohibiting the closing of Jewish shops on Saturdays in the new part of the town. The order provides that a first offence is to be punished by a fine, a second by imprisonment and a third by the withdrawal of the trading license.