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FRANCE INVITES JEWISH REFUGEES TO SETTLE IN COLONIES

PARIS, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- The French Government yesterday offered to open the doors of four of its colonies to settlement by Jewish refugees from racial and political persecution.

In a carefully worded statement to the press, Colonial Minister Marius Moutet stated there were possibilities for close land settlement by Jews in the following colonies: Madagascar, off the east coast of South Africa; New Caledonia and New Hebrides, large islands east of Australia, and French Guiana, in South America.

While warning against illusions of rapid mass colonization, which he declared was impossible, M. Moutet declared he foresaw good results under the following conditions:

1. Backing by a financially powerful body;
2. Careful exploration of the territories offered;
3. Good selection of the prospective settlers.

M. Moutet disclosed the colonization plans had been carefully studied by the ministry in collaboration with the Colonial Governors. He said the Governor of Madagascar has already gone on record in favor of the proposals.

The Colonial Minister, concluding his statement, declared: "We desire to help the thousands who are victims of political, racial and religious passions."

Emigration Groups See Colonial Minister

LONDON, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- It was learned here today that a delegation representing Eacol and Freiland, Jewish colonization associations, called upon French Colonial Minister Marius Moutet and discussed

possibilities for realization of his plan to colonize Jews in four French colonial possessions. North Africa, it was understood, has definitely been excluded from the territories offered for Jewish colonization.

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Madagascar has an area of about 241,094 square miles and a population of close to 4,000,000, including about 36,000 Frenchmen and foreigners. It is a mountainous island, having a moderately cool climate in the interior; it is hot, humid and unhealthy on the low coastlands. Agriculture and stock-raising are the chief industries of the island, which is 980 miles long and 360 miles at its widest.

French Guiana has an approximate area of 34,740 square miles. Its population in 1931 was put at 22,169, excluding Indians, having lost heavily in the last decade. It has been long the site of a large penal colony. Placer gold mining is the principal industry.

New Caledonia has an area of 8,548 square miles. Halfway between Australia and the Fiji Islands, it is 248 miles long, 31 miles wide on the average and had in 1926 a population of 96,165. Mining is becoming its chief industry.

The New Hebrides, northeast of New Caledonia, has an aggregate area of 5,700 square miles. The group of islands comprising this territory has an estimated native population of 60,000, with a British and French populating totaling, in 1930, about 1200. Its chief products are copra, cotton, cacao and coffee.

LOSS OF CONFIDENCE IN BRITAIN HELD FACTOR IN PALESTINE DISORDERS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Loss of confidence in Great Britain was a contributory factor in the recent disturbances, the Royal Commission of Inquiry was told yesterday by Mayor Hussein Khalidi of Jerusalem.

The Arab mayor accused the administration of hampering development of Palestine, declaring it had burdened the budget with three languagos, and restricted municipalities. He also complained that the Jews had been permitted to hold half of the Jerusalem council seats.

Reminded by Sir Horace Rumbold, a member of the commission, that the Jews constituted a majority in Jerusalem and thus were entitled to their number of council seats, Mayor Khalidi, admitting the fact, declared: "From this, it may be imagined what will happen when there is a Jewish majority in Palestine."

A. Mansur, mayor of a Jerusalem suburb, in his testimony held the Palestine Government responsible for the bad situation of Arab laborers, charging Jewish immigration was forcing Arab labor out.

ATTACKS ON JEWS SPREAD DESPITE POLISH PREMIER'S WARNING

WARSAW, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Defying Premier Skladkowski's sharp warning in Parliament, Nationalists continued unabated their campaign of anti-Jewish terrorism in many parts of Poland. Bombings, arson and knife attacks marked yesterday's developments in Warsaw, Wilno, and East Galicia.

A bomb thrown into a Jewish restaurant in Wilno partially destroyed the place. Police arrested five Nationalists. A fire of incendiary origin destroyed Jewish houses and farms, including grain and livestock, in East Galicia. Anti-Jewish agitation caused tension to mount in the disorder-ridden Bialystok district, where Premier Skladkowski had stated more than 300 anti-Jewish incidents, including 21 mass attacks and 3 slayings, had occurred in 1936.

Peasants in that district were being terrorized into boycotting Jews. In many of the townships near Czyzew, scene of a pogrom two weeks ago in which one Jew was killed and scores wounded, Jews feared to leave their homes.

Meanwhile, student disorders at the Warsaw University continued, marked by the knifing of Abraham Semiatitsky, a Jewish student. Nationalist students charged Semiatitsky with being the leader of a Jewish gang. Police established there was provocation for the attack.

Newspapers reported that forty Jewish students have been wounded, four of them seriously, at the various universities here in the last fortnight.

Police raided the premises of the Jewish Students Association in Wilno, but found nothing of an incriminating nature. The anti-Semitic newspapers of the city charge the Jews with responsibility for closing of the Wilno University, ordered shut for the rest of the term for disorders.

POLAND TO PUNISH JEWS FROM PALESTINE OVERSTAYING TIME LIMIT

WARSAW, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Punishment awaits Polish Jewish tourists from Palestine who overstay time limits indicated on their visas by the Polish consulate in Palestine, it was disclosed today. Decision of the authorities to act in such cases, even when the tourists are Polish citizens, was revealed in an official communique by the Palestine Office.

Addressed to tourists, the communique warns them to return to Palestine before their time limit expires, "otherwise they will face complications and punishment."

POALE-ZION LEADER JAILED FOR PROTESTING PRZYTYK VERDICT

WARSAW, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- A Bialystok court yesterday sentenced S. Debronevsky, secretary of the Poale-Zion Organization of that city, to three months' imprisonment for signing a protest against jail sentences meted out to eleven Jews in connection with disorders in Przytyk last March.

MUSSOLINI'S PAPER LAUDS JEWISH ACHIEVEMENTS IN PALESTINE

ROME, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- An editorial warmly praising Jewish achievements in Palestine and Jews' "remarkable contributions to world's civilization" was published yesterday in Il Popolo di Roma, Rome edition of Premier Mussolini's Milan newspaper, Popolo d'Italia, which recently printed a strong anti-Jewish attack.

The editorial declared:

"In a land which only a few years ago was a desert, immigrant Jews have built up cities and have improved the soil, installed irrigation, and even established a university which is reviving the forgotten ancient language of their forefathers. Jews may not be liked but their genius and remarkable contributions to world's civilization cannot be denied. We can only sincerely marvel over what the Jews have done in Palestine."

NAZIS BAN JEWISH YOUTH ORGANIZATION

BERLIN, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- The Gestapo, secret State police, yesterday ordered dissolution of Jewish youth organizations, numbering 25,000 members, engaged in social, cultural and sports activities.

SERVICES HELD FOR HAROLD SAMUEL, JEWISH PIANIST

LONDON, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Private funeral services were held today at the Liberal Jewish Cemetery for Harold Samuel, noted pianist and composer who died here yesterday at the age of 58. Mr. Samuel, who had gained renown for his interpretations of Bach, was taken ill two months ago on a steamer returning from South Africa.

The London press devoted columns to his obituary. The Morning Post termed him among the greatest exponents of Bach. The Daily Telegraph emphasizing his humble origin, born of a poor Jewish family describes his struggles during youth until he finally became internationally famous both as a pianist and a composer who wrote music for comic opera and many operettas.

Samuel gave many concerts in America, where he met with critical acclaim.

LENIENCY IN JEWISH YOUTH EDUCATION HIT AT NEW ORLEANS CONVENTION

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Leniency in Jewish youth education was attacked today at a discussion meeting of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, which is holding its 35th council at the Hotel Roosevelt here in conjunction with allied temple brotherhoods' and sisterhoods' groups.

Dr. Samuel M. Blumenfeld, Chicago, declared that "the whims and caprices of youth are too often the guiding element. So jittery and apologetic is our attitude that we permit even vulgarities to pass for education in coddling and sheltering youth," he said.

Lester B. Cohn, Nashville, said that "we people of the book are in danger of becoming a bookless people." Rabbi Leon Fram, Detroit, advocated formal adult classes.

The Federation of Temple Sisterhoods opened its twelfth biennial assembly this morning with a discussion on "Educating through Sisterhood for the Modern World." Mrs. Leon L. Watters, New York, president, presided over discussions in the afternoon, with Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver scheduled to preside at a discussion tonight on "The Synagogue and the Non-Jewish World."

Lazaron Hits World Jewish Congress "Domination"

In a sermon yesterday morning, Rabbi Morris S. Lazaron, of Baltimore, sharply attacked the World Jewish Congress. He said:

"It is time for us emphatically and publically to repudiate a group which refuses to cooperate except on its own terms, prates of democratic control and is dominated by imitation Jewish Fuehrers. I yield to no one, not even Zionist Organization officials, in loyalty to Palestine reconstruction, but there has been overemphasis on political nationalism."

Referring to the threat of war and fascism, Rabbi Lazaron declared the choice was not between communism and fascism, but communism and fascism on the one hand and democracy on the other.

"Jew-baiting," he said, "is an obsession Jews do not suffer alone. Protestants, Catholics, liberals, all are victims. We dare not surrender to the Hitler philosophy. The Jew is the symbol of the struggle for civic and religious freedom."

On Friday, Jacob W. Mack, Cincinnati, chairman of the Union's executive board pleaded for a Jewish unity which would be spiritual as well as practical, asserting at the same time the right of the individual Jew to do his own thinking. The rabbi and layman must cooperate, he said, in the matter of "spokesmanship" for the synagogues on important present-day issues.

"For 2,000 years we have maintained a religion without the trappings of a hierarchy," he said. "In the synagogue we have all been laymen and this wise provision we should never abandon. The rabbi should not relinquish the right to prophecy, but where the opinion and action of the congregation are involved, and this applies equally where a conference of rabbis of a Union of Congregations is involved, the layman should not relinquish his responsibility."

Since the destiny of "all who dare to think and speak and act independently" is oppression, said Mr. Mack, "we Jews should not ask to be shielded from this fate. Such treatment is not a badge of shame but a crown of glory."

RE-ORIENTATION OF JEWISH LIFE STRESSED AT SEMINARY CONFERENCES

NEW YORK, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- On a keynote of re-examination of Jewish values and re-orientation of Jewish life to the vast changes of the past fifty years, the First Seminary Conference on Jewish Affairs opened today at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America in connection with its semi-centennial celebration.

In opening the conference this afternoon, Dr. Cyrus Adler, president of the Seminary, explained that it was called "because the semi-centennial of the Seminary seemed a fitting time for the Jews of America to take stock of their position, to re-examine the essence of their spiritual lives, to weigh the contributions of their people to ethics and citizenship and the general advancement of mankind, to consider their relationships with the general community and, perhaps most important of all, to view with intelligent concern the problems and responsibilities that lie ahead."

The afternoon session was devoted largely to round-table discussions on various aspects of Jewish life and the relationship of the Jews to the rest of the world. In the evening a public meeting was held, the speakers' list including President Nicholas Murray Butler of Columbia University on "The Cultural Contributions of Judaism," President Henry Sloan Coffin of Union Theological Seminary on "The Religious Contributions of Judaism," and Arthur Oppenheimer, of the semi-centennial committee.

Dr. Coffin stressed that American democracy, "which we have taken far too casually," rests on the threefold faith in the capacities of the common man, in truth and in the universe as favorable to a society based on brotherhood. This faith, according to his prepared address, "came of the religious heritage which Jews and Christians hold in common. It is a response to God's self-revelation in Israel. And we would add in that figure which is at the center of our Christianity."

In the conference sermon this afternoon on "The Jew Looks at Tomorrow," Rabbi Israel Levinthal of Brooklyn Jewish Center stressed the need for reevaluation of Jewish thought and the task of fashioning the Jewish personality of today. Describing the changes in Jewish life in Russia, Germany and Palestine in the past fifty years he said:

"All our pet theories about the future of the Jews require new orientation. And the great tragedy in Jewish life, especially here in America, is the fact that we seem to go on in the same routine, repeating the old Shibboleth of a generation or two ago, as if no change had marked the status of the Jew in the world, as if the spiritual life of the Jew was beset with no problem other than those that faced the immigrant Jew in the days of the founding of this institution."

The round table discussions and their chairmen were: "The Place of Philanthropy in Judaism," Dr. Solomon Lowenstein; "The Jew in Relation to the Larger Community," James Marshall; "The Jew in Community Organization," Judge Bernard L. Shiontag; "The Organization of Jewish Education," Judge Samuel I. Rosenman; "The Scope and Ideals of Jewish Education," Dr. Maurice J. Karpf; "The Synagogue," Louis J. Mess; "The Place of Palestine in the Development of Jewish Ideals," Dr. Israel Goldstein; "Jewish Books," J. Solis-Cohen Jr.; "Judaism and the College Student," Mark Eisner; "Judaism and the Adolescent," Henry W. Braude.