



## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

347 MADISON AVE., N.Y.C.

VOL. II. NO. 215.

Wednesday, April 21, 1937.

### NAZIS DISSOLVE B'NAI B'RITH, SEIZE ALL PROPERTY

BERLIN, April 20. (JTA) -- The International Order B'nai B'rith was under prohibition throughout Germany today, its lodges closed and its property, including buildings, confiscated by the authorities.

The prohibition, accompanied by a series of raids by the Gestapo on homes of members yesterday in which 80 persons were reported arrested for a day in Berlin alone, was followed by new anti-Jewish measures.

These measures, according to the Havas News Agency, ban Jewish classes in Hebrew and all other living languages. The moves were interpreted here as retaliation for recent anti Hitler propaganda, such as the manifesto of the "Liberty Party," for which Jews resident in Germany are held by the Nazis to be responsible, Havas said.

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The United Press quoted the Propaganda Ministry as announcing B'nai B'rith had been dissolved because it "tolerated a member who was engaged in Communistic propaganda." The member specified, a former member of the Prussian Diet, was arrested and held for a few hours, but was then released, according to the statement.

A New York Times dispatch said that among the more than 80 persons arrested in Berlin were Rabbi Leo Baeck, president of the Reichsvertretung der Juden in Deutschland, and several heads of women's auxiliaries. They were released after a day's close questioning at Gestapo headquarters. Reports from the provinces indicated similar action had been taken in all cities where B'nai B'rith lodges existed.

The reason for the drastic action against B'nai B'rith, the Times said, was obvious from the nature of the questions put to the arrested officers. They were concerned principally with connection of the lodge with similar organizations abroad, especially the United States. The intimation was given that the Gestapo held the Jewish organizations principally responsible for anti-German campaigns in America.

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### Cohen Asks State Dep't. to Intercede

CINCINNATI, April 20. (JTA) -- Alfred M. Cohen, president of the B'nai B'rith, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that he is asking the State Department to intercede in behalf of the organization. He described the order as an "American institution functioning in thirty countries, including Germany."

Mr. Cohen said he had received no direct information regarding the action in Germany against the B'nai B'rith, which included confiscation of property and dissolution of all lodges.

"I am seeking information from various sources," he declared, "and am asking the kindly office of the State Department in that regard and petitioning, if the reports prove authentic, to do whatever possible to persuade the German Government to resume the attitude it has taken toward the B'nai B'rith during all the years of the present regime. B'nai B'rith is an American institution functioning in thirty countries including Germany."

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### Dr. Adler Offers A.J. Committee's Aid

NEW YORK, April 20. (JTA) -- Dr. Cyrus Adler, president of the American Jewish Committee, today telegraphed to Alfred M. Cohen, president of B'nai B'rith, a message of sympathy in connection with the suppression of B'nai B'rith lodges in Germany and offering aid "in any way in which you think we can be of service."

"My colleagues and I are shocked at the action taken by the German Government in suppressing B'nai B'rith lodges and the reported indignity to which their officers, including the esteemed Rabbi Baeck, have been subjected," the message said.

"Knowing that the purposes of B'nai B'rith lodges in Germany are exclusively of a social, philanthropic and cultural character, we are at a loss to understand this action. We extend our heartfelt sympathy and assurances that you can command us in any way in which you think we can be of service."

### ZIONIST GENERAL COUNCIL MEETS IN JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, April 20. (JTA) -- The General Council of the World Zionist Organization opened a session here today, faced with a critical political situation resulting from the impending report of the British Royal Commission on Palestine and the necessity for arranging the forthcoming World Zionist Congress.

The meeting was opened by the chairman, Menachem M. Ussishkin, who eulogized the 102 Jews killed in Palestine since the outbreak of disorders on April 19, 1936. Also on the program were David Ben-Gurion, laborite, reporting on the political situation, and Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Zionist representative at Geneva, reporting on the international Zionist position.

DR. WERNER SENATOR NAMED HEBREW U. REGISTRAR

JERUSALEM, April 20. (JTA) -- The Hebrew University announced today appointment of Dr. Werner Senator as administrator (registrar) to succeed S. Ginzberg, who resigned last year after several years in the post.

ARAB LEADER TO HEAD PROPAGANDA DELEGATION TO LONDON

JERUSALEM, April 20. (JTA) -- The Hebrew daily Haaretz reports today that Auni Bey Abdul Hadi, president of the Palestine Independence Party, is heading an unofficial Arab propaganda delegation which will leave for London shortly. Another delegation, headed by Jamal al Husseini and Dr. Izzat Tannous, has already left for London.

ITALIAN LINERS TO STOP AT TEL AVIV PORT

TEL AVIV, April 20. (JTA) -- The Adriatica Line, formerly the Lloyd Triestino, announced today that its liners will make the new Tel Aviv harbor a port of call starting next June. The harbor was started last Summer when the Arab disorders made the neighboring port of Jaffa inaccessible.

WARBURG SAILS FROM EUROPE TODAY

LUCERNE, Switzerland, April 20. (JTA) -- Felix M. Warburg, New York banker and philanthropist, will sail for the United States on the Normandie tomorrow after a stay of several weeks in Europe during which he attended a number of conferences of Jewish leaders.

469 JEWS ENTERED BIRO-BIDJAN IN 3 MONTHS

MOSCOW, April 20. (JTA) -- A total of 469 Jews entered Biro-Bidjan in the first quarter of 1937, it was announced today while preparations went forward to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Soviet far-eastern region which is now an autonomous Jewish territory.

The settlers included 94 families and 199 individuals. Sixty-five specialists were among the immigrants.

In connection with the anniversary next year, a documentary film will be prepared showing the development of the region. A special commission of Jewish writers and experts from Biro-Bidjan will be appointed by the Council of the Comzet, Government commission for Jewish land settlements.

The Comzet Cultural Commission has allocated 50,000 rubles for prizes for the best Jewish play on "Twenty Years Since the October Revolution, and the Rebuilding of the Life of the Jewish Masses." The funds will be distributed among Jewish theatres throughout Soviet Russia which will award prizes to deserving playwrights.

## FILDERMAN REFUTES CHARGES RUMANIAN JEWS ARE REDS

BUCHAREST, April 20. (JTA) -- Ultra-nationalists' charges that Jews were Communists were denied today by Dr. Wilhelm Filderman, president of the Union of Rumanian Jews, who declared at a meeting here that Bolshevism was contrary to Jewish precepts.

He said the Rumanian Jews knew it was to their own advantage to help build up the country. The meeting telegraphed King Carol an assurance of the Rumanian Jewish population's devotion to him.

## JONAH PERETZ, BROTHER OF NOTED WRITER, DIES IN POLAND

WARSAW, April 20. (JTA) -- Jonah Joshua Peretz, a municipal councillor in the town of Zamosc and member of the Jewish Community's executive, died today at the age of 73. He was a brother of I.L. Peretz, noted Yiddish writer who died in 1915.

## 90 NAZIS SEIZED IN AUSTRIA

VIENNA, April 20. (JTA) -- Ninety Nazis were under arrest today following a series of attempted demonstrations in honor of Chancellor Adolf Hitler's 48th birthday, the Havas News Agency reported.

The arrests followed disturbances that occurred when crowds gathered here and in other cities, attracted by bands of Nazis distributing swastika banners.

Police also seized six Nazi flags. One of them had been raised over the roof of a building in the heart of the Jewish quarter of Vienna.

## POLISH-JEWISH MERCHANTS SEEK \$2,600,000 FUND TO FIGHT BOYCOTT

NEW YORK, April 20. (JTA) -- A plan to raise a campaign fund of 14,000,000 zlotys (\$2,660,000) to fight the boycott of Jewish shopkeepers has been approved at a congress of Jewish businessmen in Warsaw, the Herald Tribune reported today.

An appeal is to be made to the 35,000 Jewish shopkeepers not yet seriously affected by the boycott to subscribe 200 zlotys each. It is expected that wealthy Jews in other countries will contribute 7,000,000 zlotys. The fund will be used to extend credit to Jewish shopkeepers and otherwise enable them to meet competition from new shops being opened by Poles.

## MANN HOLDS NAZI REGIME "UNFORTUNATE INTERLUDE"

NEW YORK, April 20. (JTA) -- Expressing the conviction that the Nazi regime in Germany is "no more than an unfortunate interlude," Thomas Mann tonight held out the task "to help the living spirit of German culture through a period of night and winter" through the American Guild for German Cultural Freedom.



cently formed guild at one time can look forward to raising a budget to carry out its purposes. On the program with Dr. Mann were Governor Wilbur L. Cross of Connecticut, chairman; Herbert Bayard Swope, toastmaster; Dorothy Thompson, Carl van Doren and Samuel L. M. Barlow.

Declaring that events in Germany had emphasized the need for freedom of spirit, the self-exiled German author asserted that this "rediscovered truth" was felt within Germany itself "and we have grounds to believe that the positive advantage accruing from the National Socialist episode to the German people will be this re-discovery of freedom, the recognition of its immeasurable worth for the human soul and human life."

Dr. Mann cited an incident which he said is indicative of the "longing for freedom which is spreading among the German people today." He referred to the applause with which Berlin audiences are greeting a passage in Schiller's "Don Carlos," in which the central character, Marquis Posa, closes a speech to the Spanish tyrant with the cry, "Give us freedom of thought."

"These almost despairing demonstrations," he declared "are by no means lacking in danger, for they are definitely political."

Speaking of the purposes of the guild, he said:

"The privation from which the free German spirit is suffering today, since it lacks that official support which the national genius of other peoples enjoy, is to be made up for as far as possible in that each individual German who is compelled to work today in a land foreign to him can feel himself represented by the academy vis-a-vis of the world, and so be backed by a sort of court, recognized by the world, so that he need not feel himself to be an entirely isolated being, floating on air."

#### A. J. BIDDLE JR. NEW U. S. AMBASSADOR TO POLAND

WASHINGTON, April 20. (JTA) -- Anthony J. Drexel Biddle, Jr., of Philadelphia, Minister to Norway, will be transferred to Warsaw as Ambassador to Poland. His nomination has been sent to the Senate by President Roosevelt. He succeeds John Cudahy, who is being transferred to Dublin as U. S. Minister to the Irish Free State.