



JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

347 MADISON AVE., N.Y.C.

VOL. II. NO. 221.

Wednesday, April 28, 1937.

3 BIGGEST JEWISH BODIES IN REICH SLATED FOR SUPPRESSION

BERLIN, April 27. (JTA) -- Informed quarters disclosed today that three of the largest Jewish organizations in Germany are slated for suppression by the Nazi authorities.

The expected ban, coming after suppression of B'nai B'rith, fraternal order with headquarters in America, would totally eclipse Jewish social life in the Third Reich.

Organizations marked for the action are the Zionist Federation, the Central Union of Jews in Germany and the Jewish War Veterans. All three have escaped more serious manifestations of Nazi disfavor to date, the Zionists and veterans particularly being accorded some measure of privilege not granted other organizations.

Virtual confirmation of the impending measure was seen in a renewed anti-Jewish campaign of extreme virulence in the Nazi newspapers.

The attack was led by the Beobachter of Munich, which declared it was "high time that something be done again against Jews."

U.S. INTERVENTION MAY WIN CLEMENCY FOR HELMUTH HIRSCH

BERLIN, April 27. (JTA) -- Intervention by the United States -- a country he has never seen although it owns him as a citizen -- may save Helmuth Hirsch from the headsman's axe, it was reported here to-night.

The 21-year-old German-born Jew is awaiting death in Berlin's Ploetzensee prison after having been found guilty on March 8 by a People's Tribunal of high treason against the Reich, involving a plot to assassinate Chancellor Adolf Hitler himself, according to unofficial advices.

Following a long talk United States Consul Raymond Geist held here today with Reich Justice Minister Franz Guertner, it was believed there was a good chance the Fuehrer would now step in an order Helmut's life spared.

The Washington Government took further steps today to save the man who owes allegiance to it only through the technicality that his father and grandfather before him were American citizens.

Several American embassy aides called at the Wilhelmstrasse and conferred on the situation with German foreign office representatives. It was understood Foreign Minister Constantin von Neurath was won around to a lenient view toward the young prisoner, and would so inform his Government.

Dr. Herbert Lautenbach, Hirsch's lawyer, told Havas tonight he was convinced a commutation would be granted.

In accordance with German juridical practice, Hirsch's trial was conducted in complete secrecy. Arrested on charges of having prepared a bomb arsenal for subversive use, he was found guilty of high treason and sentenced to die.

More explicit accusations against him were not divulged, but it was intimated in unofficial sources his plot had been aimed against Hitler himself.

ZIONISTS BAR PARTITION; SET CONGRESS FOR AUG. 3 IN SWITZERLAND

JERUSALEM, April 27. (JTA) -- The General Council of the World Zionist Organization went on record today in opposition to proposals to partition Palestine between Arabs and Jews and decided to convoke the twentieth biennial World Zionist Congress on August 3 in Switzerland.

While no city was named for the congress, unofficial reports indicated Basle would be chosen.

The General Council, ranking Zionist body between congress sessions, decided to continue its Palestine subcommittee in existence until the congress. It also approved the establishment of a small administrative committee of the Jewish Agency for Palestine in Jerusalem, as decided at a recent plenary session of administrative committee in London.

In a resolution adopted by a unanimous vote, the council expressed opposition to any plan which would limit Jewish rights in Palestine, naming among such plans the proposal for dividing Palestine, which, reports say, is under consideration by the British Royal Commission of Inquiry.

The resolution condemned every attempt to diminish the rights, possibilities and geographical limits of the Jewish national home, every attempt to deviate from the principle of economic absorptive capacity in determining immigration, any prohibition of land sales, every attempt to shrink the territory by partition, cantonization or otherwise.

"Jewish distress in many countries of the Diaspora urgently demands the acceleration of Palestine upbuilding and enlarged colonization," the resolution maintained. It emphasized Great Britain's "clear obligations under the Mandate."

It continued by declaring Britain had recognized the Jews' historical rights in the Holy Land, calling attention to the prosperity brought by the Jews to Palestine and contending that one of the causes of recent Arab disturbances was the Palestine Government's "hesitating policy."

The willingness of the Jews to live in peace and harmony with the Arabs, as expressed in a resolution adopted by the Zionist Congress in 1935, was reiterated.

The council, which has been in session since April 20, also discussed problems of colonization and organization of joint employment bureaus.

8 IRON GUARDISTS GET LIFE TERMS FOR STELESCU SLAYING

BUCHAREST, Rumania, April 27. (JTA) -- A Rumanian tribunal today passed heavy judgment on ten members of the secret Fascist-inclined Iron Guard who were tried for the killing of a dissident party member, Michael Stelescu, in a hospital last Summer, the Havas News Agency reported.

Eight of the Guardists were sentenced to life imprisonment at hard labor and the remaining two were given 10-year terms. The death sentence has been abolished in Rumania.

The severe verdict aroused considerable comment, particularly in view of the fact that the courts had in the past shown themselves indulgent toward partisans of the Iron Guard. It was held to indicate the firm determination of authorities to frustrate acts of violence by Rightist extremists.

Stelescu was slain with revolver fire as he was recovering from an operation in a hospital. He had previously been expelled from the Iron Guard for forming a dissident group.

POLISH WHOLESALERS, HIT BY ANTI-JEWISH BOYCOTT, URGE CURB

WARSAW, April 27. (JTA) -- Measures to curb the anti-Jewish boycott were demanded by a delegation of Christian and Jewish clothing wholesalers today in a memorandum to the Minister of Commerce in which the bad effects of the boycott were cited.

The memorandum charges the boycott has brought the wholesalers to the brink of ruin. It cites the experiences with provincial small traders, who are now buying only small quantities of new goods, while favored traders who seek to profit by the anti-Jewish boycott, are unable to supply the demands of their customers.

YIDDISH POETESS SEIZED BY POLISH POLICE

WARSAW, April 27. (JTA) -- The authorities have arrested Rachel Korn, well-known Galician novelist and poetess who writes both in Yiddish and Polish, it was revealed here today. Although no reason was given for the arrest, it is believed she may be suspected of radical activities. There have been many arrests of writers in recent months on charges of engaging in Communist activity and some have been sent to the Government concentration camp at Kartuz-Bereza.

Miss Korn, who makes her home in the town of Przemyśl, is 39 and has been writing since she was twelve. Her latest volume of poetry is "Red Poppies."

CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY WORK PUSHED AMONG POLISH JEWS

WARSAW, April 27. (JTA) -- The Warsaw Rabbinate disclosed today that Christian missionaries, taking advantage of the dire straits to which Jews have been reduced, are pressing missionary activities among them.

The local missionary, according to the rabbinate, has induced eight children of poverty-stricken Jewish families to frequent its quarters where they are secretly taught the preliminaries to baptism.

OXFORD JOINS BRITISH SCHOOLS IN SNUB TO GOETTINGEN

LONDON, April 27. (JTA) -- Oxford University has joined other important British universities in refusing to send a delegate to the Goettingen (Germany) University bicentenary celebration.

Chancellor Alexander Lindsay was said to have warned the council that participation in the celebration would be interpreted by many as approval of the suppression of free scholarship by the Nazi regime.

ALFRED M. COHEN CONFERS WITH HULL ON REICH B'NAI B'RITH

WASHINGTON, April 27. (JTA) -- Alfred M. Cohen, president of B'nai B'rith, conferred with Secretary of State Cordell Hull for the greater part of yesterday afternoon about persecution of Jews in Germany and particularly the dissolution of B'nai B'rith, confiscation of its property and expulsion of inmates from its orphanages, hospitals and old people's homes.

The subject was discussed in fullest detail and from every angle, it was stated. Mr. Cohen declined to make any other comment on the interview or to indicate what, if any, observations regarding the situation were made by Secretary Hull.

NAZI AGENT SENTENCED IN PRAHA FOR FALSE CHARGES AGAINST JEWS

PRAHA, April 27. (JTA) -- A court yesterday sentenced Rudolf Stengel, an architect and Nazi agent-provocateur, to two months' imprisonment for giving the police false information against Jews.

Stengel had accused a man named Stern and other Jews of offering 100,000 marks for the assassination of Chancellor Hitler of Germany, Konrad Henlein, leader of the Czechoslovakian German minority, and other German and Czechoslovakian Nazi leaders.

The police, acting on the information, kept the Jews under long surveillance, finally coming to the conclusion the charges against them were baseless.

RIGHT-WING PAPERS SCORE RUMANIAN LABOR PROPOSALS

BUCHAREST, April 27. (JTA) -- Newspapers today published the purported text of a decree for "protection of national labor" which even right-wing editors describe as unconstitutional and communistic. Although the Government denies the accuracy of the text as published, it is understood that the proposed decree will be based on a final draft to be submitted to the Cabinet by Commerce Minister Valerius Pop.

According to the published text, the edict will give the Ministry of Industries the right to take arbitrary measures in connection with employment in all public or private enterprises, which will be obliged to hand over necessary information under penalty of being taken over by the Government. The Government will have the right to dismiss all foreign personnel employed in any enterprise.

Right-wing newspapers, commenting that the decree as drafted is unconstitutional and even communistic, declare "it remains to be seen whether M. Pop will succeed in putting it through."

NAZI LEADER OBLIGED TO APPLAUD JEWS' VICTORY OVER PHARAOH

LONDON, April 27. (JTA) -- London was chuckling today over a story in the Daily Herald, telling from Milan of the discomfiture of Robert Ley, leader of the German Labor Front, in whose honor was given a performance of Rossini's opera "Moses" at La Scala.

The Daily Herald correspondent writes: "Ley saw how the Jews were maltreated under Pharaoh, Moses facing him later and leading his people into the desert across the Red Sea. It was an embarrassing climax for Ley when the waters divided, swallowing Pharaoh's army. Dino Alfieri, Fascist Propaganda Minister, joined in the tremendous ovation and the Nazi minister had no choice but to join in the applause."

MAURICE SCHWARTZ SAILS FOR MONTH'S STAY IN PALESTINE

NEW YORK, April 27. (JTA) -- Maurice Schwartz, head of the Yiddish Art Theatre here, sailed on the S.S. Exochorda today for a month's visit with his father in Palestine. During his stay he will give performances in Hebrew of the successful Yiddish play, "Yoshe Kalb," using a translation by Zalmon Schnoeur, Hebrew and Yiddish writer of Paris.

Formation of a group to be known as the Friends of the Yiddish Art Theatre was announced at a farewell party given the actor last night by 100 persons prominent in Yiddish literary and theatrical circles. An administrative committee of 26 was organized, including David Pinski, Peretz Hirshbein, Saul Raskin, I.J. Singer, Abe Goldberg and William Edlin. The group aims to enroll 50,000 members.

12TH PRINTING OF J.P.S. BIBLE SCHEDULED

PHILADELPHIA, April 27. (JTA) -- The twelfth printing of the Jewish Publication Society's Bible Translation, making a total of 170,000 copies since the first edition in 1917, will be issued shortly, it was announced today. A carload of paper has already been ordered.

The translation was prepared by a committee including Dr. Solomon Schechter, the late president of the Jewish Theological Seminary; Dr. Cyrus Adler, president of Dropsie College, who was chairman of the editorial board, and Dr. Max L. Margolis, of Dropsie College, editor-in-chief and secretary of the board.

BIOGRAPHY OF EMDEN, FAMED 18TH CENTURY RABBI, LISTED

PHILADELPHIA, April 27. (JTA) -- Dr. Cyrus Adler, president of the Dropsie College, announces the publication this week of a biography of Jacob Emden, the famous Rabbi of the 18th century, who had a colorful history, a feature of which was his controversy with Jonathan Eibeschuetz, the Chief Rabbi of the Triple Community of Altona, Hamburg and Wandsbeck. Dr. Mortimer J. Cohen, the author of this new biography, conceives the controversy between Emden and Eibeschuetz as a kind of smoke screen to cover economic, political and social forces.

HEBREW UNION TO PUBLISH 12 NEW BOOKS

CINCINNATI, April 27. (JTA) -- Twelve new books will be published by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations during the coming fiscal year, according to plans made at the semi-annual meeting of the Board of Managers of the Union's Department of Synagogue and School Extension. At the same time the Board passed a total appropriation of \$84,471.50 for the Department's work of education and synagogue extension.