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FIGHT ZIONISM, ANTI-NAZISM OR QUIT ITALY, FASCIST PAPER TELLS JEWS

MILAN, Italy, May 25. (JTA) -- Popolo d'Italia, paper founded by Premier Mussolini, demanded today that the Italian Jews declare themselves enemies of "international Hebrewism," oppose Zionism and halt their protests against Nazi race principles.

An article in the Milan newspaper by Oreste Gregario declared:

"We do not admit that our Hebrews can have the mentality of their co-religionists who were and are the inspiration of the Spanish horrors, of the French disorientation, or the Soviet inferno.

"The Hebrews of Italy face a dilemma which up to now they have ignored - perhaps transported by a religious impulse or by a vision which did not cling to reality - a precise and inevitable dilemma.

"Either they must publicly declare themselves enemies - we mean enemies - of international, Masonic, subversive and, above all, anti-Fascist Hebrewism and give to their manifestations a character simply and sincerely religious or renounce their Italian citizenship and residence.

"It is inconceivable that in synagogues and communities meetings begin with expressions of fidelity to Italy, the King and Il Duce and at the same time demonstrate sympathies, even though theoretical, with problems and actions hostile to Italy, to the King and to Il Duce."

Opposition to Nazi race principles, the paper asserted, are "irreconcilable with the friendship that binds us to Germany and which has objectives far more vast and fundamental than the Jewish question."

The article, charging Zionism aimed to set up another State under British control, "in definite opposition to the Mediterranean spirit of Italy," argued that patriotic Italians could not endorse such an anti-Moslem movement after Premier Mussolini had declared Italy's policy of friendship with Islamic peoples.

Gregario's article climaxed a campaign against the Jews in progress for many months in a section of the Fascist press. Deputy Paolo Orano, Fascist educator and politician, recently wrote a book demanding that the Italian Jews abandon Zionism as inconsistent with Italian patriotism. It was widely featured in the Fascist press.

600 BRZESC FAMILIES REGISTERED FOR RELIEF; DAMAGES NOW PUT AT \$280,000

WARSAW, May 25. (JTA) -- The Jewish relief committee operating in Brzesc, scene of violent anti-Jewish excesses May 13, has already registered 600 families who suffered damages, it was announced here today.

The committee said there were still 500 families to be registered for relief.

Total damages, according to the committee's estimates, will reach 1,400,000 zlotys (about \$280,000). Original estimates of damages to Jewish property were about \$400,000.

Two more persons, of more than 100 being held for trial in connection with the disorders, were sentenced in Brzesc today to six months each in jail. They were convicted of possessing goods looted from Jewish shops. Two others were previously convicted of participating in the rioting.

Twenty Jewish youths were under arrest in Wilno today in connection with yesterday's two-hour protest strike against the Brzesc excesses. Kobryn authorities prohibited Jewish shops from closing during the strike. Police of Lwow and Kielce took the names of Jewish merchants who closed their shops.

The Polish press for the most part ignored the nation-wide strike, a few papers contenting themselves with reporting that 25 Jews were arrested in Warsaw. Anti-Semitic papers, on the other hand, carried derisive comment, some stating the Jews did good business during the strike.

One anti-Jewish organ, commenting on the American-Jewish relief contributions for the riot victims, pointed out that "money from America gives the Polish treasury more American currency."

An attorney defending sixteen peasants on trial in Cracow for participating in an anti-Jewish foray against the town of Myslenice last year was rebuked today for describing as "heroes" the participants in the Brzesc pogrom of May 13.

Denouncing the defense counsel, a member of the anti-Semitic National Democratic party, the State's Attorney declared that "glorification of such crimes" would not be countenanced by the court.

FIRE RAZES POLISH TOWN, LEAVES 160 FAMILIES HOMELESS

WARSAW, May 25. (JTA) -- Fire swept through the town of Wiesna, near Warsaw, last night and left 160 families, 60 of them Jewish, homeless.

ARABS ARRESTED IN MURDER OF YEMENITE JEW

JERUSALEM, May 25. (JTA) -- Police arrested several Arabs today on suspicion of murdering Abraham Ben-Yosef, a Yemenite Jew, whose bullet-riddled body was found yesterday on the railroad tracks between Wilholmina and the Arab village of Yunis.

Four hundred meters of the telephone line linking Palestine and Egypt, south of Gaza, were cut tonight by Arab marauders.

About twenty acres of grain were destroyed by fire of incendiary origin yesterday in the Galilee area.

The Arabic daily El Jamia al Islamia was suppressed by the authorities for two months for publishing inciting articles.

LITHUANIAN JEWS' POSITION HELD NO BETTER DESPITE GENERAL IMPROVEMENT

KAUNAS, Lithuania, May 25. (JTA) -- Despite an improvement in the general economic position, the lot of Lithuania's Jews continues to show no betterment, a conference of 86 Jewish credit cooperatives was told here today.

Existence of State monopolies and anti-Semitic propaganda by the chauvinist Verslininki organization were cited as factors contributing to the unsatisfactory Jewish position.

RETURN TO TRADITIONAL PRACTICE URGED ON REFORM RABBIS BY LEVY

COLUMBUS, O., May 25. (JTA) -- Admitting that Reform Judaism has failed to make "any deep impression upon the great bulk of Jewry," Dr. Felix A. Levy, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis declared tonight that "our reformation days are over" and urged a return to traditional practice.

In a momentous presidential message, Dr. Levy called on the 48th annual convention of the Conference to find "revivification by contact with the masses of Jews and their way of life" and to work with Orthodox and Conservative Jewry "to oppose the dangers of secularism."

The message pointed the way to a complete reorientation of the outlook of Reform in America. Dr. Levy himself admitted that it was "an approach to Conservatism," and asked a united front of the "religiously minded Jews."

He concluded: "Our 'reformation days' are over. Now comes the harder labor of directing Jewish life into proper channels, to safeguard our values and preserve our people. Israel lives and in it we live and breathe and have our being."

The concrete recommendations contained in the message were:

1- Appointment of a committee to "draw up a code of rules for guidance in practice...and thereby approximate to a uniformity of ritual so sadly needed."

2- Concurrence in a resolution for Sabbath service presented at the Council of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

3- Consideration to the problem of attracting the working classes -- including the Yiddish element -- the method to be determined by the Conference in conjunction with the Union.

4- Appointment of a committee to consider a method of cooperation with the Rabbinical Assembly, "with the end in view of strengthening Jewish life by a more positive attitude toward practice."

5- Drawing up of a memorandum opposing the proposed Palestine legislative council, the limiting of Jewish immigration and "emphasizing our belief that Great Britain must live up to the spirit of the mandate to assure the Jewish people the creation of a homeland." This memorandum would be given to the President, the Secretary of State and the British Ambassador by a committee representing the Conference, the Assembly, the Agudath Ha-Rabbanim, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the Synagogue Council and the Union of Orthodox Congregations.

6- Appointment of a coordinator to coordinate the work of the Conference, the Union and its schools.

7- Adoption of a resolution that "the rabbi's services are not a marketable commodity" and that "any individual affiliated members of a community that can afford to support a congregation and do not do so shall not be entitled to the services of a minister."

Dr. Levy opened his message by declaring that Jewish life "is not as positive or as vigorous as could be desired" and attacking "the corrosive acid of materialism" which he said had "left the festering sores of Nazism, Fascism and Stalinism, exalted disunity, sanctified brutality and apotheosized the dictator."

Emphasizing the service of Reform in making "the Jew at home in the world" by "destroying the obsolete, the ugly and the worthless in the temple," Dr. Levy asserted that nevertheless "we find ourselves today more or less high and dry, without having made any deep impression upon the great bulk of Jewry and an inconsiderable one upon our own followers."

He admitted that the followers "have gone a bit further in destruction of Jewish features than our movement ever intended; they have almost completely discarded the legal aspects of Judaism; they keep to nothing of ceremonial, Sabbath and holy day and Jewishly are undifferentiated for the most part from their non-Jewish neighbors. Common conceptions of reform are that it exacts nothing by way of discipline, that it demands simply obedience to the moral law, that every individual may do what is right in his own eyes."

"What we need," he said, "is revivification by contact with the masses of Jews and their way of life, divergent even though there may be from our own. No Jewish movement ever succeeded without this."

Describing how the Haskalah and Reform "never achieved their objectives for they failed to reach the main layer of our people," he said that Haskalah had "stepped aside" and declared that "we must ask ourselves whether the time has not arrived for us to do likewise and wait for Jewry at large to assimilate further our ideas and for our re-absorption in our people."

Dr. Levy, touching on the question of "rich and poor" in Reform Judaism, admitted that the temples are looked on by the Jewish masses as "houses of the rich" and the movement reproached as "bourgeois."

"Even our social justice pronouncements have not attracted labor," he asserted, "and they have offended some munificent donors to the congregations and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. We must devise some way whereby not only are the masses to be attracted to our services but that they can become participating members on a par with their employers."

CHICAGO MAN HEADS NOMINEES FOR POST OF IRELAND'S CHIEF RABBI

LONDON, May 25. (JTA) -- Dr. Regensburg of Chicago has been nominated first candidate for the post of Chief Rabbi of Ireland, formerly occupied by Dr. Isaac Herzog, now Chief Rabbi of Palestine, it was disclosed here today.

DRIVE AGAINST ANTI-SEMITISM ASKED AT JEWISH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

NEW YORK, May 25. (JTA) -- The existence of an organized and growing anti-Semitism in the United States making itself manifest through an increasing defamation of Jewish character and the introduction

of the "Aryan paragraph" to limit the employment of Jews in industry, business and the professions, was described by speakers addressing 1,000 delegates and alternates attending the second annual convention of the Women's Division of the American Jewish Congress, which opened its two-day sessions at the Hotel Roosevelt this morning.

Asserting that "it can happen here" and urging Jewish leaders to learn their lesson from what has happened in Nazi Germany, and is happening to Jews whose rights are under terrific attack in the whole of Eastern and Central Europe, the speakers urged the launching of a militant, nationwide campaign to combat the anti-Semitic movement.

CARETAKER GETS JAIL TERM FOR SYNAGOGUE FIRES

NEW YORK, May 25. (JTA) -- The "uncontrollable impulse" that led Alexander Kinderman, 49-year-old caretaker, to set fire to the West End Synagogue on March 27 brought him a term of three-and-a-half to ten years in Sing Sing.

He was sentenced in General Sessions Court yesterday after having pleaded guilty to third degree arson. Harry H. Wessel, president of the synagogue, and a probation officer contending that Kinderman was probably not entirely sane at the time he set the three fires, asked clemency for him.

RADIO LEAGUE ESTABLISHED TO PROMOTE TOLERANCE

NEW YORK, May 25. (JTA) -- Establishment of a Fair Play Radio League which will broadcast a program "The Voice of Tolerance of the Air" in an effort to fight intolerance was announced today. It will broadcast over various stations, the first major program being scheduled for May 30 over WABC.

The officers of the league are Dr. Frank Bohn and Rabbi William F. Rosenblum, co-chairmen; Emil M. Sostman, honorary chairman; Joseph Hattenbach, treasurer, and H.C. Leonard, secretary. The league is supported by contributions.

HIAS ELECTS ABRAHAM HERMAN PRESIDENT FOR TWELFTH TERM

NEW YORK, May 25. (JTA) -- Abraham Herman was re-elected president of the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) for his twelfth term at the meeting of the society's board of directors.