

# NEWS

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## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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### ANTI-JEWISH VIOLENCE FLARES IN MEXICO CITY; RIOTERS USE POLICE VANS TO STIR MOB

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Leaders of a panic-stricken Jewry sought an audience today with President Cardenas following an outbreak of anti-Jewish violence last night in which an estimated 5,000 Golden Shirts, under the alleged leadership of Nazis, attacked Jews in the streets, plundered Jewish shops and launched a mass assault on the headquarters of the Jewish Chamber of Commerce while a meeting of a literary club was in progress.

The excesses, which climaxed a long anti-Semitic campaign in certain sections of the press, broke out simultaneously in several parts of the city. Except in isolated instances, the rioters encountered no interference by the police. When police vans finally arrived, agitators mounted them and delivered inciting speeches, threatening massacre of all Jews in Mexico.

Among the many Jews beaten up in the street attacks was Jacob Glantz, a poet and literary editor of Der Weg, local Jewish newspaper. The literary club meeting was a reception in honor of Leon Forem, American Jewish novelist of New York who had been visiting here since last November, on the occasion of publication of his latest book. About 100 Jews were present at the meeting when a mob launched the attack with a barrage of stones. The doors and windows of the building were immediately barricaded by the Jews with desks and other furniture. Police arrived on the scene much later and assertedly made no move to interfere. Eyewitnesses of the violence said the rioters were led by a number of Nazi lawyers who are affiliated with the German Embassy here.

The Jewish population of the city, estimated at 10,000, feared new outbreaks over the week-end, particularly since the Golden Shirts, the Mexican Fascist organization, have called a huge anti-Semitic torchlight procession for Saturday.

(A United Press dispatch from Mexico City said the disorders started after a clash between Glantz and a Mexican named Edmond Salas, a patent medicine salesman, both of whom were arrested and later released. Salas charged Glantz had tripped him accidentally in the street, called him a "dirty Mexican" and fled into his wife's millinery shop. Glantz, declaring Salas was

an agent provocateur, said he had entered the shop and insulted him as a Jew. He ordered Salas out but the Mexican returned later, Glantz said, with about 100 men who broke the store windows and injured him. Glantz was rescued from the mob by police.

(According to the Unitel Press dispatch, a mob of 3,000 screaming "kill the Jews" was finally dispersed by policemen and firemen. Agitators distributed handbills alleging Jews were responsible for unemployment in the United States and "now they seek the ruin of Mexico." After the larger mob had been dispersed, under threat of sub-machine guns, a crowd of several hundred surrounded a billiard parlor owned by a Jew, who was rescued by the police, and the Jewish Chamber of Commerce building.

(The U.P. dispatch said the disorders lasted three hours and "had every appearance of being organized.")

LASKI, JAMES ROTHSCHILD NAMED PALESTINE PARLEY NEGOTIATORS

LONDON, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Neville Laski, president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, and James de Rothschild, Liberal M.P. and chairman of the Palestine Jewish Colonization Association, were named today to the Jewish negotiating committee scheduled to participate in the British-Arab-Jewish conference on Palestine opening here the week of Feb. 6.

MEMEL, "100% ANTI-SEMITIC," PLANS NO LEGAL CURBS ON JEWS, NAZI LEADERS STATE

KAUNAS, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- While avowing "100 per cent anti-Semitism," leaders of the Nazi-controlled Memel district today pledged that no legal measures would be taken against the Jews in the near future. The pledge was made by Dr. Ernst Neumann, Nazi leader of the district, and Willi Bertuleit, chairman of the district directorate.

The statement was regarded here as reflecting Nazi apprehension over the devastating results of Memelland's nazification. Almost all Jewish industries in Memel province and half of the Jewish shops in Memel City have been liquidated in the past three months. Jewish capital estimated at nearly \$10,000,000 has been exported to the interior of Lithuania, paralyzing the most important sections of Memel's industry and trade and adding thousands of Germans to the unemployed ranks.

The Jewish flight is continuing despite Nazi assurances, since Jewish professionals and the few Jewish officials remaining in office are still being exposed to persecution under various pretexts. Many Jewish merchants have been heavily fined following framed-up tax evasion charges. Dr. Berger, son of a well-known Zionist leader, was reported to have "committed suicide" following imprisonment on charges of performing illegal operations. Some 3,000 Jews still living in Memel fear a definite turn for the worse in their position during the second half of February, when the autonomous Nazi Diet opens its legislative activities.

POLISH OFFICIAL PLEDGES END OF "ANARCHY" IN UNIVERSITIES

WARSAW, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Strong measures to end "anarchy" and anti-Semitic disorders in Polish universities were pledged today by Education Minister Swietoslowski. Speaking during a debate in a Parliament budget committee, Dr. Swietoslowski reproached Polish students for failing to resist hooliganism in the universities which he said was debasing their own dignity and the principles of common humanity.

"The Government," he said, "will use all available means to end anarchy and restore order in the universities. Our university youth is growing up in an unhealthy atmosphere as far as relations among citizens of other nationalities is concerned. Exaggerated nationalism has a harmful effect upon the Polish young generation. The unhealthy atmosphere prevailing in the universities is due to foreign influence and strong measures will be adopted to remove it.

"The world must unite," he continued, "in combatting exaggerated nationalism. A way must be found to end antagonism, particularly in regions where for centuries two or more nations have lived side by side. Certain political groups are devoting their energies to using the universities to promote their political aims."

Describing the position of the Jewish student body, Dr. Swietoslowski declared that apart from recent anti-Semitic excesses in Warsaw and Lvov, the general situation this year was better than in the previous year. He said extreme political groups, however, were using every means to disturb order in the universities. "Every method," he said, "is regarded as justified by these gentlemen, even the use of arms against helpless Jewish students and non-Jewish students who criticized the methods and helped the Jews or wanted to sit with them." The disorders went so far, the Education Minister concluded, that blood was spilt in the universities, two Jewish students dying of wounds inflicted in attacks by anti-Semitic students.

Replying to Dr. Swietoslowski, Deputy Emil Sommerstein pointed out that the university rectors had capitulated to Nationalist demands by introducing "ghetto benches" for the Jewish students. He demanded cancellation of extra-territoriality in the higher schools on the ground that maintenance of order was impossible as long as the attacks went unpunished.

JEWS OUSTED FROM HUNGARIAN ENGINEERS' UNION; CATHOLIC GROUP LAUDS CURBS

BUDAPEST, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- The National Union of Engineers and Architects today expelled from membership all Jews, half-Jews and persons with Jewish spouses. At the same time, the Hungarian Athletic Club demanded the resignation of 50 Jewish members.

The Catholic Episcopal Conference adopted a resolution approving Government measures to curb participation of Jews in the nation's economic and cultural life. The resolution expressed satisfaction that the Government was "seeking to counteract encroachment of the Jewish spirit upon the interests of Christian society." The resolution at the same time stressed "in the interest of converts, the sanctity of baptism."

It was rumored in parliamentary lobbies that major alterations in the anti-Jewish bill may be expected after it has gone through the committee stage. Parliament will reassemble Feb. 3 or 7, when the measure is to be taken up by committees.

Nazi Deputy Karl Meizler, meanwhile, urged the Government to follow the German example and render more difficult the transfer of Jewish property which he said was "really Hungarian national property." Hungarian Jews, he asserted, should be helped to emigrate by foreign Jews who were the "Croesus of the world." Meizler, declaring the exodus of wealthy Jews has already started, asserted that the Mechanical Weaving Company, with 2,000,000 pengoes in capital, was planning to transfer to Egypt its complete equipment and personnel. He also stated that carloads of Jews bound for Tel Aviv and Japan had reached the Yugoslavian border.

During a committee debate, Count Stephen Bethlen, former Premier, warned against the economic consequences of the anti-Jewish bill, declaring it would dislocate agrarian trade and produce an unfavorable reaction abroad, where boycott tendencies were already noticeable. Emigration of highly qualified workers, he said, was bound to lead to complete economic and political dependency.

#### ROOSEVELT URGES FAITHS TO UNITE IN MAINTAINING LIBERTY

NEW YORK, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- A plea to Americans of every faith, race and origin, to unite in maintaining the principles of liberty guaranteed by the Constitution, was voiced by President Roosevelt in a letter made public today by Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, director of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, endorsing the sixth annual observance of Brotherhood Week, to be held Feb. 19 to 26 under the auspices of the conference.

The letter said: "The sixth observance of Brotherhood Day under the auspices of the National Conference of Christians and Jews during the week of Washington's Birthday, 1939, gives emphasis to principles that are fundamental in the American way of life. Never has it been more essential that our people of every national origin, race or faith should proclaim those civic ideals that they hold in common and engage together in those activities that reflect their common social aims. Here in the United States, while maintaining the right to differ in our creeds, all groups must unite in maintaining for all, the liberties guaranteed by the American Constitution and in cultivating that mutual respect, friendship and cooperation across dividing lines, which will bind us together as a nation. It is my hope that the observance of Brotherhood Day this year will advance these ideals."

#### ASCHBERG HERE FROM SWEDEN TO CONFER ON ORT EXPANSION

NEW YORK, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Olof Aschberg, Swedish banker and philanthropist has come to the United States to confer with leaders of the American ORT Federation, it was announced today. Conferences will begin at once on expansion of fund raising activities and other financial aspects of the ORT program which includes industrial training courses, agricultural centers, workshops and factories in eight European countries.

LATE MEXICO NEWS

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 27. (Havas) -- With further demonstrations forecast, last night's serious rioting was tonight laid to the National Democratic Party, a large group with strong Nazi and Fascist leanings which is bitterly opposed to President Cardenas' Party of the Mexican Revolution. Last night's rioting was the second demonstration staged by the new party, 5,000 strong, which is headed by Gen. Ramon Iturbe and Col. Bolivar Sierra, two deputies who were ousted from the Mexican Revolution Party.

It was instigated as a demonstration hostile to President Cardenas by 200 agents provocateurs led by the well-known agitator Adolfo Leon Ossorio, according to El Popular, organ of the Confederation of Mexican Workers (C.T.M.). The anti-Jewish phase, the newspaper said, began accidentally when a young Mexican jostled Jacob Glantz. The incident attracted a mob of several thousand who tried to lynch Glantz and his wife. A prior demonstration took place last Tuesday in protest against permission for Loyalist volunteers to reenter the country on returning from Spain.

El Popular drew a parallel between the methods employed by last night's mob and those the Nazis have used in Germany, and linked the recent incidents to operation of the dictator states' recent wide-spread propaganda in Mexico.

A highly qualified official told Havas tonight: "The National Democratic Party's fresh political agitation is not dangerous in itself, for the party is weak and without political influence among the great masses of the population. The danger lies, however, in the fact that this party appeals to the lowest instincts of the population, and since the Mexican masses are easily aroused, its efforts may have bloody consequences. The Government must seek to prevent such agitation with all its energy, for with a new presidential election in sight it might influence the political life of the country in a manner contrary to the ideal frequently expressed by Cardenas that the campaign should be fought on the plane of ideas and not of agitation and coercion."

ALEXANDER KAHN NAMED TO VLADECK'S POST ON FORWARD

NEW YORK, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Alexander Kahn, attorney and philanthropic leader, has been elected general manager of the Jewish Daily Forward by the Forward Association to succeed the late B. Charney Vladeck. Mr. Kahn is vice-chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee, member of the Jewish Agency Administrative Committee, of the National Labor Committee for Palestine and of the HIAS executive board.

KAHN TURNS OVER J.D.C. DUTIES TO TROPER

PARIS (JTA) -- Dr. Bernhard Kahn turned over his duties as European director of the Joint Distribution Committee to Morris C. Troper with a parting address before the Paris staff of the J.D.C. in which he promised to continue to give the benefit of his experience in his new position of honorary chairman of the European council of the J.D.C. Mr. Troper, in a brief speech, said he would rely heavily on Dr. Kahn's advice and counsel. David Schweitzer, J.D.C. European vice-chairman, thanked Dr. Kahn on behalf of the staff.