

NEWS

from all over the world

VIA

CABLE
WIRELESS
TELEGRAPH
TELEPHONE

JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. V. NO. 55.

Monday, February 6, 1939.

WEIZMANN TO INSIST ON UNRESTRICTED ENTRY AT PALESTINE PARLEYS

LONDON, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- Pessimism was prevalent and an impasse in negotiations was predicted today by both Arab and Jewish leaders as the delegations to the parallel conferences opening Tuesday under the aegis of the British Government met separately to map plans for the battle over Palestine.

The Jewish delegation heard Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency, at a closed meeting describe the prospects for the parleys. He declared that the Government's policy was not known and said that the Jews would insist on unrestricted immigration to Palestine. He outlined the nature of the opening statement he will make Wednesday. He emphasized that the participants were pledged to secrecy during the entire negotiations.

Leaders of the Jewish delegation were doubtful that the conferences would bring long-sought Arab-Jewish amity, pointing out that the Arab delegation had refused at the outset to sit with the Jewish representatives. Arab leaders continued to insist on annulment of the Palestine mandate and Balfour Declaration and the reduction of the Palestine Jews to the status of a minority within an Arab state and suspension of Jewish immigration.

* The formal opening of the discussions will be in the picture gallery of the St. James Palace at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning, when Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain greets the Arab delegates. At noon, he will address the Jewish delegates and receive a reply from Dr. Weizmann. Neither press nor public will be admitted. Actual discussions will begin Tuesday afternoon when the Arabs make a declaration of their case to the British officials and submit their proposals for solution of the Palestine question. The Jews will make their declaration to the British negotiators on Wednesday.

The British negotiators will be headed by Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald and Foreign Undersecretary Richard A. Butler, who will attend all sessions, while Mr. Chamberlain and Foreign Secretary Lord Halifax will be available for consultation and for participation in the discussions when desired. Efforts will be made to keep the parallel discussions with Arabs and Jews abreast of each other in examination of the problem. Several technical questions, such as the extent to which each delegation is to be informed of the other's views, are still to be worked out.

The Jewish delegation has declined to be lodged in hotels at the Government's expense, which the Arabs are doing.

U.S. Zionists Warn of Walk-Out If Mandate Change Asked

American Zionist representatives stated today that the Jewish delegation would walk out of the parleys if a proposal was voiced for modification of the mandate. Dr. Stephen S. Wise, who arrived here yesterday with Robert Szold, told the J.T.A. that the chief task of the American delegation was to inform the British Government fully on the state of American public opinion regarding Palestine.

Two considerations must be borne in mind, Dr. Wise said: (1) "The unwisdom of permitting anything to happen in the course of the discussions that might strain the relations that today happily obtain between Britain and our own country" and (2) "Let a hundred places be explored in the hope of finding a foothold for refugees, but while British Guiana, which is the last hopeless offer as a possibility for future residence for refugees is being investigated, Palestine, the result of 60 years of colonial settlement, is prepared to give shelter to a large number of refugees than any country in the world."

Dr. Wise, it was learned, will be a member of the negotiating committee, together with the five members of the Jewish Agency executive's political department. Dr. Wise, in his capacity as member of President Roosevelt's Advisory Committee on Refugees, was also expected to meet Myron C. Taylor, American vice-chairman of the Intergovernmental Refugee Committee, and George S. Rublee, director of the Refugee Bureau. Dr. Wise and Mr. Szold lunched today with Dr. Weizmann. They were met at Paddington Station on their arrival yesterday by Mr. MacDonald, David Ben Gurion and Mrs. Rose Jacobs, of the Jewish Agency Executive, and others.

Dr. Goldman Voices 'Suspicion'

NEW YORK, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- Dr. Solomon Goldman, president of the Zionist Organization of America, stated today that the Jews were entering the London conferences with apprehension over its outcome. He said American Zionists viewed the parleys with "considerable suspicion" because of "a keen disappointment at the invitation extended by Great Britain to the representatives of other Arab states to be represented at and attend these round-table conferences in utter violation of the terms and spirit of the mandate." Louis Lipsky will sail on the Manhattan on Wednesday to join the American delegation.

Arab Moderates En Route to London

CAIRO, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- Representatives of the moderate Arab National Defense Force of Palestine left here today on an Imperial Airways plane for London. The delegation, headed by Ragheb Bey and Fakhri Bey Nashashibi, arrived by plane yesterday from Jerusalem.

Palestine Disorders Continue

JERUSALEM, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- A Jew, Joshua Kastler, was wounded today in an Arab attack at the Kibbutz Shamir colony near Haifa. Two Jews were slightly injured by a bomb explosion on King George Avenue in Jerusalem.

REICH MEMORANDUM PROPOSES QUOTA EMIGRATION; LOAN SEEN NEEDED

LONDON, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- A three-point memorandum defining the German position on the Jewish emigration question and establishing a basis for an orderly exodus of German Jewry over a stipulated period of years has been brought from Berlin by Director George Rublee of the Intergovernmental Refugee Committee and will be communicated to all members of the committee, it was learned today.

The memorandum, which drops the export guarantee and the international loan provisions of the original Schacht plan, would, if put into effect, go far to eliminate "panic emigration" from the Reich and permit an orderly, systematic emigration and resettlement program. The plan covers the following points:

1. It establishes the conditions of emigration, providing for a fixed number annually, which is less than the 100,000 figure envisaged by the Evian body. All Jewish emigration would be under the direction of a Reich central Jewish emigration office under the direct control of Field Marshal Hermann Goering, thus taking the question out of the hands of Nazi district leaders, local authorities and police. It is stressed that the memorandum entails no change in the Nazi anti-Jewish policy, since the Nazis are determined that all Jews must leave within the stipulated time; the difference is that henceforth control of emigration will be in the hands of a central, responsible authority.

2. The memorandum establishes the conditions under which Jews who are unable to emigrate and others who must await their turn may live in the Reich. It is understood that this point contains assurances against establishment of a ghetto and similar measures.

3. Some arrangements are made for the transfer of property, but the general question of Jewish capital transfer is left open. Arrangements covered in the memorandum do not go so far as to provide emigres with sufficient funds for emigration and resettlement.

Carrying out the program on the scale envisaged by the memorandum will require very extensive financing, considerably in excess of present funds available to private organizations and voluntary contributions such as the Baldwin Refugee Fund. Officials of the Intergovernmental Refugee Bureau are of the opinion that a large international loan will be required to raise funds for the resettlement of the refugees. This loan, of course, would be entirely different from that proposed by Dr. Schacht, since it would have no connection whatever with the Reich.

Mr. Rublee will report to Lord Winterton, chairman of the committee, on Monday. The plan will then be discussed at a meeting of the committee's directorate on Feb. 12 and at a plenary session of the committee the following day. Mr. Rublee may return to Berlin afterward to inform the Reich of the extent to which the committee members are willing to cooperate in the program.

Meanwhile, it is understood that the bureau's negotiations with the Dominican Republic on settlement of many refugees are progressing rapidly.

REICH JEWS CENTER HOPES ON RUBLEE AND PALESTINE TALKS

BERLIN, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- All German Jewry's hopes center today on two developments in London. One is the Palestine conferences. The second is the Nazi proposals for a program of "orderly emigration" of Jews from the Reich which will soon be presented to a plenary meeting of the Intergovernmental Refugee Committee by George Rublee.

In Jewish circles here the atmosphere is one of anxiety rather than optimism. This is only partly due to the rather dismal tradition that has already been built up by past international conferences in behalf of Jewry. There is no illusion here as to the difficulties of the Palestine question or of the capital transfer problem for emigres. What sharpens their anxiety more than anything else is the threatening international situation, which somehow manages to defy the impossible by becoming worse daily.

The latest internal developments are the creation of a Reichsvereinigung, or central authoritative body, for German Jewry, and the imminent establishment by the Nazis of a central emigration bureau for Jews. Superficially, both would seem advantageous to the Jews. Many Jews have felt the need of a central body coordinating all the various emigration, welfare and educational activities which must be carried out in behalf of what will soon become a veritable colony of paupers. And any Jew preparing to emigrate will admit readily that a central State bureau enabling him to get the endless papers at one swoop instead of making the rounds of Prussian bureaucrats is something for which to be grateful.

Between the Nazis and Jews in Germany there is one point of view held in common -- the Nazis want the Jews out and the Jews want to get out. The difference lies in the fact that to the Nazi, Jewish emigration is accomplished when the Jew is across the border -- any border -- without a penny or bread assured for the morrow, while the Jew clings desperately to the hope that emigration can mean not flight, but a planned, prepared change of abode where life, if it cannot be picked up where it was broken off, can at least be started over with some chance of success.

The Rublee negotiations here which ended last week were aimed specifically at receiving from the Reich a proposal for orderly emigration of Jews. It remains to be seen whether under the new set-up the word "orderly" will mean what Mr. Rublee and the rest of the world have the right to think it means.

HUNGARY PUT UNDER MARTIAL LAW AFTER SYNAGOGUE BOMBING

BUDAPEST, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- The official gazette today published a declaration of martial law decided upon by the Cabinet last night in a move to combat terrorism which was prompted by the bombing of a synagogue on Friday night. The decree empowers special courts to impose the death penalty for violence and possession of explosives, bombs or firearms with intent to make an assault on public order.

Three groups of persons will be exempt from application of the proposed new anti-Jewish law under modifications reportedly accepted by the Government, it was learned today. The exemptions include (1) children of mixed

marriages who are Christians and those of Jewish parentage who were baptized before the age of 17, (2) Jewish war veterans who have been awarded certain categories of military distinction, together with those who have been invalided with a 40 per cent disability, widows and orphans of the war dead, (3) children of Jews who settled in Hungary before 1877. Another reported modification would exempt Jews who have rendered valuable service to the nation in industrial, economic and cultural spheres.

CZECH CONSULATE EXPLAINS PRAHA'S STAND ON JEWS

NEW YORK, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- The Czecho-Slovakian Consulate today issued a formal statement declaring "erroneous" the assumption that the Praha Government was anti-Semitic and asserting the position of the Czech Jews was not "such as to give justified reason for fears among world Jewry and in the democratic nations."

Without referring to recent decrees calling for revision of citizenship and expulsion of political refugees, which chiefly affect Jews, the consulate asserted that the reduced size of the country made imperative the solution of two problems in Czecho-Slovakia "even if they mean the imposition of certain limitations upon the people concerned." The problems were described as those arising from an influx of immigrants from ceded territories and "the national orientation of the German minority left in Czecho-Slovakia," which required acquiescence to demands for dismissal of Jewish instructors from German schools.

The statement cited absence of discriminatory acts against Jews in the Czech district and a declaration by Prime Minister Rudolf Beran on Dec. 13, in which he said "the attitude of the Government towards the Jews who have been settled for a long time in the present Czech territory and who show a positive understanding of the country's needs will not be inimical." It described as "of a passing nature" anti-Semitic incidents in Slovakia following dismemberment of the Republic, declaring they have now been checked and predicting "gradual liquidation of anti-Semitism" there as the new conditions are consolidated. "The Jewish population all throughout the Czecho-Slovak Republic," the statement concluded, "enjoys full legal protection."

FORMER SUDETEN MERCHANT HERE ON MISSION FOR CZECH EXPORT INSTITUTE

NEW YORK, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- Max Schlosser, a Jewish merchant who lived in the Sudetenland prior to its annexation by Germany, has arrived here on a mission for the Czecho-Slovak manufacturers. His mission, which includes stimulating interest in Czech products, has the support of the Ministry of Commerce. After a lecture tour of the country, he will make his headquarters in Seattle, Washington. He expects to remain in the United States until the middle of May.

4 SOUTH AMERICAN NATIONS AGREE ON ENTRY POLICY

MONTEVIDEO, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- Finance ministers of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay have reached an agreement for a common immigration policy at a meeting here, it was learned today.

RODRIGUEZ, GOLD-SHIRT LEADER, RETURNS TO MEXICO; 4 ANTI-SEMITES FREED

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- Jewish circles, alarmed over the increasing anti-Semitism in Mexico that was climaxed by riots on Jan. 28, expressed anxiety today over the news that General Nicholas Rodriguez, founder and commander of the gold-shirted Fascist anti-Semitic organization, Accion Revolucionaria Mexicanista, had returned to Mexico from exile.

Meanwhile, the Government took action to prevent further disorders. General Federico Montes, Chief of Police, received orders from the Central Department, in line with instructions from President Lezaro Cardenas, to tolerate no open-air meetings and demonstrations for which permits are not issued. Furthermore, the police are issuing no permits for rallies. Four anti-Semitic leaders, arrested in connection with the Jan. 28 excesses, were released and announced that they would continue with their activities.

Jacob Glanz, poet whose altercation with a Mexican was said to have touched off the disorders, decided to seek a visa to immigrate to the United States after receipt of a series of threatening letters. The last of these letters, signed with a dagger dripping blood and bearing a swastika on its hilt, warned Glanz to "leave the country in fifteen days or be lynched like a dog." The letter was signed by "The Band of the Three Crosses." Glanz has lived in Mexico for 14 years.

The Central Committee of Jewish Organizations sponsored a mass-meeting of Jews at which it assured them that the Government was not anti-Semitic, but declared that it was necessary for the Jewish community to defend itself against anti-Semitic propaganda. A speaker at the rally was Elias Cohen, a director of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society of New York.

A Jewish delegation visited Col. Fulgencio Batista, military chief of Cuba, who is visiting here, to express gratitude to him for Cuba's admission of German refugees who were turned away by Mexico.

JEWS WILL STAND OVER PERSECUTORS' GRAVES, MACDONALD PREDICTS

NEW YORK, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- James G. MacDonald, chairman of President Roosevelt's Advisory Committee on Refugees, declared today that Nazism contained the seeds of its own destruction and assured the Jews that they would soon stand "by the open graves of their persecutors."

"If I were a Jew," Mr. MacDonald told an eastern conference of Hadassah business and professional women's divisions at the Park Central Hotel, "I should be more sure this year than I have been for the last five years that my people would soon stand, as they have so often in the past, by the open graves of their persecutors." Predicting the decline of Nazi power, he asserted that "inherent seeds of destruction are always to be found in this sort of blind, savage tyranny."

Chancellor Hitler's Reichstag speech, he said, was the most threatening the Fuehrer had yet delivered regarding the Jews and the international situation. Mr. MacDonald interpreted it as marking the end of Nazism's first phase, which had resulted in the complete destruction of the Jewish commun-

ity, and the beginning of the second in which the Jews would serve as "a whipping boy to hide the real intents" of the Nazis. He said it was intended from now on to blame the Jews for international developments and say they controlled the world press.

Mrs. Moses P. Epstein and Miss Susan Brandeis, who presided at luncheon and afternoon sessions, were among the other speakers.

COUGHLIN ATTACKS MORGENTHAU AS 'FINANCIAL DICTATOR'; HITS JEWISH BANKERS

DETROIT, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- Father Charles E. Coughlin today renewed his radio attack on Jewish "international bankers," concentrating in particular on Secretary of Treasury Henry Morgenthau Jr. He charged Mr. Morgenthau with having set up a "financial dictatorship" through the \$2,000,000,000 stabilization fund regarding which, the priest said, he did not have to report to anyone but President Roosevelt.

Father Coughlin declared that Mr. Morgenthau, during his recent visit to Paris, had conferred with ex-Premier Leon Blum, American Ambassador William Bullitt -- whom Coughlin termed "a half Jew" -- and Soviet Foreign Commissar Maxim Litvinoff and there had emerged a secret agreement with France. The priest linked his charge of the "secret conference" to the newspaper reports quoting Mr. Bullitt as stating in a speech in Bordeaux that France and the United States stood together in peace and war. (Mr. Bullitt has denied making this statement.) Father Coughlin also referred to the Montefiores, the Samuels, the Rothschilds and the Sassoons as "international bankers" who were manipulating vast resources.

MILLIONS HEAR JEWS' CONTRIBUTIONS DRAMATIZED ON RADIO

NEW YORK, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- The contributions of the Jews to the United States were dramatized this afternoon in a half-hour program over 98 stations of the Columbia Broadcasting System to an estimated audience of 8,500,000 persons. The program was sponsored by the Office of Education of the Department of Interior in cooperation with the Service Bureau for Intercultural Education and other education agencies as part of the Interior Department series entitled "Immigrants All -- Americans All."

After the history of the Jews in America had been dramatized, the narrator closed by stating: "Yet the contribution of any one group is never merely that of its great men. It is the combined creation of all. More persecuted than most peoples before they came to the United States, the Jews came to this country with a background of sorrow. In many lands they have been barred from taking part in the national life. They were able to make their contribution to American life because the whole of American life was open to them, as to all others, without religious discrimination. They have helped to build the United States because the United States has welcomed them as Americans all."

DR. LESTCHINSKY HEADS JEWISH CONGRESS RESEARCH AGENCY

NEW YORK, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- Dr. Jacob Lestchinsky, the Jewish economist and publicist, who recently came here from Poland to take up permanent residence, will head the Economic Research Department of the World Jewish Congress, with headquarters in New York, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, chairman of

the Executive Committee of the World Congress, cabled from London to the American Jewish Congress. Dr. Lestchinsky is a member of the administrative committee of the world congress.

HEBREW CULTURE ORGANIZATION SEEKS \$100,000 FUND

CLEVELAND, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- A \$100,000 campaign for establishment of a Hebrew culture fund in America was announced today at the closing session of the 19th annual convention of the Histadruth Ivrit, organization for Hebrew culture in America. Officers of the fund are Dr. Solomon Goldman, honorary president, and A.K. Epstein, president, both of Chicago.

Officers of the organization were elected as follows: A.H. Friedland, Cleveland, president; Abraham Goldberg, New York, and Dr. Goldman, honorary presidents; Menachem Ribelow, Dr. M.Z. Levinson, Rabbi S.K. Nirsky and S. Fishman, vice-presidents, and Dr. S. Bernstein, secretary. Resolutions of encouragement to the World Zionist Executive and Palestine Jewry were adopted. One resolution asked the Jewish National Assembly of Palestine to institute daily Bible reading "as a source of strength in these times of stress."

TULSA GROUP BECOMES 150TH MEMBER OF FUND COUNCIL

NEW YORK, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- The newly-formed Jewish Community Council of Tulsa, Oklahoma, has become the 150th member of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, H.L. Lurie, executive director of the council, announced today. The year 1938 saw the most rapid growth in the history of the council, with the affiliation of 40 local agencies in 30 cities, Mr. Lurie said. The council now represents the federations, welfare funds and community councils of 122 cities in the United States and Canada.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST "GHETTO BENCHES" OPENED IN POLAND

WARSAW, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- A two-week campaign of protest against ghetto regulations in Polish universities was proclaimed today by Jewish labor organizations at the initiative of the Bund, Jewish workers' party. A conference of Jewish and Polish democratic journalists here decided to issue special publications condemning the regulations, which have been enforced since 1937. Scores of workers' meetings adopted resolutions against the regulations and forwarded them to the Government. Democratic professors announced a decision not to lecture in universities on "days without Jews" organized by anti-Semitic students.

POPE CALLS FOR PRAYERS ON PALESTINE PARLEYS

LONDON, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- Pope Pius XI has asked worldwide prayers "that Christian rights in Palestine may be preserved," in connection with the forthcoming Palestine conferences, it was announced today by the Catholic Times.

ROME RABBI, FACED WITH EXPULSION, NAMED TO SEATTLE CONGREGATION

ROME, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- Special prayers of thanksgiving were offered by the Sephardic Jewish Community here following receipt of a cable announcing that Isadore Kahan, Sephardic Chief Rabbi of Rome, has been appointed spiritual leader of a synagogue in Seattle, Washington. Rabbi Kahan, a Hungarian by birth and an Italian by naturalization, was among those ordered expelled from Italy under the anti-Semitic decrees of last October. He has been Sephardic chief rabbi here for the last six years.

GERMAN DOCTORS REPLACE FLEEING JEWS IN MEMEL

KAUNAS, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- All Jewish doctors who have not already been arrested in Memel on various pretexts have fled the Nazi-controlled district, it was learned here today. The Nazi directorate of the district has installed in their positions German doctors specially brought in from the Reich.

LEBRUN SCORES NATIONS BASING POLICIES ON RACE

PARIS, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- President Albert Lebrun tonight scored those "dynamic nations" which base their law on the "natural aspirations of races" and the "inevitable evolution of history" while neglecting traditional principles of domestic and international law. "Let us call things by their right name," he said. "This is replacing the rule of law by the rule of force!" He spoke at a banquet of the Association of French Journalists.

RED CROSS AIDS 250 CHILD REFUGEES IN BELGIUM

BRUSSELS, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- A new group of German refugee children, numbering 250, arrived at Herstal today and were received by the Belgian Red Cross. The majority of the children will be distributed among families in Brussels and Antwerp.

BRITAIN NAMES 3 EXPERTS TO GUIANA COMMISSION

LONDON, Feb. 5. (JTA) -- The Colonial Office announced today appointment of three British experts to aid the American survey mission assigned by President Roosevelt's Advisory Committee on Refugees to investigate possibilities of refugee settlement in British Guiana. They are Sir Crawford Douglas Jones, former Colonial Secretary of British Guiana; Sir Geoffrey Evans, former principal of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture at Trinidad, and Dr. D.W. Duthie, agricultural chemist of the British Guiana Government.