VOL. V. NO. 60.

Sunday, February 12, 1939.

BRITISH-JEWISH TALKS MAKE PROGRESS; NEW RIFT IN ARAB RANKS

LONDON, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- While British-Jewish discussions in the conferences on Palestine made progress today, factional differences broke out again among the Palestine Arab representatives, authoritative Arab quarters reporting that yesterday's agreement between moderates and extremists for a united delegation has already broken down.

Talks on the Jewish case, as outlined by Jewish Agency President Chaim Weizmann Wednesday night, were started this morning by Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald. After the session, which lasted ninety mimutes, Jewish delegates expressed satisfaction with the progress made.

Official quarters, meanwhile, declared they had no information on the newest developments with regard to the Palestine Arab delegation. However, Ragheb Bey Nashashibi, leader of the moderate faction who was taken diplomatically ill yesterday thus preventing his attendance at the conference of the Arab delegation with the British officials, was reported by his associates as likely to remain "indisposed" for the duration of the conferences. Nurl Pasha es-Said, Iraqi Premier, and Fuad Bey Namsa, of the Saudi Arabian delegation, today called at the Nashashibists' hotel in an effort to patch up the new difficulties.

Doubts that Yacoub Farraj, who was to represent the moderates at the conference together with Nashashibi, would be able to attend any of the sessions were expressed by a member of the Nashashibist delegation. It was pointed out that Farraj, who is an elderly man, will have to rest for several days following the strain of an arduous trip from Palestine and will probably find the London climate bad for his health. The attitude of the Nashashibists is that Ragheb Bey was forced to yield yesterday to the combined pressure of the British Government and the Arab states when he signed the agreement.

At today's British-Jewish session, a short discussion of principles followed Mr. MacDonald's observations. There was no official statement after the meeting. The next session of Jews and British will be held Monday afternoon at 5:45 o'clock. Beginning next week, it was announced, meetings will be held twice daily, with fewer delegates attending. Discussion of definite details will be instituted at these meetings.

Text of last night's speech by Jamal al Husseini was officially released today. It reveals that he voiced the following demands on behalf of the Arabs: 1) Recognition

of the right of the Arabs to complete independence; 2) abandomment of the attempt to establish a Jewish national home in Palestine; 5) abrogation of the League of Nations mandate and its replacement by a treaty similar to that with Iraq, creating a sovereign Arab State in Palestine; 4) immediate cessation of all Jewish immigration and sale of land to Jews.

Polish, U.S. Groups Proclaim Prayers

WARSAM, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The Rabbinical Association today ordered prayers in synagogues throughout the nation for the success of the London conferences on Palestine.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Three leading rabbinical bodies of the United States have proclaimed prayers tomorrow for the success of the London conferences, it was announced today by the Zionist Organization of America. They are the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the Union of Orthodox Rabbis and the Rabbinical Assembly (reported yesterday).

LAWS CURBING JEWS IN TRADE MAPPED BY PRAHA, TISO TELLS J.T.A.

BRATISLAVA, Czecho-Slovakia, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Premier Josef Tiso of autonomous Slovakia told a Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent today that laws restricting participation of Jews in the economic life of all Czecho-Slovakia were being drafted for early submission to Parliament. The pending laws, he declared, were intended "to establish security and to show the Jews the limits of their economic activity."

As far as Slovakia alone was concerned, Dr. Tiso said, "the Jewish problem will be solved in a just, social and humane way." He said the recently enacted decrees calling for revision of the citizenship lists and expulsion of political refugees within one to six months applied equally to Slovakia.

POPE'S DEATH LEAVES CONFLICT WITH TOTALITARIANISM UNSETTLED

VATICAN CITY, Feb. 10. (Havas) -- The death of Pope Pius XI leaves unsettled the Catholic Church's greatest current problem -- its increasingly bitter combat with the totalitarian civilization now developing so rapidly in Germany and Italy and threatening Spain and other traditional strongholds of the faith. That problem will rank as a major question in the forthcoming discussions of cardinals arriving here to elect a new Pope.

With the German press today mixing its encomiums with condemnation of the late Pontiff as unsympathetic to the dictatorship system, and hostility between some sections of the Italian press and the Vatican still echoing over the racist question, the choice of the next Pope has become a matter of grave international importance transcending many previous elections.

Jews Mourn Loss of Champion of Human Rights, Foe of Racialism

NEW YORK, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Jews throughout the world joined Christianity today in mourning the death of Pope Pius XI who in his lifetime had led the Church in a campaign against anti-Semitism and racialism which placed him among the foremost defenders of human rights, put him in conflict with the Italian Fascists and made him the target for abuse in the German press.

From London, the chief rabbis of Palestine and the British Empire cabled condolences to Rome. Dr. Isaac Herzog, in a cable to Cardinal Pacelli, Papal Secretary of State, expressed "profoundest sympathy on behalf of Palestine Jewry and myself in the great loss sustained by the Catholic Church and humanity in general." Dr. Joseph H. Hertz addressed a similar cable to Cardinal Hinsley, spiritual leader of British Catholics, on behalf of the British Empire. In Warsaw, the Rabbinical Association of Poland cabled condolences to the Vatican.

In New York, Rabbi David de Sola Pool issued a statement on behalf of the Synagogue Council of America, declaring the Pope's death "a profound loss to humanity." "The synagogues in America," he said, "pay reverent tribute to this great-souled world religious leader." The Rabbinical Assembly, in a telegram to Bishop Stephen J. Donahue of New York, expressed its "deep feeling of grief" at the Pope's passing, declaring "his true saintliness, his love of men and his earnest efforts for peace" an inspiration to all.

In Washington, President Henry Monsky, paying tribute to the Pope as "one of the greatest humanitarians of our time," called upon the 100,000 members of the B'nai B'rith to "join with men and women of other faiths" in sponsoring memorials to him. He announced that lodges and chapters of Aleph Zadik Aleph, junior branch of the order, in the United States and Canada were preparing to initiate such memorials.

In an editorial on the Pope's death, the New York Times said today that he had died waging war on the "racial religion of National Socialism" and that "his last battle was against the policy of 'racism' in Italy, vigorously condemned as wholly incompatible with the Christian conception of human equality before God."

One of the most spirited defenses of the Jews came from the lips of the Pontiff when he told a group of Belgian Catholics last September: "Anti-Semitism is incompatible with the idea of the sublime reality of the Biblical text. It is an antipathetic movement in which we Christians are unable to participate. Naturally, it is impossible for Christians to share in anti-Semitism. We concede to anybody the right to defend himself and to take measures to safeguard his interests. But anti-Semitism is inadmissible. Spiritually we are all Semites."

The Pope was outspoken in his opposition to Nazi principles. In April, 1934, he denounced "false Christianity" and "real paganism" in Germany. In September, 1957, he said religious conditions in the Reich were "truly deplorable." In December of that year he devoted his entire Christmas message to the Sacred College of Cardinals to an indictment of Nazi Germany, its "frightful" and "violently brutal" persecution.

The Pontiff had made an outstanding issue of racialism and Nazi influence in Italy. Last May, when Hitler visited Rome, he expressed regret that the swastika -- "a cross that is not the cross of Christ" -- had been displayed in Rome. In July he condemmed "exaggerated" nationalism as "erroneous and dangerous," and three days later extended the attack to all racist theories as "detestable." At the end of July, mentioning Italy by name for the first time, he delivered the most direct of the three addresses by deploring the "unhappy imitation of Germany" -- a phrase which stirred Premier Mussolini to violent reply -- and termed mankind a vast symphony of all peoples.

The attacks led to tension between the Vatican and the Italian Government, which for a time threatened the Lateran Treaty and the future existence of the Catholic Action organization in Italy. But even after an accord on Catholic Action had been reached in August, the Pope renewed his attack on the "veritable curse" of excessive nationalism. In September he called the Fascist racist doctrine "a great and serious error which reached the steps of the altar, touching Catholic doctrine."

Last year the Pope appointed two Jewish scientists, Levi Civita and Prof. Volterra, to the new Papal Academy of Science, and Prof. Civita spoke on the Vatican radio station on Einstein's relativity theory -- the first Jew to speak over the papal broadcasting station. Last March, he sent a money grant to the refugee widow and two daughters of the famous German Jewish scientist, Heinrich Hertz, which act was interpreted in Rome as a slap at the Nazis.

Pius at one time evidenced keen interest in the work of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. In receiving foreign correspondents in April, 1934, he conversed with J. David Kleinlerer, J.T.A. correspondent in Rome -- who was expelled last year by the Italian Government -- and asked for detailed information about the organization and work of the J.T.A.

CURBS ON ANTI-JEWISH DISORDERS, AGITATION PLEDGED BY KAUNAS PREMIER

KAUNAS, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Measures to check anti-Jewish propaganda and disorders were promised today by Premier Mironas to a Jewish delegation which submitted to him a memorandum protesting against recent anti-Semitic excesses. The Government, said the Premier, will forbid anti-Jewish demonstrations, introduce censorship of radio broadcasts to eliminate anti-Jewish attacks, order the press to treat the Jewish question moderately and to abstain from propaganda for a boycott of the Jews and will demand peaceful cooperation of all sections of the population.

Meanwhile, Der Stuermer, violently anti-Semitic newspaper published in Germany, and other Nazi papers made their first appearance in Nazi-dominated Memel as result of the lifting of the prohibition on Hitlerite newspapers by the Lithuanian Government.

SWEDISH COURTS BAR PAYMENT OF JEWS' FUNDS TO NAZI COMMISSARS

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Courts at Boras and Goteborg ruled in precedent-setting cases today that Swedish firms which purchased goods from a German-Jewish concern should pay the former owner, now an exile, rather than the Mazi Commissar appointed after the owner had been forced to leave Germany. In handing down its decision, the Boras court declared the action of the German authorities in depriving the owner of his legal capacity was so foreign to the Swedish conception of legal rights that it could have no effect on property in this country.

2 FASCIST STUDENTS TO DIE FOR ATTACK ON PRO-JEWISH RECTOR IN RUMANIA

BUCHAREST, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The death penalty provided for by the new Rumanian Constitution of 1938 was imposed for the first time today. A military court at Cluj sentenced two Fascist students to be shot for the murder of a policeman during an attack upon the rector of the University of Cluj, Prof. Florian Stefanescu-Goanga, who had opposed anti-Jewish activities by the outlawed Iron Guardists.

MARLEY BROADCAST ON REFUGEES BANNED IN SOUTH AFRICA

JOHANNESBURG, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- A scheduled radio broadcast by Lord Marley, British Laborite, on the refugee question was prohibited at the last minute today with no reason for the action given. Liberal circles voiced concern at the development. It was announced at the inauguration of a joint campaign for the ORT and OSE, societies for Jewish aid in Europe, that L15,000 has already been raised. The drive was opened by Lord Marley.

JEWISH SCIENTIST ACCEPTS ITALY'S BID TO HELP FIGHT PLAGUE IN ABYSSINIA

LMOW, Poland, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Prof. Rudolf Weigl, Jewish inventor of a prophylactic vaccination against spotted fever, has left for Ethiopia with a group of Polish scientists invited by the Italian Government to help combat the disease in its African colony.

'NO FORCE CAN UPROOT JEWS FROM PALESTINE, MRS. WEIZHANN ASSERTS

LONDON, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- "Palestine is ours and no force can uproot our people, even at the cost of their lives," Mrs. Vera Weizmann, wife of the president of the Jewish Agency, declared last night in addressing a meeting of the Federation of Women Zionists of Great Britain and Ireland. Referring to the refugee problem, Mrs. Weizmann, who is head of the Women's International Zionist Organization, stated that if new settlement projects were allowed to take precedence over Palestine, it would mean substitution of a palliative for a remedy. Palestine, she asserted, could immediately settle 100,000 refugees and ultimately many more.

JEWISH POLICEMAN KILLED AS CAR SWERVES TO AVOID ARAB BOY

JERUSALEM, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Swerving to avoid an Arab boy, a Jewish police car today overturned near Lydda airport, killing one Jewish special policeman and injuring six others and a British constable. Yecheskel Ben Shalom, 27, an immigrant from Poland, was killed. Shmuel Fraenkel and Ephraim Eisenstein were seriously injured.

EX-EDITOR OF REICH ZIONIST ORGAN TO PUBLISH WEEKLY IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- The former editor of the "Juedische Rundschau," Dr. Robert Weltsch, has obtained a permit for the publication in Palestine of a weekly in German under the title "Weltjuedische Rundschau." The weekly is to circulate among Jews who have left Germany and are now in various countries.

STICKERS OMITTING NAME OF SPONSOR ADVERTISE NAZI "AMERICANISM" RALLY

NEW YORK, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- A Nazi-sponsored "true Americanism" demonstration, scheduled for Feb. 20 at Madison Square Garden, was being widely advertised today by yellow stickers on store windows that pointedly omit reference to the sponsors. The demonstration, assertedly called in celebration of Washington's birthday, is being held under the auspices of the German-American Bund. The stickers, however, anonymously announce: "Monster Mass Demonstration for True Americanism -- Monday, Feb. 20, 1939 -- 8 P.M. at Madison Square Garden."

SOUTH AFRICAN BILL SEEKS TO BAR JEWS' ENTRY; DOOMED TO DEFEAT

JOHANNESBURG (JTA) -- Great indignation was aroused among the Jewish community by a bill introduced into Parliament by Nationalist Deputy, Eric H. Louw, which provides among other things, that no person of Jewish parentage (including natural British-born subjects) should be allowed to enter the Union for permanent residence, and would refuse even a permit for temporary sojourn to anyone with a one-way passport.

The bill provides for a registration card for each alien, and requires those on temporary permits to report once a month to a magistrate. Firms would have to publish on signboards and documents the names of all partners and would require a permit to employ any alien. A further clause holds that no applicant for permission to migrate to the Union who is of Jewish parentage shall be deemed to be readily assimilable. The bill is believed to have virtually no chance of passage.