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NO NEW ANTI-JEWISH LAWS PLANNED "FOR THE PRESENT," CZECH GOVERNMENT ASSERTS

PRAHA, March 9. (JTA) -- The Czecho-Slovakian Government declared today that it did not intend "at present" to adopt any anti-Jewish law, but added that "whether this can also hold good for the future depends on international conditions in Europe." The first official statement of the Praha Government on its attitude regarding the Jewish question was made to the J.T.A. by Dr. Jiri Havelka, Chief of the Cabinet Chancellery.

The laws so far issued regarding the Jews are considered by the Government to be quite sufficient, Dr. Havelka said. The Government has no particular interest in raising the Jewish question since the Jews in Czech territory, Bohemia and Moravia, constitute only one-half per cent of the total population, as compared with four per cent in Slovakia and twelve per cent in Carpatho-Ukraine, he declared.

The Chancellery Chief stated that better treatment would be accorded to the 40,000 Jews who declared themselves to be of ~~Czech~~ ^(1910 census) nationality. The Czecho-Slovak Government, he said, regrets that Jews who are Czecho-Slovak citizens are leaving the country and liquidating their businesses, thereby doing harm to the State.

He declared that the German Government, on the one hand, and the autonomous Slovak Government, on the other hand, were urging Praha to issue anti-Jewish laws on the model of the Nazi Nuremberg Laws, but said that even if the Slovak Government drafted such a law, the Praha Government, for the present, was not going to adopt it.

"Any such law basically affecting the status of the Jews of the country will have to be a Federal law, not just a local law passed by a local government," Dr. Havelka said. "The Praha Government does not know of such a projected law and is not considering in any way the passage of such a law for the present. What the future will bring will depend upon the development of the international situation in Europe.

"For the present, however, the Praha Government considers the Jewish question practically solved by four laws recently issued by it. These are: (1) the law pensioning off all Jewish employees of the State, (2) the law giving immigrants and "stateless" six months to leave the country, (3) the law for revision of citizenships granted since 1918, (4) the law giving chambers of physicians and lawyers the right not to admit to membership new candidates whenever they see fit."

Dr. Havelka declared that the first measure was necessary "in order that Jewish civil servants should not come into contact with officials of Germany whenever negotiations

between Germany and Czecho-Slovakia are conducted, thus preventing a situation which would injuriously affect the interests of the Czecho-Slovakian State." The second and third measures, he said, are directed especially against Jews, but also against Social Democrats and other non-Jewish elements of the country. He admitted, however, that the fourth measure "will affect chiefly Jewish lawyers and doctors," adding that the law related only to new candidates while present members of chambers would be permitted to practice unmolested.

(Note: The above dispatch was received eight hours after the one which follows.)

Anti-Jewish Law Reported Prepared

PRAHA, March 9. (JTA) -- Czecho-Slovakia was hesitating today on the verge of enacting anti-Jewish legislation, caught between German and Slovak pressure for measures against the Jews and fears that such laws would hurt Czecho-Slovak trade with the United States. A so-called "Jew-law" has already been prepared, it was reliably reported, and there is considerable pressure from the German authorities and the anti-Semitic autonomous Government of Slovakia for its enactment by the Praha Government.

On the other hand, the Government fears that the promulgation of such measures would have a disastrous effect on exports to the United States, which already have suffered considerably in recent months, and would jeopardize the success of the Czecho-Slovak exhibition at the New York World's Fair.

(Assurances that no measures against the Jews were planned were given by the Czecho-Slovak Government in January to Joseph S. Rosenberg, of New York, who visited Praha as representative of 57 American importers to warn that anti-Semitic discrimination would lead to an American boycott of Czech goods.)

The German and Slovak pressure for enactment of sweeping anti-Jewish legislation throughout Czecho-Slovakia on the model of the Nazi Nuremberg laws is being strongly resisted by many Cabinet members, led by the Minister of Commerce, who has frequently warned his colleagues that such legislation would have a highly detrimental effect on this country's exports, on which, he said, the revival of the new Czecho-Slovakia depends. The warning was repeated as recently as this week's Cabinet session when the Commerce Minister replied to ministers who were prepared to comply with German and Slovak demands.

Meanwhile, the Slovak Government is proceeding with plans to introduce anti-Jewish measures in the autonomous province. It was officially stated, following Monday's meeting of the Bratislava Cabinet, that, after consideration by the Cabinet, a draft of the proposed "Jew law" was turned over to the Premier's legal department for final editing. The proposed measures are now the subject of protracted negotiation between the Praha Government and Bratislava, the latter insisting that anti-Jewish measures be introduced on a nation-wide scale, rather than for Slovakia alone.

Well-informed Government sources conceded that, despite opposition, a national anti-Jewish bill would go through. They said, however, that it would not be based on the Nuremberg racial principles, but on economic and social principles. The law would have the effect of limiting Jewish participation in the professions, trade and commerce to three

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per cent -- the asserted proportion of Jews in the population. In some professions and in State and municipal employment the Jews would be barred altogether. Enactment of such a law, Jewish quarters said, would be a severe blow to the country's 250,000 Jews and would deprive tens of thousands of their means of livelihood.

Since March 1, many Jewish employes of municipalities have already been dismissed and Jewish officers in the army and Jewish professors in universities eliminated. Jewish physicians, who constitute 11 per cent of the medical profession, have been barred from health insurance practice. The medical faculty of the Czech University in Praha has announced that it is indefinitely closed to Jews. Meanwhile, the Lawyers' Chamber is pressing for severe restrictions on Jewish attorneys and elimination of Jews who received their diplomas from German universities in Czecho-Slovakia.

At the same time, the revision of citizenships, affecting all Jews naturalized since 1917, has gotten under way. Those deprived of citizenship automatically become "stateless" and lose their right to work, falling into the category of those who might emigrate within six months or face internment in concentration camps.

The Government press is devoting considerable attention to the New York World's Fair hoping for greater markets in the United States for Czech goods. At the same time, however, the Striberny newspapers, largest chain supporting the Government, are conducting a violent anti-Jewish campaign, with many other newspapers following their lead.

The problem of "stateless" Jews, especially those from Germany and Austria, was discussed today by representatives of the Government's emigration department and Senor Cruchilio, envoy of the Dominican Republic who has arrived here with an offer to admit an unlimited number of Jewish refugees on condition that they pay \$100 each for visas and buy land. Senor Cruchilio is understood to have suggested the purchase of land belonging to his brother, General Cruchilio, for \$300,000. Government and Jewish circles are exercising the utmost caution with regard to the proposals, awaiting the report of an American experts commission recently dispatched by the Roosevelt Advisory Committee on Refugees to survey settlement possibilities.

REFUGEES WILL GET BETTER TREATMENT, RUBLEE TELLS ROOSEVELT

WASHINGTON, March 9. (JTA) -- George Rublee, former director of the Intergovernmental Refugee Committee, reported to President Roosevelt today that he was "firmly convinced that orderly immigration to other parts of the world can be carried out and the refugee will get better treatment than heretofore." The Washington lawyer was accompanied by Under secretary of State Sumner Welles when he called on the President to report on his six-month mission as director of the Intergovernmental Committee during which he negotiated an emigration arrangement with the German Government.

"I am glad that what I say can be of an encouraging nature," Mr. Rublee declared. "From my conferences in Berlin in January and February with German officials I am convinced that the German Government is prepared to take definite measures to transform the present chaotic conditions of exodus from Germany into conditions of orderly emigration. Naturally, I do not mean to imply that conditions will become ideal overnight. Nevertheless, in spite of previous discouraging press reports, I am firmly convinced that orderly emigration to other parts of the world can be carried out and the refugee will get better treatment than heretofore."

Mr. Rublee told the President that Australia, the Dominican Republic and South America presented the best possibilities as refugee havens. He said that the Intergovernmental Committee also wished to place Jews in Dutch Guiana, Northern Rhodesia and the Philippine Islands.

Asked by reporters if Germany had placed Jewish emigration on a selective basis, Mr. Rublee said that this was denied by Germany to the State Department. Asked if the Jews were forced to sell their jewels to the Government, he replied that this had been denied by the Nazis, but if true would not interfere with orderly emigration.

JEWS WILL NOT COOPERATE IN ARAB STATE, WISE ASSERTS ON RETURN FROM LONDON

NEW YORK, March 9. (JTA) -- The Jews of Palestine and of the world will not cooperate in the formation of an independent Palestine State as envisioned by Great Britain, Dr. Stephen S. Wise said in a statement today upon his return from the London conferences on the liner Queen Mary. The conference may prove to be another Munich, Dr. Wise said, but he was loath to believe that Great Britain would "take a step which the democratic world would view as yet another betrayal in appeasement of the unappeasable."

"On shipboard six weeks ago," the leader of the American Zionist delegation to the conferences declared, "mine was the horror of hearing the voice of Hitler calling for the destruction of the Jewish people as war mongers. That hideous experience was a forecast of what my associates and I were destined to find throughout the London conferences. We could not fail to feel that decisions were being taken in a world paralyzed by the specter of the dictator countries."

"Fear has taken the place of courage everywhere in Europe and everywhere, alas, includes Downing Street and Whitehall. We were faced in the London conference by the Arab hirelings rather than allies of Hitler and Mussolini. Neither British nor Arab denials can change the fact that if an independent Palestine, that is, Arab State, be now decreed, it is because the shadow of war is over London."

"Other grounds may be alleged but the conference may prove to be another 'appeasement' and Munich may give way to London as the scene of another great surrender. I still believe that the British Government will hesitate to take a step which the democratic world would view as yet another betrayal in appeasement of the unappeasable. No so-called safeguards in an independent Palestine State would avail to give Jews other than a minority or ghetto status. And such ghetto or minority status would violate England's solemn pledge to establish a Jewish national home."

"In the formation of an independent Palestine State, the nearly half million Jews of Palestine and the Jews of the world will not cooperate. We have kept faith and cooperated with Great Britain for 20 years. The world, the Christian world, would now understand and respect Jewish non-cooperation in an independent Palestine State as the Jewish delegation at the Palestine conferences refused to cooperation in its formation."

Rabbi Solomon Goldman, president of the Zionist Organization of America, and Mendel Fisher, executive director of the Jewish National Fund met Dr. Wise and Mrs. Wise on the steamer at Quarantine. A reception for Dr. Wise was held tonight at the Hotel Roosevelt under the auspices of the Z.O.A., Hadassah, Mizrahi and the Poale Zion-Zeire Zion.

Jewish Constable Killed in Attack

JERUSALEM, March 9. (JTA) -- An Arab band today attacked the Jewish settlement of Kvutzat Genossar in the Lower Galilee, killing Constable Shlomo Stern.

THRONGS ATTEND SERVICES FOR DR. GASTER IN LONDON

LONDON, March 9. (JTA) -- Large crowds today attended funeral services for Dr. Moses Gaster, retired Sephardic Chief Rabbi who died Sunday night at the age of 82. Hundreds were

unable to enter the overcrowded chapel at the Golders Green Spanish and Portuguese cemetery. The impressive service was according to the medieval Spanish Jewish rites. The ram's horn was blown twice, in the chapel and at the graveside. Chanting psalms, dignitaries of the synagogue, the Chief Rabbi and Jewish scholars and leaders made seven circuits around the coffin, on which two candles glowed. Among those in the procession was Neville Laski, president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews and Rabbi Gaster's son-in-law.

Dr. Gaster's contributions to the Zionist movement were eulogized at a memorial meeting held by the Zionist Organization. Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the World Zionist Organization, referring to Dr. Gaster's work for the issuance of the Balfour Declaration, said: "We all need comfort in these difficult times, but I am afraid we may have to pass through more difficulties in the future." Other speakers were Prof. Selig Brodetsky and Leon Simon.

LUBLIN CITY COUNCIL REJECTS MOVE TO LIMIT PRIZE TO NON-JEWS

WARSAW, March 9. (JTA) -- The municipal council of Lublin today turned down an Endeck motion to award the city's literary prize to Christian Poles only. A proposal that the prize be reserved only to "Poles," offered by members of the Government Camp of National Unity, was also rejected.

NAZI PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN IN LATIN AMERICA PROPOSED TO FIGHT U.S. INFLUENCE

BERLIN, March 9. (Havas) -- A concerted German propaganda campaign to combat United States influence in Latin America was proposed today by Gen. Wilhelm Faupel, president of the Berlin Ibero-American Institute and former German Ambassador to Nationalist Spain, at a meeting of the German Academy.

"The Monroe Doctrine," Gen. Faupel asserted, "was laid down for the purpose of serving domination by the United States of the American Hemisphere. For Latin-America there is but one danger -- the United States." Of the recent Pan-American Conference at Lima he said "This conference should be considered as an attack in the grand style against the totalitarian states in general and Germany in particular." The very Pan-American idea, he asserted, was a "perfidious invention" of the United States. Opposing to this idea that of an Iberian-America, Gen. Faupel declared that "the countries of South America and Central America are much closer to Spain and Portugal than to the United States."

The speaker urged that Germany send professors and scholars to South American countries "to properly fight United States propaganda." "We wish to live in peace with the United States," he added, "but we cannot leave attacks from America without reply. To this effect we should make full use of the radio, the cinema and the press as the United States does. Numerous Germans must go to Latin-America, but it is necessary that a numerous group of important professional men, professors, physicians, etc., should be invited by the German Academy to show how superior we are to other nations in the cultural and social fields."

Gen. Faupel attacked "the Jewish financiers of Wall Street and the free masons," and said that President Roosevelt was responsible for a hate campaign against Germany in the United States.