

NEWS

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BRITAIN TO PUT FINAL PROPOSALS BEFORE JEWS, ARABS AT FORMAL SESSIONS TODAY

LONDON, March 14. (JTA) -- The British Government will communicate its final proposals for an agreed solution of the Palestine question to the Arab and Jewish delegations at formal meetings tomorrow afternoon and evening at St. James Palace. The meeting with the Jews, the first formal session since the breakdown of the discussions on Feb. 27, will be held in the evening. The Arab-British session is scheduled for the afternoon.

Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and leader of the Jewish delegation at the five-week-old triangular peace conference, conferred with Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain in the House of Commons tonight. Dr. Weizmann discussed the situation with the Prime Minister, clarifying the Jewish position.

Previously, Dr. Weizmann had met Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald, going over with him the ground covered in the informal weekend discussions with the Jews, from which Dr. Weizmann was absent. The Jewish leader sought clarification on such points as the impression gained by the delegation that Mr. MacDonald had agreed that the transition period, which would precede formation of an independent Palestine state, would not be terminated without approval of the Jews.

The Jewish conference committee will hold a session on Thursday to decide on whether or not to accept the British proposals. It has been officially stated that the proposals are subject to modification in detail only, and if they are rejected by either side the Government will dissolve the conference and proceed with formulation of the policy to be imposed in the event no agreement is reached. This policy, it is understood, will not necessarily embody the new Government proposals to be outlined tomorrow since these are to be contingent on cooperation by both sides. Some days will be allowed for discussion of the new British plan. The last meetings, for formal leave-takings, are expected to be held on Monday and Tuesday.

A meeting of the Jewish Agency Executive today considered the question of convoking the Zionist General Council, supreme authoritative body between biennial sessions of the World Zionist Congress, in special session, but no decision was taken. It is understood, however, that the Council will convene in Palestine in April or May to complete arrangements for the 21st congress to be held next autumn. It is considered most unlikely that the congress will be held in the United States.

A delegation representing the Parliamentary Pro-Palestine Committee, headed by former Colonial Secretary Leopold S. Amery, presented a memorandum to Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain against abandonment of the Palestine mandate and pledges to the Jews.

A plan for a union of equal Arab and Jewish states in Palestine under British guidance was outlined by Bernard A. Rosenblatt of Haifa, former New York City magistrate, in a letter to the Manchester Guardian. Mr. Rosenblatt warned that the Palestine Jewish community, hitherto "as patient as Job, has the strength of Samson and would rather pull down the house of the Philistines in common ruin before accepting the fate of a blind slave."

German Colony Balks at Search by Troops

JERUSALEM, March 14. (JTA) -- The German Christian colony of Waldheim was under virtual curfew today following its refusal to permit British troops to search the premises in connection with yesterday's land mine explosion at Sheikh Abrek, in which two Jews were killed. Police dogs had followed a trail from the scene of the explosion to a workshop in the colony. When permission to search was refused, the troops threw a cordon around the colony pending instructions from military headquarters at Jerusalem on the procedure to be followed. The German Consul General went immediately to Waldheim.

A Jewish bus traveling from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv was fired upon near Ramleh last night. A passenger, Michael Chassidoff, 24, was seriously wounded.

SWEEPING ANTI-JEWISH MEASURES LOOM AS CZECHO-SLOVAKIA BREAKS UP

LONDON, March 14. (JTA) -- Proclamation of an independent Slovak State, with anti-Semitic Premier Josef Tiso again at the helm, today accelerated the exodus of Jews from the region as sweeping anti-Semitic measures were expected in the German-dominated state in the wake of the anti-Semitic violence that was one of the features of the five-day crisis.

Trains arriving in Praha from Bratislava were jammed with fleeing Jews and Czechs, according to reports reaching here. The refugees said that at the Bratislava station patrols of the Hlinka guards passed through the trains, inspecting the baggage of the travellers, forbidding them to leave with more than 400 crowns and confiscating gold and jewelry.

Many of the 80,000 Jews in Slovakia had begun to flee as early as last Friday, when the separatist outbreaks and accompanying attacks on Jewish shops and other property foreshadowed more serious anti-Semitic developments, but the convergence on Praha reached great proportions today as a secret session of the Diet in Bratislava proclaimed separation from the Central Praha Government.

The position of the Jews in Praha and the truncated hulk of the Republic was considered far from secure as it was reported that one of the demands served on Praha yesterday by Chancellor Adolf Hitler, in his second ultimatum, was for solution of the "Jewish question" in what remains of the state by introduction of the Nazi Nuremberg Laws.

That independent Slovakia would introduce legislation along the lines of the Nuremberg Laws was a foregone conclusion. Even before the current crisis commenced, the Bratislava provincial Government had been preparing anti-Jewish legislation and had been pressing Praha for nation-wide legislation. Free now of Praha's influence, for whatever it counted in exercising a moderating influence, and completely under Hitler's influence, Slovakia was expected to proceed with sweeping anti-Semitic measures.

ITALIAN EXPULSION DEADLINE EXTENDED TO APRIL 1; NO GENERAL ROUNDUP EXPECTED

ROME, March 14. (JTA) -- Trustworthy sources said today that there has been an unofficial postponement to April 1 of the March 12 deadline for expulsion of all post-War Jewish immigrants, of whom an estimated 6,000 to 7,000 still remain in Italy.

The fact that the expulsion deadline has passed without any known major action by the central authorities -- no information is available here on reports from the French border that hundreds of Jews are being forced from Italy at bayonet points -- does not signify that the Government has forgotten the date nor its threatened action.

It was authoritatively disclosed, however, that there will be no general roundup at this time of Jews marked for deportation under last October's expulsion edict. The deadline passed quietly, the Italian press failing to comment. Refugee committees in all large Italian cities functioned as usual today, receiving hundreds of foreign Jews seeking aid and information.

Police headquarters in all cities where foreign Jews reside were besieged over the weekend by appeals for prolongation of stay and for definite information on the status of the applicants. When replies were not forthcoming, the applicants left still in doubt as to their position. Hundreds of Jewish foreigners who had arranged to emigrate but remained to the last in hopes that the time limit would be postponed left at the eleventh hour. Thousands subject to the decree who were unable to comply remained in fear of arrest.

According to available information, time extensions beyond the new unofficial deadline of April 1 will be granted to all applicants who can produce satisfactory reasons for not being able to comply with the expulsion edict. Evidence of intention to emigrate within a "reasonable" time will be accepted among such reasons, it was stated. Thus far, however, only a small number of cases have been reported in which extensions of as much as six months have been granted.

Of the 10,000 foreign Jews reportedly in Italy when the edict was issued last Fall, almost half succeeded in leaving the country before expiration of the time limit. Today there are between 6,000 and 7,000 left who are subject to expulsion. The majority of the emigrants went to China, the United States, France, Palestine and England. A few hundred were able to return to their native countries, Poland, Hungary and Rumania, while some found temporary refuge in South America, the port of Tangiers and in the near and far East.

None of the foreign Jews remaining in Italy has the right to work and more than half of them are dependent on refugee committees for sustenance. Their position is now extremely critical and they are liable to any action that may be taken by the central or local authorities.

Taylor Confers on Refugees

LONDON, March 14. (JTA) -- Myron C. Taylor, American vice-chairman of the Inter-governmental Refugee Committee, arrived from Italy today and immediately conferred with committee members on the refugee situation. Mr. Taylor will leave on the Queen Mary Friday to present to President Roosevelt a detailed report on the general refugee situation.

Informed quarters here are placing little weight on Chungking reports that the Chinese Government is planning to establish a refugee colony. Official circles have not been informed of such intentions and are inclined to discount the reports in view of the general situation in China.

MEAT STRIKE LAUNCHED BY POLISH JEWS IN PROTEST AGAINST SHECHITA BILL

WARSAW, March 14. (JTA) -- Jews throughout Poland launched an 18-day meatless period today designed as a protest against a measure before Parliament that would forbid shechita, Jewish ritual method of slaughtering animals for human consumption, by the end of 1942.

The bill, which would supplant a two-year-old law under which the practice is partially proscribed, has already been passed by a parliamentary committee.

Obedying an order issued by a special conference of 500 rabbis, all Jewish meat shops closed their doors this afternoon, while Jewish abattoirs shut down last night. Jewish newspapers, which under administrative pressure have been prohibited from publishing appeals for support of the protest, are daily printing meatless menus for Jewish housewives.

POLISH UNIVERSITY CLOSED OVER DISORDERS

WARSAW, March 14. (JTA) -- The University of Lwow has been closed indefinitely, it was officially announced today, as a result of continued attacks by members of the anti-Semitic Endeks against Jewish and democratic students. Police searches among Endek students at the university, where two Jewish youths were fatally stabbed last Fall, revealed large quantities of arms, ammunition and explosives. The police were attacked by Endek students while searching their headquarters on the campus.

In the Senate last night, former Premier Kazimierz Bartel renewed his attack on hooliganism in the Polish universities, but declared he did not deny the existence of a Jewish problem in Poland. Prof. Bartel said he regarded as abnormal the Jewish "disproportion" in commerce, industry, artisanship and the liberal professions and declared solution of the problem, with the help of "progressive action" by the Jewish population, would be welcomed by the whole nation. "We must, however," he added, "protest against barbaric methods which will never solve the Jewish problem and which outrage the conscience of the Polish people."

ROOSEVELT GETS TORAH SCROLL AS TRIBUTE TO HIS DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

WASHINGTON, March 14. (JTA) -- President Roosevelt was presented today with a Sefer Torah by a delegation representing the National Council of Young Israel in recognition of his humanitarianism and defense of human rights. The delegation, which was headed by Jacob O. Zabronsky, president of the National Council, declined to disclose details of the presentation. This is believed to be the first time that a President of the United States received a Sefer Torah. The scroll is covered with a velvet cloak, with Mr. Roosevelt's name embroidered in gold, and is housed in an especially constructed cedarwood ark.

JEWISH GROUPS BACK 3 ALBANY BILLS OUTLAWING RACE BIAS

ALBANY, N.Y., March 14. (JTA) -- Three bills aimed at outlawing discrimination because of race, color, creed or religion were supported in principle by Jewish organizations today before the Legislature's Judiciary Committee. David A. Morse, representing the American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, B'nai B'rith and the Jewish Labor Committee, read a statement to the committee in connection with the Holley-Read, Breitbart and Goldberg bills.

The Holley-Read bill would declare void, as against public policy, any contract providing for discrimination against any person because of race, color or creed. The Goldberg bill is aimed against discrimination in public housing, civil service, etc. because of race, color or creed. The Breitbart bill is aimed against such discrimination in public utilities. Governor Lehman, in his message at the opening of the legislative session, favored passage of such bills.

"There can be no doubt that the discriminatory practices at which these bills are directed exist and since they are contrary to the spirit and the letter of the Constitution should be corrected," Mr. Morse said. "We therefore state that we strongly favor the under-

lying principles and in large part the substance of these bills and urge the passage of legislation embodying these principles. We state our position in this manner because we recognize that in detail the bills may require revision and reformulation in order to make them completely effective and to conform them more strictly to the problem."

Last night the Senate, by a vote of 27 to 20, passed and sent to the Assembly the McNaboe bill to bar Communists from the State's civil service and teaching system. An identical measure was vetoed by Governor Lehman last year on the ground it violated constitutional rights. Replying to criticism by Senator Lazarus Joseph during debate, Senator John McNaboe said he would soon introduce another measure that "will take care of these Nazis and Fascists." Senator Joseph had declared that the present bill, by covering only Communists, would by implication approve the activities of Nazis and Fascists.

EINSTEIN HAILED AS HE PASSES 60TH BIRTHDAY QUIETLY AT PRINCETON

NEW YORK, March 14. (JTA) -- While Prof. Albert Einstein passed his sixtieth birthday quietly at Princeton, a small dinner party being scheduled for the evening, he was the object of nation-wide praise. The New York Times keynoted the nation's tribute when it said editorially that American science might almost thank Germany for "the most distinguished of living mathematical physicists."

The editorial said, in part: "Congratulations will pour in upon Einstein today, his sixtieth birthday. They ought to pour in on the country too. Thanks to the barbarity and the bigotry of the present German Government, the most distinguished of living mathematical physicists, one of the great figures in the history of intellectual achievement, is a resident of the United States and a citizen-to-be. If the dazzling gift of Einstein were not darkened by a tragedy which has brought despair to fifteen hundred university professors, American science would be justified in cabling a warm 'thank you' to the Fuehrer who has outdone the Middle Ages in fanatic cruelty and so far blighted German research that not a generation after his evil influence has passed can it expect to recover something of its former glory.....We owe to Einstein a new world outlook, something worth far more in the long run than a process for converting mercury into gold."

Prof. Einstein, in a written reply to a question, favored the proposed creation of a world "court of wisdom." Such a body, he said, would "represent a sort of conscience of mankind" and could exert a "highly beneficial" and ultimately "standard-setting influence on the development of the social and economic affairs of the world." He declared that "the practical functioning of such a body would be to take a stand openly and collectively in the problems which are of vital interest for the human community."

CATHOLIC EDUCATOR, IN RADIO TALK, HITS RACISM, CALLS JEW HIS "SPIRITUAL ANCESTOR"

WASHINGTON, March 14. (JTA) -- Denouncing "the forces operating in our day to arouse racial and religious animosities," the Rev. Maurice S. Sheehy, head of the Department of Religious Education of the Catholic University of America, tonight saluted the Jew "as my spiritual ancestor" in an address over the Columbia Broadcasting System network.

Dr. Sheehy, who spoke under the auspices of the Council Against Intolerance in America on "The Popes Condemn Anti-Semitism," quoted historical facts and records to show that Popes, from Gregory the Great in the sixth century up to Pius XI, opposed anti-Semitism and sought to protect the Jews. Citing the famous statement of Pope Pius XI in September, 1938, denouncing anti-Semitism and declaring that "we are Semites spiritually," Dr. Sheehy offered, as an explanation of these words, that "Catholic life is enriched by and flows out of the heritage of Jewish religious culture."