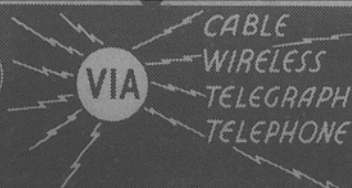


# NEWS

*from all over the world*



*by the*

## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. V. NO. 93.

Friday, March 24, 1939.

### PROPERTY WORTH \$17,000,000 FALLS TO NAZIS IN MEMEL; ALL JEWS EVACUATED; TEMPLES WRECKED

KAUNAS, March 23. (JTA) -- Jewish property valued at \$17,000,000 has fallen into Nazi hands in Memelland, it was revealed today along with an official announcement that not a single Jew remained in the territory taken from Lithuania as it was occupied by German troops. The last of several hundred remaining Jews, together with numbers of Lithuanian citizens, were evacuated a few hours ago on the last six trains to leave Memel before the occupation.

Meanwhile, violence had broken out in Memel, rioters demolishing three synagogues and smashing the windows of Jewish homes. Yesterday afternoon Nazi storm troopers occupied the premises of the Jewish Community and other Jewish organizations in the city of Memel and other towns in the territory. The Memel authorities turned over the Ohel Jacob synagogue to the Nazi organization. The synagogue will be turned into a home for storm troopers.

A majority of Memelland's 5,000 Jews had succeeded in emigrating in the period following the Munich pact. Only 500, most of them employees of Jewish factories and enterprises, remained until the last minute, leaving for Kaunas today. A few, however, are reported to have been arrested by storm troopers.

Jewish property left in Memelland includes some of the territory's largest tobacco, textile and chocolate factories as well as many houses and large wholesale enterprises. Attempts to rescue a portion of Jewish-owned merchandise failed when storm troopers stopped loaded trucks on the way to Kaunas. A number of Jewish industrialists and merchants, moreover, sustained heavy losses because of previous delivery of goods to Memel.

Although it was announced officially that no Jews were left in Memelland, it is known that a number still remain, having been held for some time on what are believed to be false charges. These include Jewish merchants charged with tax evasion and doctors accused of performing illegal operations. It is believed they will be sent to concentration camps.

A majority of the Jewish refugees have come to Kaunas and to Shavli, a smaller number camping in the border town of Kretyngen. The Kaunas Jewish population has been deeply impressed by the developments but hopes they will be restricted to the Memel district. Nevertheless, a number of British Jews left Kaunas for England yesterday.

Tear gas bombs were thrown by unknown persons during a performance of a Yiddish picture at a theatre here, breaking up the show.

Czech Jewish Doctors, Engineers to Lose Posts

PRAGUE, March 23. (Havas) -- Jewish doctors are to be discharged from all hospitals and public administrations in Bohemia and Moravia, it was decreed today. Jewish engineers likewise have been informed they are to be replaced by "Aryans."

ARAB MODERATES OFFER AID TO BRITAIN IN IMPOSING STATE PLAN

LONDON, March 23. (JTA) -- The British Government had today an offer of cooperation from the Palestine Arab moderates if it announces a policy following the lines of its last proposals at the Palestine conference -- which were rejected by the Palestine Arab extremists and the Jews.

The proposals called for ultimate establishment of an independent Palestine state in which the Jews would be limited to a one-third proportion in the population, after a transitional period during which self-governing organs dominated by Arabs would be set up and Jewish immigration and land buying restricted.

Fakhri Bey Nashashibi, head of the Arab National Defense Party, declared before the departure from London of his party's delegation to the conference that such a policy would be supported by the great majority of the Palestine Arabs since it included the assurance that the Palestine Arabs would always remain a majority and that Palestine would not be made a solution of the Jewish refugee problem.

Nashashibi added that if the Arab extremists, adherents of the exiled ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, refused to cooperate in establishment of self-governing institutions, the moderates were willing to step in. He characterized the rejection of the proposals by the Mufti's group as "a negative policy under the camouflage of nationalism."

The Times published a letter from Jewish Agency President Chaim Weizmann on the correspondence between Sherif Hussein of Mecca and Sir Henry MacMahon, wartime British High Commissioner for Egypt. The letters, on which the Arabs base a large part of their claims to Palestine, were published in a White Paper during the Palestine conference after preparation by an Anglo-Arab committee.

Dr. Weizmann declares in his letter that the Jewish delegation to the conference had not been consulted on publication of the correspondence and had not been given an opportunity to offer comment or to produce documents the existence and relevance of which had been acknowledged in the committee's report.

He states the committee's report failed to mention the most relevant fact that no demands had been made by the Arab delegation to the Peace Conference for fulfillment of the promise alleged to have been made in the correspondence. On the contrary, he asserts, the Arab delegation in its statement to the Council of Five had expressly excluded Palestine from its demand for the independence of Arab territories. Two members of the Anglo-Arab committee, General Nuri Pasha es-Said of Iraq and Auni bey Abdul Hadi of Palestine, Dr. Weizmann declares, were also members of the Arab delegation to the Peace Conference and were present when the statement was made.

Commenting in an editorial, the Times declares it was certainly strange that the Arab delegation to the Peace Conference should not have made a demand for Palestine before the Council of Five if they were then persuaded of the justice of the Arab claim to the region.

269 Refugees Pose Problem For Palestine

JERUSALEM, March 23. (JTA) -- The Palestine Government was considering today what to do about 269 Jewish refugees from Europe aboard the Rumanian steamship Assandu which was halted by the Coast Guard yesterday and detained at Haifa. The ship had been wandering in the Mediterranean for 18 days since it sailed from Constanza when the Coast Guard stopped it in Palestine waters, off Caesarea, on suspicion that an attempt would be made to land the refugees illegally. The ship's food and water supplies were exhausted. The refugees aboard, most of whom were from Rumania, included 50 women and children.

DECORATED WAR HEROES DEMONSTRATE IN HUNGARIAN PARLIAMENT AS ANTI-JEWISH BILL IS DEBATED

BUDAPEST, March 23. (JTA) -- Wearing the eight highest war decorations awarded them by the Hungarian Government, a number of Jewish ex-officers today staged a silent and impressive demonstration in the Parliament gallery during the debate on the drastic anti-Jewish bill.

At the same time the bill, which would further limit Jewish participation in the nation's cultural and economic life, was denounced on the floor of the Chamber of Deputies by former Justice Minister Tibor Zsitvay. Speaking on behalf of the Independent Christian Party, Dr. Zsitvay declared the bill was obsolete in view of the international developments. Other leaders of opposition parties joined in criticizing the measure, pointing out that Jewish soldiers were among those that had fallen in the occupation of the Carpatho-Ukraine. Government leaders, however, anxious to hasten adoption of the bill, enforced the cloture rule, ending the debate and preventing other members of the opposition from stating their views.

"MAKING GOOD PROGRESS" ON REFUGEES, TAYLOR REPORTS ON RETURN TO U.S.

NEW YORK, March 25. (JTA) -- Myron C. Taylor, organizer and American vice-chairman of the Intergovernmental Refugee Committee, returned from Europe on the Queen Mary today and limited himself to this comment on the refugee situation: "We are making very good progress."

Mr. Taylor will report to President Roosevelt on his six-month stay in Europe, and pending this report he declined to reply to a volley of questions fired at him by newspaper reporters. He said that his diplomatic status -- he has the technical status of Ambassador -- made it impossible for him to speak freely. Persistent questions about the results of his six-month mission, the effects of Germany's occupation of Czecho-Slovakia and Memel on the refugee situation and the decree forcing emigration of Jews from Italy were thrust aside by the former steel executive good-naturedly but firmly.

Sholem Asch, the author, also arrived on the Queen Mary from a stay in Europe during which he attended the London conference on Palestine and witnessed the arrival in France of the first Jewish refugees from Italy after the March 12 expulsion deadline. The Palestine conference, Mr. Asch said, was a success insofar as it brought the goal of an Arab-Jewish understanding nearer. "The conference brought home to England and the Arabs that there can be no progress in Palestine without the cooperation of the Jews," he declared. "Britain realizes it today and the Arabs will realize it tomorrow."

The author intends to remain in the United States to complete his book on the life of Jesus Christ, which, he said, will occupy several months. Regarding his plans to go to Palestine he was indefinite, saying that this depended on the political situation and other circumstances.

Also on the Queen Mary was Rabbi Meir Berlin, honorary president of the World Mizrahi Organization, who will remain here until after the annual convention of the Mizrahi Organization of America, tentatively scheduled to open May 11, and then will return to Palestine. The purpose of his visit, he said, was "to acquaint Mizrahi people and other orthodox Jews with the situation in and around Eretz Israel."

CONGRESS ADOPTS ALIEN DEPORTATION BILL; DIES ASKS JUSTICE DEP'T REPORT ON NAZIS, FASCISTS

WASHINGTON, March 23. (JTA) -- The House today adopted, without debate, and sent to the Senate the Dempsey bill providing for deportation of aliens who advocate "any changes" in the American form of government.

A resolution authorizing the Department of Justice to deliver to the House a full report on Nazi-Fascist activities and ordering the printing of 50,000 copies was introduced by Martin Dies (Dem., Texas) chairman of the House Special Committee on Un-American Activities. The resolution stated that the investigation of the German-American Bund and similar groups, made a year ago by the Justice Department, which showed the number of members of the Bund, its financial set-up and relations with a foreign government, was not made public "for some unknown reason" and that the department also had failed to prosecute as a result of its investigation of violations of the law.

"Many individuals are demanding full information on the German-American Bund and other anti-Semitic organizations," Mr. Dies said. He added that he needed the report to substantiate his committee's conclusions on Nazism, which had been attacked as inaccurate.

COUGHLIN ORGAN LIFTS ANTI-SEMITIC FORGERY FROM NAZI ENCYCLOPEDIA

NEW YORK, March 23. (JTA) -- A quotation published in Father Charles E. Coughlin's organ, Social Justice, purporting to have been made in 1840 by Moses Montefiore and urging Jewish domination of the press, has been shown by the American Jewish Congress to be identical with a quotation published in a Nazi encyclopedia which has been traced back to an old forgery.

The quotation appeared in the March 6 issue of Social Justice. It was shown that the same paragraph appeared in "Segilla Veri," an anti-Semitic encyclopedia published by Ulrich Fleischauer, anti-Jewish propagandist of Erfurt, Germany. The Congress further showed that (1) Montefiore never was in Krakow, where he was alleged to have made the statement, (2) the quotation had been admitted by a German anti-Semitic newspaper to be a forgery, (3) the same statement was published in an anti-Semitic book in 1875, but not attributed to Montefiore, (4) Simon Wolf, cited by Social Justice as authority for the quotation, never wrote on Montefiore, the late Lucien Wolf having been his biographer.

REFUGEE FAMILY OF 4, HOUNDED BY RACE LAWS, COMMITS SUICIDE IN ITALY

NEW YORK, March 23. (JTA) -- A family of four Hungarian Jews drowned themselves at Taormina, Sicily, on March 11 by leaping from a rowboat, the New York Times reported today from Rome. They left a letter in the hotel in which they were staying declaring they were "tired of life because we feel alone and friendless." The family consisted of Mrs. Kuerschmer two sons, Dr. Arthur and Eugene Kuerschmer, and a daughter, Renee. They had acquired German citizenship, and were hounded successively to Austria and Italy.

The Fornari family, famous Rome jewelers, arrived here today on the liner Rex. The family, which traced back its origins in Rome 300 years, owned three of the largest jewelry shops in the Italian capital. Two of them were closed and the third "Aryanized" after the Italian anti-Jewish decrees. The family comprises three brothers -- Eugenio, Raffaele and Giacomo -- with their wives and children.

NAZI ECONOMY VEERS TOWARDS COMMUNISM, "FOREIGN AFFAIRS" WRITER HOLDS

NEW YORK, March 23. (JTA) -- The extent to which the Nazi Government has already Bolshevized German economic life is described by Graham Hutton, well-known English economist, in the April issue of Foreign Affairs published here today. Since the Nazi Government came to power in 1933, Mr. Hutton writes, the Third Reich has been "an economist's laboratory" in which economic experiments have been conducted "at a breakneck pace." In his view, these experiments have now definitely ended in "an economic reverse, from which the only way out apparently leads straight into a Bolshevik economic system."

ANTI-NAZI LEAGUE NOT TO BOYCOTT CZECH GOODS BOUGHT BEFORE NAZI CONQUEST

NEW YORK, March 23. (JTA) -- The Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League announced today that it is not extending the boycott to goods marked "Made in Czecho-Slovakia." The league said it would be unfair to American business men to boycott Czecho-Slovakian merchandise bought before German occupation and pointed out that henceforth goods manufactured in former Czecho-Slovakia must be marked "Made in Germany."

Meanwhile, the Volunteer Christian Committee to Boycott Nazi Germany announced that a number of leaders in labor, religion, education and politics had associated themselves with a rally scheduled for March 27 in the Hippodrome to protest the dismemberment of Czecho-Slovakia. These leaders called upon "all believers in democracy to unite in boycott action while waiting for their governments to act." Sponsors of the rally include William Green, Senator Robert F. Wagner, Dr. Henry N. MacCracken, Prof. Nelson P. Mead and Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt. Hundreds of organizations will be represented at the rally, the announcement said.

U.S. OFFICIAL LAUDS WORK OF 3 JEWS IN DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS

WASHINGTON, March 23. (JTA) -- The work of three Jews in the development of communications was praised today by Education Commissioner John W. Studebaker in a statement paying tribute to the contributions of immigrants in connection with next Sunday's broadcast of the Department of Interior series, "Americans All -- Immigrants All," on the Columbia Broadcasting System.

"Fritz Lowenstein, German-Jew, collaborated with John Hays Hammond Jr. in the invention of the automatic wireless selective system," Mr. Studebaker said. "Another Jew, Arthur Korn, perfected a device for transmitting radio photographs....Emile Berliner, German Jew, collaborated with Thomas Edison in inventing the telephone transmitter."

The Education Commissioner said that "many races have contributed to our nation's progress in commerce and industry" and "there is not one episode in the development of industry in the United States in which our immigrant peoples have not played a part."

24,000 JEWISH REFUGEES IN HOLLAND

AMSTERDAM (JTA) -- Professor D. Cohen, Hon. Secretary of the Dutch Jewish Refugee Committee here, stated in an interview with the J.T.A. that there are now about 24,000 German Jewish refugees in Holland.

In the four refugee camps for legal immigrants and in the three camps for illegal immigrants there are 1,626 refugees and in the homes for children there are 1,500 refugee children.