

# NEWS

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## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. V. NO. 97.

Wednesday, March 29, 1939.

### GERMAN THREAT RALLIES JEWS TO SUPPORT OF GOVERNMENT IN POLAND, RUMANIA

WARSAW, March 28. (JTA) -- The threat of German action against Poland is rallying the Jews to the support of the State in a rising tide of nation-wide unity.

Jewish members of Warsaw's new City Council, which met for the first time today, read statements reaffirming the preparedness of all ranks of Polish Jewry to fight for the freedom and independence of the Polish Republic against every attack from the outside. The statements also emphasized that the Jews would continue their struggle for treatment on a basis of equality with other citizens. Statements by Polish councillors, including anti-Semitic Endeks and Naras, contained no anti-Semitic attacks.

Taking cognizance of the critical international situation, the Zionist Central Committee issued a statement declaring that Polish Jewry joined other Polish citizens in readiness to sacrifice life and property to defense of the security, integrity and independence of the Republic.

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BUCHAREST, March 28. (JTA) -- The call to partial mobilization has been enthusiastically answered even by Jews who have just been denaturalized by the Government and others who are slated for loss of citizenship.

At the same time, the nationalist press has intensified its agitation against possible entry of Jewish refugees. Curentul warns the Government not to increase Rumanian "ghettos" and demands concentration camp for "war-mongering Jews." The paper declares: "We are ready for war but not for the sake of Jews, whose sole right is to keep quiet or be gagged."

Dr. William Filderman, Rumanian Jewish leader, has again intervened with the Ministry of Labor on the situation of denaturalized Jews, who are deprived of the right to work. Because of the international situation, a speedy solution of the problem is not considered likely.

### JEWISH SPORTS UNIONS IN PRAGUE SUSPENDED

PRAGUE, March 28. (JTA) -- All Jewish sports unions, including the well known Hagibor and Maccabi associations, were suspended by the Nazi authorities today. Many of their members held international records in swimming and other sports.

U.S. CONTINUES TO ADMINISTER CZECH ENTRY QUOTA SEPARATELY

WASHINGTON, March 28. (JTA) -- The Czecho-Slovak immigration of 2,874 visas annually is continuing to be administered separately from the German quota despite the fact that Bohemia-Moravia and Slovakia are Reich protectorates. However, the State Department declined to say how long this would continue.

It is recalled that President Roosevelt's proclamation merging the Austrian and German quotas was issued last April 29, six weeks after Anschluss. A similar proclamation at a later date in regard to the Czech quota is not precluded. However, there is a fundamental distinction in the Government's attitudes to the two annexations. The Austrian annexation was recognized almost immediately by this Government, while the legality of dismemberment of Czecho-Slovakia has not yet been recognized, although its "actuality" is admitted.

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Benes Asserts Czechs Will Fight for Freedom

NEW YORK, March 28. (JTA) -- Comparing Czecho-Slovakia to a David before a German Goliath, ex-President Eduard Benes asked the support of world democracy in a fight "to the last man" for independence, in a message to a rally last night at the Hippodrome called by the Volunteer Christian Committee to Boycott Germany in protest against the Republic's dismemberment.

The audience, kept by rain to less than 2,000, cheered the reading of Dr. Benes's message -- the most outspoken he has made since his arrival in this country. The rally also heard denunciations of Germany by speakers including Dr. William Jay Schieffelin, Dr. Stephen S. Wise and Clark M. Eichelberger. A resolution called on all Americans to join the anti-Nazi boycott.

The pre-Munich President of Czecho-Slovakia asserted in his message that the "dictatorial Nazi regime" was "battling against freedom" and waging a war against the democracies. He called on "free men everywhere" to rise and "give battle to the aggressor." He said there were "methods short of actual bloodshed which should prove effective."

"Temporarily the Republic of Czechoslovakia has been annexed," Dr. Benes declared. "Temporarily, I say, because I know my people and I understand that the spirit of freedom is not dead. At the right moment you will see that this is true. In the meantime, the liberty-loving people of Czechoslovakia and of the world look to America for leadership. The support of world democracy will give us the possibility to rise again and to declare our independence -- and we will fight for that to the last man, if necessary."

ARABS CLOSE SHOPS IN MOURNING FOR TERRORIST LEADER; RABBI SLAIN

JERUSALEM, March 28. (JTA) -- Arab shops in Nazareth, Nablus, Tulkarem, Haifa, Jaffa, Ramleh, Lydda and Gaza were closed today in mourning for Abdul Rahim el Haj Mohammed, commander-in-chief of Palestine terrorist forces, who was slain near Nablus yesterday while trying to break through a cordon of British troops thrown around the village of Sanur.

Four Arabs were under arrest today for the fatal shooting yesterday of Haham Meir Yaish, 24-year-old Sephardic Jewish leader, in the Old City section of Tiberias. The section was put under curfew. The authorities imposed 24-hour curfew upon the Musrara quarter of Jerusalem following the shooting by an Arab youth of Abraham ben Meir, 36, a telephone worker, outside the Central Prison. Ben Meir is in a serious condition.

A Haifa court sentenced to six months' imprisonment the captain of the Greek vessel Artemisia, which was captured on Feb. 6 while trying to unload a cargo of Jewish illegal immigrants. The court recommended seizure of the ship.

#### BRITAIN URGED IN BOOK TO LOAN \$500,000,000 FOR REFUGEE SETTLEMENT

LONDON, March 28. (JTA) -- A proposal that the British Government guarantee a loan of \$500,000,000 for settlement of refugees somewhere in the Empire is contained in a new book, "You and the Refugee," by Sir Norman Angell and Mrs. Dorothy Frances Buxton, just published. The book, which criticizes the present policy on refugees, urges that a new policy of systematic planning to absorb refugees who create employment. It suggests establishment of refugee centers in England, making this country a base for planned migration to the dominions and colonies.

Other recommendations put forward by the book are: (1) Simplification of immigration regulations; (2) establishment of refugee departments in the Home and Foreign office; (3) creation of "Ellis Islands" in all principal ports; (4) establishment of refugee clearing camps.

Summing up, the book declares that such a policy of mercy, magnanimity and statesmanship "will add to our welfare, security, power and enhance the nobility of our tradition."

#### 600 Leave Germany for Far East

LONDON, March 28. (JTA) -- Dispatches from Frankfort, Germany, said today that 600 refugees had left for Genoa where they are to embark on the Italian liner Conte Biancamano for Singapore and other points in the Far East.

#### Commission En Route to Dutch Guiana

AMSTERDAM, March 28. (JTA) -- A commission of experts named by the International Jewish Colonization Society left today for a three-month survey of refugee settlement possibilities in Dutch Guiana. The commission comprises Prof. Nicholas H. Swellengrebel, Amsterdam expert in tropical biology; Dr. Vink, former government agriculture inspector, and Solomon Dyk, Jewish agriculturist of Tel Aviv.

#### LEGISLATURE DEFERS ACTION ON ANTI-"ISMS" BILL

ALBANY, March 28. (JTA) -- Action was deferred today on Assemblyman John J. Devany's bill to bar from the classified civil service persons advocating the overthrow of the Government by oral, written or printed word or by aiding an organization seeking such ends. The measure was returned to committee for amendment. The latest change would cut from one year to four months the time in which persons might appeal to the courts against discharges under the act. Because of the coming Easter recess, the bill will not be considered again until April 10.

Senator John J. McNaboe last night introduced a bill making it a felony punishable by imprisonment of not more than 10 years for two or more persons to conspire by oral or written means to deprive another person of his rights under the Constitution. He is the author of another bill already passed by the Senate barring persons from civil service teaching jobs who advocate violent overthrow of government.

REICH STOPS ISSUING UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES

BERLIN, March 28. (Havas) -- Unemployment statistics for Germany will no longer be made public, it was announced today. Dr. Friedrich Syrup, head of the Reich Institute for Labor Placement and Unemployment Insurance, announced the decision and added that it was no longer realistic to speak of the jobless in German territories, since, as is widely known, the Reich lacks sufficient skilled labor, particularly in agriculture.

BULGARIAN ANTI-SEMITIC LEADER INTERNED

SOFIA, March 28. (JTA) -- Prof. Kantartjief, head of the Bulgarian anti-Semitic organization Ratnitzki, was interned by the police today in a small village. Ten members of the organization have been committed for trial in connection with recent anti-Semitic disturbances.

HARVARD DEAN LAUDS JEWISH LAW AS "GREAT INSTRUMENT OF SOCIAL CONTROL"

NEW YORK, March 28. (JTA) -- Terming Jewish law "a great instrument of social control," Dean Roscoe Pound of Harvard Law School expresses the hope that a collection of Jewish law can be added to the law school's library, in an article in the current Menorah Journal.

"The importance of Jewish law in the history of civilization has not been recognized as it should be," Dean Pound states. "It has been a great instrument of social control whereby one of the outstanding peoples of the world has maintained an inner order which has often been more real, more effective toward maintaining, furthering and transmitting civilization, than the State-made or State-enforced precepts of the time and place." Jewish law, he says, "has a fuller, richer literature than any comparable body of undifferentiated precepts of social control."

B'NAI B'RITH HONORS 4 FOR 'DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS'

NEW YORK, March 27. (JTA) -- The New York Lodge of B'nai B'rith tonight honored Mayor LaGuardia, George Rublee, Mgr. Fulton J. Sheen and Victor F. Ridder for "services in defense of human rights." Harold Korn, president of the lodge, announced at a meeting at Temple Emanu-El the presentation of scrolls of honor to the four. Mr. Ridder, who is ill, sent a message in which he recalled his fight for preservation of Jewish rights in German-American organizations.

EXPANSION OF ORT WORK REPORTED AT LUNCHEON OPENING N.Y. CAMPAIGN

NEW YORK, March 28. (JTA) -- Expansion of vocational training for Jewish refugees to prepare them for emigration and assistance for impoverished Jews of Eastern and Central Europe was reported yesterday by City Councilman George Backer, president of the American ORT Federation, at a luncheon at the Roosevelt Hotel opening the New York City campaign.

Other speakers were Dr. David Lvovitch, vice-chairman of the World ORT Union; Louis B. Boudin, chairman, ORT Board of Directors; Max Herzfeld, Brooklyn campaign chairman; Louis S. Posner, Manhattan campaign chairman; Supreme Court Justice Mitchell May of Brooklyn, and Mrs. David Dubinsky, vice-chairman, ORT Labor and People's Committee.

BULLETIN

WASHINGTON, March 28. (JTA) --The House Rules Committee today approved a resolution introduced by William T. Schulte (Dem., Ind.) authorizing the Immigration Committee to study the immigration laws and the smuggling of aliens into the United States and to suggest remedial legislation. The Immigration Committee would have subpoena powers and get the cooperation of the Departments of State, Justice and Labor.

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