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## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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### 2,000,000 IN EUROPE GET PASSOVER AID; BAN ON MATZOH-BAKING WIDESPREAD

PARIS, April 4. (JTA) -- Passover today found approximately 2,000,000 Jews in Europe completely unable to provide matzoth for themselves and compelled to rely on local charity and the Joint Distribution Committee for their supplies of Passover food. Outstanding in poverty were more than 1,000,000 of Poland's 3,500,000 Jews. Ousted from their economic positions, they would remain entirely without matzoth were it not provided by charity.

In similar plight were the Jews of Germany. In Austria, where in addition to other persecutions the Nazis have prohibited baking of matzoth, the remaining 100,000 Jews faced the eight-day holiday without the basic Passover food for the first time in their history. The J.D.C., however, imported 100,000 kilos of matzoth from Hungary and Rumania and delivered it to the Vienna Jewish Community in time for distribution to all Jews. Elsewhere in Germany, the Government permitted baking of matzoth only in one bakery in Hamburg. While forbidden to bake the unleavened bread themselves, the Jewish communities of other German cities could order their supplies from Hamburg, providing this was done under control of the Gestapo.

The distinction made between the Jews of Germany and Austria was of little help to the German Jews, since during the pre-Passover days the latter had been fleeced by the Government of all their valuables. According to figures reaching Paris, more than a billion marks in valuables were taken from the Jews under the decree ordering them to turn in all jewelry, including even ordinary watches and fountain pens, gold and silver ware, by April 1. Deprived of anything salable and not permitted to engage in any kind of work, even such Jews were thus turned into charity-seekers who had hitherto lived on valuables they sold or pawned.

Requests for matzoth supplies received by the J.D.C. offices in Paris before Passover also revealed a gloomy picture of the Jewish position in Hungary and Rumania. At the same time, efforts were being made to ascertain the Jewish situation in Slovakia and Prague, with which contact has been lost since the German authorities still prohibit entry by foreigners and departure of any residents.

An official report received from the Vienna Jewish Community establishes that of 165,000 Jews residing in Vienna on March 13, 1938, when Anschluss was effected, more than 66,000 have emigrated, thus reducing the Jewish population of that city to less than 100,000 within one year of the Nazi regime. The Vienna refugees found new homes in more than 81 countries and territories throughout the world, according to the report. About \$1,000,000 in foreign currency, provided by the J.D.C. and the Council for German Jewry, was expended by the community in aiding the emigration of 4,355 persons who could otherwise not have emigrated.

Yugoslav Jews Apprehensive Over Future

BELGRADE, April 4. (JTA) -- Apprehension over the political future marred Passover celebrations by Yugoslavian Jewry today. While carrying on relief work for their coreligionists in Austria, former Czecho-Slovakia and Hungary, with whom most Jewish families, particularly in the Croatian province, are closely interrelated, the Yugoslavian Jews feel that the sword of Damocles is hanging over their own heads as a result of the country's encirclement by anti-Semitic states and Germany's drive to the southeast.

The Union of Jewish Communities, with permission of the authorities, dispatched a truckload of Passover food in Vienna and is also attempting to provide kosher meat for the Viennese Jews.

Meanwhile, the uncertainty of Yugoslavia's position has provoked extensive emigration preparations among Jews in Zagreb and other centers. It is believed that many would have emigrated earlier if immigration possibilities had existed. Most of the emigrants are planning to go to Palestine and South America. On the other hand, anxiety of the Jews over their future in Yugoslavia is finding expression in conversion to Christianity. Three hundred wealthy Jews, who have hitherto provided a third of the Jewish Community's tax income, have been baptized in Zagreb alone. Unrest has been augmented in the last few days by increased agitation on the part of the German minority in the Slovenia province adjoining Austria.

BECK TO ASK BRITAIN FOR LAND IN EMPIRE FOR POLISH JEWISH EMIGRATION

LONDON, April 4. (JTA) -- Polish Foreign Minister Jozef Beck will ask the British Government to cooperate in a scheme for Jewish emigration by providing land for settlement in the British Empire, it was reported today. Col. Beck, in his talks with Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain and Foreign Secretary Viscount Halifax, will broach a scheme for colonization of poor Jews with the financial assistance of wealthy Jews in Poland, the Warsaw correspondent of The Times reported.

Polish circles here said that despite preoccupation with the major question of an Anglo-Polish treaty, Col. Beck would definitely raise the Jewish emigration question in his London talks.

The Beck scheme, as reported by The Times correspondent, provides for creation of a public utilities company to which wealthy Jews would surrender their property in return for 80 per cent credit in the form of bonds with limited negotiability, the other 20 per cent to be used to finance emigration of poor Jews. The emigrants would engage in creative enterprises and would carry on trade with Poland, from the profits of which the bonds would be redeemed. The British Empire would be expected to furnish the territorial facilities necessary for the carrying out of the plan.

PELL VISITS BERLIN TO PRESS EMIGRATION PLAN; COMMISSIONS COMPLETING SURVEYS

PARIS, April 4. (JTA) -- Stopping off here on his way to Berlin, Robert T. Pell, vice-director of the Intergovernmental Refugee Committee, declared today that the Rublee agreement on orderly emigration of refugees from Germany involved a "long business affair which will require time and patience" to carry out.

Mr. Pell outlined the following four-fold purpose of his trip to Berlin, which is expected to last a week: (1) to complete certain plans resulting from the Rublee pact; (2) possibly to take up with the German Government the question of the Jews of former Czecho-Slovakia; (3) to inform the Nazis of the Intergovernmental Committee's progress in finding

lands for Jewish immigration; (4) to ascertain the steps undertaken by the Berlin Government in forming a fund, to be administered by German trustees and one non-German, for the purpose of facilitating emigration of Jews with their equipment.

The fund will consist of 25 per cent of the Jewish wealth in Germany, not ten per cent as some newspapers quoted Lord Winterton, chairman of the committee, as having said last week. This sum will not include the capital and valuables confiscated from Jews under the Goering decree. In connection with Mr. Pell's trip, it was learned that this fund, as well as the projected International Refugee Settlement Corporation which will advance loans for overseas settlement of refugees, is well under way. Creation of both, it was understood, will be announced simultaneously.

According to information received by the Intergovernmental Committee, the two experts' missions sent to British Guiana and the Dominican Republic have completed their investigations. Two other missions, to the Philippines and Northern Rhodesia, will soon be ready with their reports on refugee settlement possibilities in those territories.

#### Palestine Bars Ship With 641 Refugees

JERUSALEM, April 4. (JTA) -- The authorities yesterday ordered the Greek steamer Astir to leave the port of Haifa with its cargo of 641 Jewish refugees, including 200 women and 50 children. The vessel had been brought to the port by a coastal patrol of British police under suspicion of trying to land the refugees illegally.

#### Swiss Jews Ask Foreign Aid for Refugees

ZURICH, April 4. (JTA) -- More Jewish refugees left Switzerland during the first three months of 1939 than in the whole of 1938, it was revealed today at an annual conference of Jewish organizations. The conference adopted a resolution appealing to Swiss Jewry and to wealthy foreign Jews living in Switzerland to continue refugee assistance work in collaboration with the Swiss authorities and Jewish organizations abroad.

#### ITALY HOLDS NATIVE JEWS FOR WAR SERVICE, DEFERS EXPULSION OF ALIENS

ROME, April 4. (JTA) -- Native Italian Jews are not being granted passports for emigration if they are of military age or possess qualifications making them valuable to the Government in the event of war. Great difficulties have been placed in the way of their emigration ever since the anti-Jewish legislation became effective, but the reason was not specified until it was authoritatively admitted today that they were being kept here because Italy may require their services. Hundreds of Jews throughout Italy who were called recently to military service with their class were released when they presented their identification cards. It was learned, however, that many of them were asked at military headquarters whether they would serve in case of necessity.

Most of the local Jewish communities are now circulating questionnaires to all members to determine the final effects of the anti-Semitic legislation and formulate the best possible program for alleviation. An attempt will be made to facilitate the emigration of those Jews who have relatives and possibilities for livelihood abroad and retain the others to work in occupations from which they are not barred.

The international situation may spell a further period of grace for foreign Jews, who had been expecting momentary summons to the police to justify requests for prolongation of their stay past the emigration deadline. It is believed here that the expulsion question may

be shelved temporarily because of the Government's preoccupation with the international situation. Except for a small number of ultimatums, the authorities have not changed their tactics of abstaining from forcible expulsion and encouraging "voluntary" emigration.

Two large groups of emigrants sailed for the United States Thursday and Saturday on the Conte di Savoia and the Saturnia. Considerable anxiety has been created here by the American Government's plan to distribute quota numbers after July 1 according to date of registration, regardless of the country under which the prospective emigrants are registered. Thus, many Polish Jewish applicants in Italy will automatically be listed behind applicants previously registered in Germany and Poland.

#### Refugee From Italy Found Dead, Another Wounded

PARIS, April 4. (JTA) -- One Jewish refugee from Italy was found dead and another wounded in the hills along the Franco-Italian frontier last night. They were found by French customs officials who said the identity of the dead man had not been established.

According to the officials, the wounded man, whose legs were broken, described himself as Jan Krotochwil, son of a wealthy Viennese resident. Krotochwil said he had been studying in Italy and had been compelled to leave under terms of the Italian emigration decree. He told the customs men that he had been wandering in the hills for three days trying to cross the French frontier and had fallen when fired upon by a border patrol. He was taken to a hospital at Menton.

#### ousting of Jews from Firms, Jobs Speeded in Former Czecho-Slovakia

PRAGUE, April 4. (JTA) -- "Aryanization" of Jewish enterprises and ousting of Jews from professions, commerce and industry are proceeding at an accelerated pace which in a few days is achieving results comparable to those achieved over a period of years in Germany and months in Austria. New blanket decrees are being issued to make the "Aryanization" 100 per cent complete.

All Jews still holding any posts in newspapers have been ordered discharged under a new decree. Lists of all insurance panel physicians in Bohemia-Moravia are now under revision and will be replaced with new lists containing no Jewish names. A new decree authorized the appointment of commissars for industrial and commercial enterprises when "in the public interest." Commissars have full control of businesses, but the former owners are compelled to provide capital to cover deficits.

The press daily publishes long lists of "Aryanized" firms. Nearly all Jewish businesses have already changed hands. Czecho-Slovakia's biggest chain store, Teta, is among those "Aryanized." Many Jewish-owned newspapers are among the scores of dailies and periodicals prohibited from publishing, while all local Jewish papers have been suppressed and not a single foreign Jewish newspaper can be obtained here. The purge of the film industry, which was created by Jews, progressed further with the dismissal of all Jews from the large Barandov studio.

The Verein fuer Chemische und Metallurgische Production dismissed its Jewish director, Dr. Oscar Federer, and other Jewish employees. Other companies which have taken similar action include the Schoeller Zuckerwerke, large sugar refinery; the Prager Eisenwerke, iron plant; and the Allgemeine Genossenschaftsbank, a large bank.

The Slovak Government is likewise rushing "Aryanization." A measure under preparation will make it compulsory for Jewish enterprises to display distinguishing marks. This practice

is already in effect in several towns. The Government has also decreed authorization for protective arrest of "enemies of the Slovak State" and of persons who might prove an obstacle in the upbuilding of the State. A concentration camp for the arrested is under construction and those interned will be subjected to forced labor.

The sufferings of arrested Jews has been increased by the refusal of the Gestapo to accept parcels of food and line brought by relatives. The Union of Cafe and Restaurant Owners, it was announced, has ordered members to put up "Jews Not Wanted" signs on all cafes, restaurants, taverns and lunch bars. The Brno District Court has granted the first divorce on racial grounds, advanced by a German woman in ending her marriage with a Jew.

'WE HAVE NOT LOST,' WEIZMANN ASSERTS ON ARRIVAL IN PALESTINE; MUSEUM OFFICIAL SHOT

JERUSALEM, April 4. (JTA) -- Dr. Chaim Weizmann, head of the Jewish delegation to the recent London conference, arrived at Tel Aviv yesterday and was given an official reception by Mayor Israel Rokach and other Jewish leaders. Replying to greetings, Dr. Weizmann declared: "We have not won, but neither have we lost the hard fight. We will patiently continue to work and will overcome difficulties. I pray that everybody will believe in the 'netzach Israel' (eternity of Israel) as I do." He said conferences with Palestine Jewish leaders will be held after the Passover holidays. Dr. Weizmann was accompanied by David Ben Gurion, Rabbi Moshe Blau and Mrs. Edgar Dugdale, niece of the late Lord Balfour.

Arab terrorists last night shot and wounded John Iliffe, keeper of the Rockefeller Museum, outside his home near the \$2,000,000 institution which was erected with funds donated by John D. Rockefeller Jr. Major-General Richard N. O'Connor, military governor of the Jerusalem district, today prohibited Arab vehicular traffic between Jerusalem and the museum, on the outskirts of Jerusalem, until further notice.

JERUSALEM, April 4. (Havas) -- With 35 Arab suspects under arrest, police tonight pressed their investigation into the shooting of Iliffe. Attacks were made on three other British subjects.

F.B.I. FINDS BUND SPREADING ANTI-JEWISH PROPAGANDA; MEMBERSHIP SMALL

WASHINGTON, April 4. (JTA) -- The German-American Volksbund, numbering between 6,600 and 8,500 persons, promotes distribution of anti-Semitic literature, teaches members to regard Jews as inferior and boycotts Jewish stores, it is shown in a report of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on its investigation into the Bund conducted last year and made public yesterday.

The report, comprising 14 volumes compiled after a year of investigation, reaches no conclusion as to whether the Bund violates any Federal law and does not indicate definitely whether or not the organization is controlled by Berlin. The report has been studied by the Justice Department and submitted to the Dies Committee on Un-American Activities.

Evidence of anti-Semitic activity in the report includes: anti-Jewish literature is distributed in the Bund schools; Hans Neubeck, leader of the Buffalo local of the Bund, is quoted as saying that members are "taught not to associate with unreliaables or inferiors such as Jews" and that one of the members was expelled for keeping company with a Jew; Neubeck is also quoted as stating that Buffalo Bund members did not intend to purchase any merchandise from Jewish stores and "undoubtedly other members of the Bund felt the same way."

The Bund, the report states, is seeking to instill and perpetuate in German-Americans "pride of German background and love of Germany." While Federal agents reported Bundesfuhrer Fritz Kuhn's insistence that the Bund was "not a part" of the Nazi Party, they found that Kuhn had participated with Adolf Hitler in the "Beer Cellar Putsch" in Munich in 1925; that German is the mandatory tongue in Bund schools; that the stars and stripes and the swastika are raised and lowered together in Bund camps; that one camp was dedicated as "a little piece of German soil in America."