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FRANCE ACTS TO CHECK RACIAL PROPAGANDA; BANS FUNDS FROM FOREIGN GROUPS

PARIS, April 24. (JTA) -- The French Government acted today to suppress anti-Semitic propaganda, submitting two decree-laws to President Albert Lebrun for his signature.

The decrees, drawn up by Justice Minister Paul Marchandeau, (1) make punishable "all acts tending to provoke hatred and discord within France for racial and religious motives," and (2) make illegal and punishable any collaboration with foreign propaganda, or receipt of funds from abroad for international propaganda. The texts of the decrees are not yet available. They will be published after they have been approved by the President.

Meanwhile, the Government dissolved three anti-Semitic organizations in Alsace on the ground that they were preaching disunity. The Popular Democratic Party adopted a resolution denouncing Nazi propaganda and demanding severe punishment for all participating in pro-Nazi anti-Jewish publications, including dailies, weeklies and pamphlets. The action is necessary for national defense, the resolution said.

Large posters were displayed throughout the city, bearing the names of various non-Jewish organizations, including the League to Combat Anti-Semitism, which ridiculed propaganda attributing France's difficulties to Jews and aliens and branded such statements as "Nazi lies aiming to spread disunity in France." The poster pointed out that Jews and other aliens were among the first to apply for front-line military service last week.

Although the War Ministry announced yesterday that registration of alien volunteers was premature and ordered its cessation, the Federation of Jewish societies, which embraces all organizations of Jewish immigrants, issued a proclamation today declaring that immigrant Jews considered France their second home and held it their duty to serve in the Republic's defense. "All immigrant Jews affiliated with the federation have decided to serve France with all the material and moral forces they possess," the statement said.

ARABS PRESS CAIRO TALKS ON PALESTINE'S FUTURE; PREMIER PHONES MUFTI

CAIRO, April 24. (JTA) -- Intense political activity in connection with the Palestine question continued here today. The proposed Arab amendments to the British Government's plan for ultimate establishment of an independent Palestine state were believed to have been rejected and counter-proposals offered.

Emir Feisal of Saudi Arabia prolonged his stay here on the request of Premier Mohammed Mahmoud Pasha. The Premier this morning received the lawyer, M. Alexander, who is considered to be the spokesman of Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency. Later, the Premier telephoned to the exiled ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, leader of the Palestine Arab extremists, who is in Lebanon.

Refugees Interned in Concentration Camp

JERUSALEM, April 24. (JTA) -- The 170 refugees arrested near Ashkalon were transferred from the Jaffa jail to a concentration camp at Sarafend.

Two casualties resulted from yesterday's demonstrations in Haifa in protest against deportation of illegal immigrants. A 16-year-old Jewish youth was hit by a police baton while the demonstrations were being broken up and was removed to Hadassah hospital. A British constable was slightly injured when stoned.

A minor demonstration was also held in Tel Aviv, which was dispersed by the police. The Tel Aviv Municipal Council adopted a resolution of protest to the British Government against the Palestine Government's attitude toward the persecuted Jews.

A Jewess, Miss Gina Hominer, 20, was shot dead yesterday at Kfar Saba in a terrorist attack. Noah Halperin, 19, was shot and critically injured at the Ain Kerem Road near Beth Hakerem.

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Greek Bans Transportation of Illegal Immigrants

LONDON, April 24. (JTA) -- The Greek Ministry of Mercantile Marine has forbidden Greek vessels to transport to Palestine Jews who do not have proper documents, it was reported today from Athens.

POST-WAR JEWISH IMMIGRANTS LOSING CITIZENSHIP IN BOHEMIA-MORAVIA

LONDON, April 24. (JTA) -- Prague advices said today that all Jews who had immigrated to Bohemia and Moravia after 1918 were being systematically deprived of their citizenship. Exemptions announced by the Hacha Government before the German occupation, applying to persons educated in Czech schools, members of Czech organizations, those who acknowledged Czech nationality during the 1939 census and others, are no longer being granted.

The denaturalized persons lose the right to work. It is expected that a decree will shortly be issued proclaiming as "stateless" all Jews who were naturalized after 1918, thus making further revisions superfluous. It is believed that speeding up of denaturalization is the result of an influx of Germans who are obtaining posts previously occupied by Czechs and for whom new jobs, such as commissars for Jewish businesses, must be found.

Four hundred emigrants, mostly refugees from Germany and Austria, were reported to have left Bruenn by train, bound for Yugoslavia and thence to Ecuador.

The Polish Government has refused visas to Prof. Franz Kahn, general secretary of the Zionist Organization of Bohemia and Moravia, and M. Edelman, manager of the Palestine Office. With the approval of the Gestapo they had intended to go to Warsaw for a few days to attend a conference on distribution of Palestine immigration certificates.

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Egg Trade "Aryanized"

PRAGUE, April 24. (JTA) -- The wholesale egg trade has been completely "Aryanized," it was announced today. It was formerly 50 per cent in the hands of Jews.

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U.S. Slovak Papers Banned by Slovakia

BRATISLAVA, April 24. (JTA) -- The Slovakian Government today banned the American Slovak newspapers Slovensky Sokol, the New York Denik, and the Hlas Ludu, because they had denounced the "brutal anti-Semitism" prevailing in Slovakia.

The Butchers' Union has appealed to the Government to prohibit shechita.

GAFENCU TO AIR EMIGRATION ISSUE IN TALKS WITH BRITISH

LONDON, April 24. (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Grigoire Gafencu of Rumania is expected to raise the question of Jewish emigration in talks with the British Government, it was learned today. He will continue the discussions initiated by Foreign Minister Josef Beck of Poland. Mr. Gafencu last night saw Polish Ambassador Count Raczynski and was understood to have discussed Jewish emigration, among other subjects. The discussion will be resumed before Mr. Gafencu's departure from London.

Although the British Government has expressed willingness to examine proposals for Jewish emigration, it is believed that the Rumanian and Polish Governments will not submit concrete proposals to the British Government until after the international situation has eased.

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Rome Presses Alien Jews to Leave

ROME, April 24. (JTA) -- Police in recent days have again visited numerous foreign Jews, urging them to leave the country, especially holders of the so-called "apolite" passports issued by the Italian Government to stateless and persons of doubtful nationality. Eight hundred such passports have been issued to facilitate emigration. Unlike the German passports for Jews, the "apolite" documents contain a special clause stating that the holder is entitled to return to Italy, making it easier to obtain visas for foreign countries. Now, however, holders of the passports have been informed that the re-entry clause is ineffective as far as they are concerned.

OPPONENTS OF WAGNER-ROGERS BILL HEARD

WASHINGTON, April 24. (JTA) -- Opponents of the Wagner-Rogers Bill to admit 20,000 refugee children into the United States aired their objections today before the joint Congressional subcommittee holding hearings on the measure. Principal objections offered were (1) that America's first duty was to the American underprivileged, (2) if German refugees should be taken in, then why not refugees from other countries? (3) admission of refugee children would open the way to letting in their parents.

Among those testifying were James M. Wilmath, Philadelphia, secretary of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics; Charles K. Hal, of the same order; John B. Trevor, of the "American Coalition of Patriotic Societies"; M.W. Postman, of the Adams Hats Employees' Association; Herman Miller, of the Patriotic Order of Sons of America, Easton, Pa.; James H. Patten, of the Patriotic American Civic Alliance, and William B. Griffith, of the Migration Restriction League.

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Commission Begins Rhodesia Study

LUSAKA, Northern Rhodesia, April 24. (JTA) -- A British commission to study refugee settlement possibilities in Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland has established headquarters in the Government building here and has already completed preparations for survey tours of the country's interior. In addition to studying the agricultural possibilities of the territory, the commission will also examine the feasibility of establishing new industries with capital supplied by the refugees.

Meanwhile, the question of refugee settlement is being heatedly discussed here. A meeting of residents adopted a resolution which declared sympathy with the refugees' plight but said mass immigration proposals were regarded with apprehension as long as they were not accompanied by suitable guarantees for existing industries, enterprises and labor.

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Refugee Camp Planned in Holland

THE HAGUE, April 24. (JTA) -- The Government has asked Parliament to appropriate 1,000,000 guilders for the construction of a new camp to house 2,500 legal and illegal refugees. Since only 339 refugees have emigrated between March 1, 1938 and Jan. 1, 1939, Government spokesmen pointed out that the duration of the refugees' stay was likely to be prolonged. The proposed camp, it was stated, would consequently have a semi-permanent character and would replace 26 existing camps.

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900 Refugees En Route to Shanghai

BOMBAY, April 24. (JTA) -- The Italian liner Conte Biancamano arrived here with 950 refugees, of whom only 16 were permitted to land after posting of guarantees. The rest are booked for Shanghai.

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200 Children to Quit Danzig

LONDON, April 24. (JTA) -- Two hundred Jewish children will shortly be brought from Danzig under the auspices of the Lord Baldwin Fund for Refugees, it was announced today. A first group of 69, up to 14 years of age, will arrive next week-end. The remainder will be brought over by the middle of next month.

A contribution of 2,000 rupees (about \$700) by the Nizam of Hyderabad to the Baldwin Fund was announced. The fund now totals £469,000.

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PEACE MOST VITAL TO JEWS, LASKI TELLS LONDON GROUP

LONDON, April 24. (JTA) -- Efforts to identify elements allegedly opposing peace with the Jews were denounced yesterday by Neville Laski, president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, submitting a report of the British Jews' Joint Foreign Committee to a meeting of the board. "One cannot repeat too often," Mr. Laski said, "that if there is a section of the world population to whom peace is more essential than to anybody else, it is the Jews."

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BUND LEADER THREATENS SUIT OVER LINK TO HITLER

NEW YORK, April 24. (JTA) -- Dr. Mitchell S. Fisher, counsel for the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League, declined today to take any action to withdraw posters identifying Adolf Hitler as a criminal and Fritz Kuhn as one of his agents in the United States, in the face of a threatened libel suit by Kuhn.

Kuhn, leader of the German-American Bund, wrote to the Anti-Nazi League: "Your allegation in said circular and the reference which you have made concerning me, I am informed and advised, constitutes criminal libel. I request that immediate steps be taken to retract these accusations and the insinuation made and to correct the impression which your circular was intended to convey."

Dr. Fisher, who is an associate of Samuel Untermyer, founder of the Anti-Nazi League, said he was supported by Mr. Untermyer and would have the benefit of his advice. The circular, which was distributed throughout the city, is in the form of a police circular proclaiming that Hitler is "Wanted for Kidnapping" and other crimes. The reference to Kuhn is: "(Hitler) maintains agents and spies in U.S., notably Fritz Kuhn, former Ford employee, now head of German American Bund."

ZURICH COURT RULES JEW-BAITER IS NOT LIBELLED WHEN CALLED "LIAR"

ZURICH, April 24. (JTA) -- A Zurich court today acquitted a contributor to the Jewish periodical Israelitisches Wochenblatt of charges that he had slandered H.L. Servettaz, former editor of the Geneva anti-Semitic monthly L'Homme de Droite, by calling him a "vile liar, forger and professional offender." The court ruled that the description was justified because of the plaintiffs "inexcusable, unscrupulous Jew-baiting." Servettaz, who was represented by Dr. Friedrich Ursprung, attorney for the Nazi defendants in the famous "Protocols" trial, was sentenced to pay the trial costs and indemnity to the defendant.

GRYNSZPAN SPURNS CASH OFFER FOR DIARY

PARIS, April 24. (JTA) -- Hershel Grynszpan, Polish Jewish youth who is awaiting trial for the assassination of a German Embassy official last November, has refused a publisher's offer of 200,000 francs (about \$60,000) for his diary, it was learned today, on the ground that he did not wish to make capital of his deed.

SILBERGLEIT, REICH STATISTICIAN, DEAD AT 80

PARIS, April 24. (JTA) -- The death in Berlin of Dr. Heinrich Silbergleit, well known Jewish statistician, was reported here today. He was 80 years old.

For 20 years, until his retirement in 1923, Dr. Silbergleit was director of the statistical bureau of Berlin. He published many works on communal and political problems and founded the statistical monthly, Bulletin of Greater Berlin. For many years he was editor and publisher of the Berlin statistical yearbook and was a member of the International Statistical Institute. In Jewish circles, Dr. Silbergleit was best known for his book, "The German Jews, Their Relation Towards Professions and Population," which was the first volume to present information on the social structure of the Jewish population in Germany.

BERNHARD KAHN HONORED IN PARIS; TO SAIL FOR U.S. MAY 4

PARIS, April 24. (JTA) -- Dr. Bernhard Kahn, former chairman of the European Council of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, is expected to sail for New York on May 4 to become honorary chairman of the council. He was tendered a farewell dinner last night by Eastern European delegates to the international conference of the OZE, Jewish health organization.

BULGARIAN STUDENTS OPEN BOYCOTT CAMPAIGN AGAINST GERMANS, ITALIANS

SOFIA, April 24. (JTA) -- An organization of Bulgarian students has launched a national campaign for a boycott of everything German and Italian, demanding the expulsion of all German and Italian spies "who have inundated the country."