

NEWS

from all over the world.

VIA

CABLE
WIRELESS
TELEGRAPH
TELEPHONE

by the

JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. V. NO. 134.

Sunday, May 14, 1939.

WEIZMANN PLEA REJECTED; POLICY TO BE STATED NEXT WEEK; DEBATE SET FOR MAY 23-24

LONDON, May 12. (JTA) -- Jewish Agency President Chaim Weizmann's last-minute plea to Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain to postpone announcement of the Government policy on Palestine, made at last night's audience, failed to alter the Government's decision to publish the White Paper next week, it was learned today in Zionist circles. It was learned at the same time that debate on the policy will be held in Parliament on May 23 and 24.

In the course of a brief interview in the Prime Minister's room in the House of Commons, Dr. Weizmann stressed the Jews' fears concerning the policy and pleaded that action be deferred. It is understood that Mr. Chamberlain heard the plea sympathetically and tried to reassure Dr. Weizmann that the fears on the policy's consequences were exaggerated.

The conversation proceeded on the assumption that there were no fundamental changes in the new policy from the final proposals made to the recent London conference, which provided for ultimate establishment of an independent Arab-dominated Palestine state with the Jews fixed as a one-third minority. Dr. Weizmann, it was learned, was given no grounds to believe that there had been any basic changes from those proposals and Mr. Chamberlain apparently did not consider it necessary to outline the policy. It is understood that Dr. Weizmann will not see Foreign Secretary Lord Halifax but is now conferring with a number of outstanding Parliamentarians.

Debate on the policy will be on a motion of censure expected to be introduced by Laborites, rejecting the Government's proposals as violating solemn pledges made to the Jews in the Balfour Declaration of 1917 and the League of Nations Mandate.

A group of conservatives headed by Col. Leopold S. Amery, former Colonial Secretary, is expected to enter another motion condemning the White Paper. This group believes that it can secure 20 Conservative votes in support of the motion and that a large number of Conservatives will abstain from voting. A big Government majority, however, is believed assured.

Arab Call to Revolt Issued

JERUSALEM, May 12. (Havas) -- A call for a general insurrection throughout Palestine immediately the British Government publishes its White Paper was issued here today by "The Palestine Arab Rebel High Command." The call was contained in a circular signed by the "Secretary General" of the so-called rebel command. The first circular of the group, urging an intensified terrorist campaign to make Palestine an independent Arab state, was issued three days ago.

According to the circular distributed today the rebel movement has new arms and is well-supplied with money. It was understood that the sponsors of the new group - thus far anonymous - are connected with neither the extremist Arab faction headed by the exiled Mufti of Jerusalem nor the moderates who follow the leadership of Ragheb Bey Nashashibi.

The Government is deducting 417 certificates from the next regular monthly allotment of 1,000 permits issuable to Jews immigrating to Palestine, it was disclosed here today. The deductions correspond to the number of illegal entries recently discovered in the Holy Land.

BRITAIN TO AID GUIANA PROJECT, CHAMBERLAIN TELLS COMMONS; MONEY HELP RULED OUT

LONDON, May 12. (JTA) -- Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain announced in the House of Commons today that the British Government was prepared to offer the fullest facilities in British Guiana for any settlement decided upon by refugee organizations.

If trial colonization recommended by an Anglo-American commission of experts proved successful, Mr. Chamberlain said, the Government was prepared to facilitate settlement over the whole of the interior "insofar as that may be practicable," but excluding the coastal belt.

Expressing the hope that settlement would start in the autumn, the Prime Minister pointed out that the financing of the experimental colonization must come from private sources. He said, however, that the British and the Guiana Governments would cooperate in the matter of personnel and organization.

The prospect of large-scale settlement, Mr. Chamberlain emphasized, must depend largely upon the possibility of industrial development. He said a large measure of local autonomy and adequate representation in the colony's Government would be granted if a large new community were established.

Mr. Chamberlain asserted that the Government would be ready to give sympathetic consideration to any proposals for settlement, reserving, however, control of general services such as security, communications and revenue.

Mr. Chamberlain's statement, made in writing in reply to a question by Laborite Tom Williams and circulated among members of the House, expressed the hope that it would be possible to find industrial employment for the refugees, care being taken to preserve the rights of aboriginal Indians. It continued:

"His Majesty's Government recognize that the success of any scheme of large-scale settlement requires the provision of arterial communications. If the prospects of development are good and capital is forthcoming adequate for the needs of large-scale settlement and bears a reasonable proportion of the cost of providing suitable communication between the interior and the coast, they (the Government) will be prepared to provide such communications to meet the needs of the community.

"In brief, His Majesty's Government would be prepared to facilitate the settlement of refugees in the whole of the interior of British Guiana insofar as that may prove practicable, the coastal areas being excluded because that area is already occupied and must be reserved for the needs of the existing inhabitants."

Intergovernmental Refugee Committee circles welcomed the statement as encouraging, pointing out, however, that it means there will be no direct or indirect financial support in the preliminary stages. Financial circles here are now considering the financing needs of the projected settlement, with the possibility that a separate corporation will be organized to finance and direct the project.

It is believed that measures to implement the Guiana commission's report, such as the necessary preliminaries and the first actual settlement, will be undertaken by the Refugee Settlement Corporation, plans for which were approved at the last session of the Intergovernmental Refugee Committee.

Refugee circles here are disappointed that the Guiana commission's report did not hold out hopes for immediate large-scale settlement. Zionist circles declared the report proved that Guiana could not take the place of Palestine as the largest factor in solution of the refugee problem. The Manchester Guardian declares editorially that Guiana has not furnished a solution to the Jewish refugee problem nor to the Palestine problem and gives no reason why the Government's new Palestine policy should not be examined strictly on its merits.

Suppression of Parts of Report Charged

London, May 12 (Havas) -- Jewish circles accused the British Government today of suppressing unfavorable passages in the report on Guiana as a new home for Jewish refugees. "The Government published the Guiana commission's report in incomplete form," a spokesman said, "in order to arouse enthusiasm for the project which would deflect the bad impression which publication of the white paper on Palestine is sure to make."

2,000 Refugees En Route to Black Sea

BUCHAREST, May 12. (JTA) -- Four vessels carrying a total of 2,000 Czech and German Jewish refugees passed the Danube port of Braila today en route to the Black Sea. They are the German steamer Delios, the Yugoslavian ships Princess Maria and Tzar Dusha, and the Hungarian vessel Tack. Several sick refugees on the Princess Maria were landed at Braila and taken to a hospital. A large number of Polish Jewish emigrants embarked at Tulcea on the Greek steamer Efterpi.

BARON ROTHSCHILD IN SWITZERLAND AFTER RELEASE FROM VIENNA PRISON

GENEVA, May 12. (JTA) -- Baron Louis de Rothschild, head of the Austrian branch of the famous banking family, who was arrested by the Nazi authorities shortly after annexation of Austria in March, 1938, and held for a reported ransom of \$10,000,000 has reached a refuge in Switzerland, it was learned on unimpeachable authority today. Details of Baron Rothschild's release and his exact whereabouts were not immediately ascertained.

The banker was one of the first wealthy Jews arrested after Austro-German Anschluss. It was announced that he would be held until he made good the losses of the Kredit Anstalt, the largest bank in Austria until it failed in 1931, of which Baron Rothschild had been president. He had contributed more than \$10,000,000 of his private fortune toward the bank's reconstruction and then retired from its presidency, but the Nazi authorities nevertheless declared the settlement illegal and reopened the case.

Baron Rothschild was held under close guard in Vienna's Hotel Metropole, which had been transformed into headquarters of the Gestapo (Nazi secret police), and he was said to have been lodged in a room near Dr. Kurt Schuschnigg, pre-Anschluss Chancellor of Austria. He was apparently being held in the hope that his family abroad would put up the money to obtain his release.

IRISH PROBE SPREAD OF NAZI PROPAGANDA IN EX-REBEL RANKS

DUBLIN, May 12. (JTA) -- The authorities were today investigating distribution of German propaganda, chiefly anti-Semitic, among ex-members of the so-called Irish Republican Army. Nazi agents were believed anxious to take advantage of former I.R.A. men and to be flooding them with anti-Semitic and anti-British propaganda in an effort to encourage their illegal activities.

County Donegal police began rounding up former IRA members for questioning after a onetime officer in the organization reported having received propaganda, mainly anti-Semitic, from Berlin. This officer, a resident of East Donegal, said he had received a large envelope containing a letter signed by Reich Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels and a number of Nazi pamphlets. The leaflets, he said, contained printed charts and statistics purporting to prove time-worn arguments against the Jews. A small book dealing with Germany's position in relation to the Christian Church and world Jewry was also included in the envelope.

JEWISH SEE PROSECUTION FROM ROMANIAN MEMBERS

BUCHAREST, May 12. (JTA) -- Jewish circles voiced skepticism today on the possibility of Jewish participation in the forthcoming Parliamentary elections. Although the Government has assured the minorities of liberal treatment in the election campaign, it is still uncertain whether Jewish members of professional organizations, which are electoral bodies under the new Rumanian corporative system, are eligible to vote.

Meanwhile, Dr. William Filderman, head of the former Union of Rumanian Jews, sent a memorandum to Justice Minister Victor Iemandi on a motion for elimination of Jewish lawyers scheduled for discussion at the June 15 session of the Piatra-Neamtz Lawyers' Association. Dr. Filderman points out that Christian lawyers are usurping powers, by restricting citizenship rights, which are reserved for the Government. In view of the danger that the example will be followed by other public bodies, Dr. Filderman also sent memoranda to the Premier and the Ministers of Transportation, Labor, Finance and Welfare.

"BANEFUL" NAZI PHILOSOPHY ASSAILED IN SENATE BY SENATOR KING

WASHINGTON, May 12. (JTA) -- Senator William H. King (Dem., Utah) today attacked, from the Senate floor, "the baneful, dangerous philosophy thrust on the world by the Nazi regime," asserting that "Nazism is the foe of all religion; it seeks the destruction not only of the Jews but of other religious elements."

"The real motive in the cruel persecution of the Jews," Senator King said, "is to rid Germany of a people historically and spiritually the seekers of peace, who created the concept of one God; to rob them of their property, real and personal, and give it to the Nazi followers as a reward for their barbarous actions; to add to the revenues of the Nazi State; to establish a precedent for exploitation and confiscation of Catholic and Protestant Church property later; to make the State completely totalitarian in religious as well as political power."

Hitler complains of the oppressiveness of the Versailles Treaty, he said, "but what kind of peace treaty would Germany have imposed on the Allied Nations if she won the World War, in the light of the treaties now imposed on Austria and Czecho-Slovakia?" He added that the American Government had the right to protest brutality abroad.

MIZRACHI PARLEY CABLES CHAMBERLAIN PROTEST ON PALESTINE, ASKS ROOSEVELT INTERCESSION

ATLANTIC CITY, May 12. (JTA) -- The 22nd annual convention of the Mizrachi Organization of America today sent a resolution to Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain rejecting "the projected betrayal of Palestine" and an appeal to President Roosevelt for intercession against the crystallization of the Jewish homeland. The resolutions, introduced last night by Rabbi Israel Tabac of Baltimore, were adopted by acclamation.

Speakers joined in declaring resistance to Britain's proposed change in Palestine's status. Rabbi E. Silver, greeting the convention on behalf of the Agudath Harabonim (Rabbinical Association), asserted that there were no Zionists, Mizrachists or Agudists now, but only Jews fighting for survival. Gedaliah Publick, of Palestine, declared that England was committing the crime of making the Balfour Declaration a scrap of paper.

Measures for defense of Jews' political rights were urged by Leon Gellman in his presidential message. R. Gaffin, a leader of the Hapoel Hamizrachi, religious laborite organization, pledged the continuation of pioneer activity in Palestine.

POLISH PREMIER REPORTED ASKING EXTREMISTS NOT TO PRESS ANTI-JEWISH BILLS

WARSAW, May 12. (JTA) -- The Yiddish newspaper Moment reported today that Premier Skladkowski has advised Deputy Dudzinski, author of a bill for complete prohibition of kosher slaughtering, and other extreme anti-Semites not to make difficulties for the Government position with anti-Semitic measures. The newspaper said it was possible that the anti-slaughter measure would not be considered at the forthcoming session of Parliament and would be postponed to the autumn session.

YALE SCHOLAR QUILTS BAVARIAN ACADEMY PROTESTING OUSTING OF "NON-ARYANS"

NEW HAVEN, Conn., May 12. (JTA) -- Condemning the "vindictiveness and savagery" of the Nazi Government, Dr. Franklin Edgerton, Professor of Sanskrit and Comparative Philology at Yale University, has resigned as a corresponding member of the Bavarian Academy of Arts and Sciences in protest against the Reich Government's order to German academies to purge their membership of all "non-Aryans."

STATE SENATE PASSES BILL TO BAR RACE EXCLUSION FROM UNIONS

ALBANY, May 12. (JTA) -- The Senate, by a vote of 46 to 1, has passed and sent to the Assembly the Perry bill to exclude from the benefits of the State Labor Relations Act any union which denies membership to persons because of race, creed or color. The C.I.O. opposed the bill on the ground that it might give rise to false charges against unions which would hamper their activity.