

VOL. V. NO. 137.

Wednesday, May 17, 1939.

### BRITISH TROOPS SET TO CRUSH WHITE PAPER DISORDERS; JEWS CALLED TO FAST, PRAY

JERUSALEM, May 16. (JTA) -- The authorities today intensified preparations to forestall possible disturbances tomorrow following issuance of the British White Paper proclaiming intention of setting up an independent Palestine state in which the Jews will be fixed as a one-third minority. At the same time, a day of fast, special prayers and blowing of the shofar was proclaimed for Thursday by Chief Rabbis Isaac Herzog and Jacob Meir.

The military commander of the Northern District this morning summoned Jewish and Arab leaders at Safed and, in separate sessions, warned that groups of more than ten were forbidden in the streets. He cautioned that troops would suppress demonstrations, adding everyone was free to mourn or to celebrate privately at home.

When similar warning was given to the local council of Hedera, President Butkovsky retorted: "How can you demand lawfulness of the Jews when the British Government itself breaks the law."

Last night the Jewish National Council, with the participation of Mayor Israel Rokach of Tel Aviv, the Histadruth, the Farmers Association, the Revisionists and the Agudath Israel, conferred on the line of action to be pursued with regard to the White Paper After the conference, President Isaac Ben Zvi expressed the hope that united action would be taken.

The Government Advisory Council, meanwhile, was pressing High Commissioner Sir Harold A. MacMichael to broadcast an appeal to the populace for calm, but he was understood to maintain that the White Paper would speak for itself.

The blue-white Zionist emblem flew briefly this morning over the Government offices in Tel Aviv. Unidentified persons, believed actuated by a desire to protest the new Britisi policy, shortly after midnight placed the single-starred banner where the Union Jack customarily flies.

## Placards Warn of Bloodshed

JERUSALEM, May 16. (Havas) -- Placards printed in Hebrew appeared on the walls of Jerusalem today to warn British authorities that the Jews "would take up the sword" if their hopes for a national home were blasted. "We do not want to cause the death of innocent people but if necessary we will not hesitate to shed blood," the placards warned.

At the same time Revisionists launched a campaign for a 24-hour general strike following the White Paper's release.

#### Weizmann Sees U.S. Ambassador

LONDON, May 16. (JTA) -- Jewish objections to the impending White Paper were outlined to United States Ambassador Joseph P. Kennedy this morning by Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the World Zionist Organization.

At the same time, Prof. Selig Brodetsky, member of the World Zionist Executive, discussed the situation with Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald. It is understood, however, that text of the White Paper was not given to Prof. Brodetsky, nor has the Jewish Agency received a copy of the document.

Dr. Weizmann is scheduled to voice the Agency's reply to the Government's new Palestine policy on Thursday night at Kingaway Hall in the presence of several thousand persons. His scheduled return to Palestine may be deferred until after the debate in Parliament on the policy next week.

British public opinion was warned by Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog of Palestine to reflect before permitting the Jewish national home to be jettisoned by the British Government. "I am confident," he told the Jerusalem correspondent of The Times in an interview, "that the English people do not appreciate what is at stake. The British Government's reckless undertaking is a sin against the spirit of God, of the soul and of man. It is designed to bring to naught a great effort of human liberation and to drive to despair a people with nothing left in the world but the hope of Zion. It cannot succeed. Untold suffering will be provoked if the merciless decree is pronounced. For the sake of peace in the Holy Land and for the sake of my suffering people I pray God that it may yet be averted."

# Fast, Work Stoppage Proclaimed in U.S. May 22

NEW YORK, May 16. (JTA) -- The Agudath Harabonim (Rabbinical Association) has proclaimed a nation-wide day of prayer and a one-hour stoppage from work on May 22 in connection with the British statement of policy on Palestine.

# Mass. Legislature Asks U.S. Intercession

BOSTON, May 16. (JTA) -- The Massachusetts Legislature, on the eve of the issuance of a British statement of policy on Palestine, asked the United States Government today in a resolution to use its good offices to safeguard the Jewish national home and keep Palestine doors open for refugees.

The resolution follows: "Whereas, recognition has been given by the nations of the world to the historical connection of the Jewish people with Palestine; whereas, the United States has given approval to the reestablishment of the Jewish national home in Palestine, embodied in the Lodge resolution,

"Resolved, that the General Court of Massachusetts express its concern over the welfare of the Jewish national home, and that the United States is solicited to use its good offices for the purpose of safeguarding the integrity of the Balfour Declaration in accordance with the terms of the Palestine mandate to the end that the doors of Palestine be open for the purpose of admitting homeless Jewish victims of racial bigotry and religious intolerance.

#### Polish Jews Protest to Ambassador

WARSAW, May 16. (JTA) -- The British Ambassador today received a delegation composed of Jewish parliamentarians, representatives of all Zionist parties and the religious non-Zionist Agudath Israel, which presented a memorandum stating Polish Jewry's attitude toward the forthcoming British White Paper on Palestine. He promised to transmit it to the British Government.

Stopping off here en route from Jerusalem to London, Treasurer Eleazer Kaplan of the Jewish Agency told a press conference last night that Palestine Jewry was determined, legally or illegally, to conduct an active and passive campaign for realization of the Jewish rights to immigration and colonization denied by the White Paper. Responsible Palestine Jewish leadership, he said, was opposed to the shedding of innocent blood to strengthen the upbuilding of Palestine. He said more new Jewish settlements would shortly be established in the Holy Land.

## Zionist Congress to Open in Geneva Aug. 16

GENEVA, May 16. (JTA) — The Jewish Agency announced today that the 21st biennial World Zionist Congress will open here on August 16 and continue for 10 to 15 days. The congress is expected to be the most critical since the initial session held at Basel in 1897, since it will be called upon to formulate the movement's reaction to the new British policy on Palestine. Following the congress, the Council of the Jewish Agency will hold a session lasting from two to three days.

## PRAGUE AT ODDS WITH NAZIS OVER ANTI-JEWISH LAW

LONDON, May 16. (JTA) -- It was learned from Prague today that a controversy over the impending anti-Jewish law, already drafted by the Elias Government, has arisen between the Government and the German protectorate office. The controversy centers around the projected law's definition of a Jew. The Germans object particularly to the Government's intention to recognize as "Aryans" not only persons baptized before Nov. 1, 1919, but also those who have been living in the protectorate for 50 years and acknowledged Czech nationality.

The Germans not only favor introduction of the Nuremberg racial laws but fear that the Government's attitude will encourage Jews in supporting Czech national aspirations. The Czechs, on the other hand, are reluctant to proclaim the anti-Jewish law because they are convinced that it will strengthen German influence.

# ANGLO-AMERICAN CORPORATION PLANNED TO FINANCE, DIRECT GUIANA SETTLEMENT

LONDON, May 16. (JTA) -- It was learned today that officials of the Intergovernmental Refugee Committee are in constant telephonic communication with American Vice-Chairman Myron C. Taylor with regard to establishment of an Anglo-American corporation to promote the experimental settlement in British Guiana recommended by a commission of experts after a survey of the South American colony.

It is understood that the Guiana project will be financed and directed by the ad hoc corporation so that the costs will not fall upon existing refugee organizations. Intergover mental Committee circles are hopeful that the differences among interested groups here and

in New York will soon be bridged and the corporation organized to take preliminary measures for launching of the trial settlement of 3,000 to 5,000 refugees in the autumn.

A formal report of the experts commission which investigated refugee settlement possibilities in the Dominican Republic has not yet been received, but a preliminary report is described as hopeful.

## WARSAW COUNCIL VOTES TO OUST JEWISH EMPLOYEES

WARSAW, May 16. (JTA) -- A decision of the Warsaw Municipal Council, voted with the support of Camp of National Unity and National Democratic members, to dismiss Jews as municipal employees insofar as possible, drew a formal protest today from Socialist and Bund (Jewish Socialist) councillors.

The Council chairman declined to put to a vote a motion for complete prohibition of kosher slaughter on the ground that the question had not yet been decided on a nation-wide basis by Parliament. The Council voted 20,000 zlotys to Christian loan banks and 25,000 to promote Christian trade and industry. A National Democratic demand for liquidation of the Jewish hospital and cancellation of subsidies to homes for Jewish children and aged was rejected.

Meanwhile, anti-Jewish disorders were renewed at Warsaw University. Several Jewish students were beaten.

### MURPHY WARNS AGAINST CURBING FREE SPEECH IN FIGHTING BIAS; URGES CRIMINAL LAWS BE USED

NEW YORK, May 16. (JTA) -- "We should and must be on our guard" against anti-Semitic organizations, but "as devotees of democracy we cannot crush them," Attorney-General Frank Murphy declared yesterday in an address before the United States Conference of Mayors at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel.

"We have legitimate methods of bringing propaganda groups into the open and exposing their nature and their origin to the light of day," Mr. Murphy told the 110 assembled mayors "We ought to know not only what they preach but who their sponsors are and where they get their funds. But as devotees of democracy we cannot crush them and deny them a place in the market. We need not do this. We have no reason to fear their competition. We have a bette article to sell. And because we have a better article we can do a better job of salesmanship."

Declaring "you cannot strengthen democracy by undermining it," the Attorney-General asserted that "we have criminal laws that protect us against violence and incitement to violence. We should be ready and able to use them."

Although "we are a tolerant people," Mr. Murphy said, there were some 800 organizations in the United States carrying on definite anti-Jewish propaganda. These organizations claim 5,000,000 members, "no doubt a considerable overstatement," he declared, but "even if we reduce the figure by half or more, we face the fact that a large number of our people subscribe to the philosophy that has reduced the Jews of Central Europe to a condition of misery seldom equalled in the world's history."

#### ARGENTINA BANS FOREIGN-DIRECTED POLITICAL GROUPS

BUENOS AIRES, May 16. (JTA) -- The Argentine Nazi party, two Italian-directed organizations and the Spanish Falangist party today faced suppression if they do not subscribe to "democratic principles" within 90 days under a decree issued by President Robert M. Ortiz ordering the dissolution of political organizations controlled from abroad. The decree followed an incurry into Nazi activities in Argentina.

## Chile Deports Anti-Semitic Agitator

SANTIAGO, May 16. (JTA) -- Hans Voigt Schmidt, chief of the German State Railways propaganda bureau in Chile, who was found by police to have ordered the printing of 100,000 anti-Semitic leaflets, has been deported by the police authorities on the grounds that his activities menaced the country's tranquillity.

## HALF OF AUSTRIAN JEWS EMIGRATED, NAZIS REPORT

VIENNA, May 16. (Havas) -- The Vienna edition of the Voelkischer Beobachter has announced that 99,672 Jews have emigrated from Austria since Anschluss under the auspices of the Central Government Office. The figure represented slightly more than 50 per cent of Austria' Jewish population. The newspaper's statistics included only those emigrees practicing the Jewish faith.

## LATE PALESTINE NEWS

## Kennedy Makes Representations to Britain

LONDON, May 16. (JTA) -- United States Ambassador Joseph P. Kennedy was understood today to have made representations to the British Government regarding the Palestine policy. Mr. Kennedy, in an interview with Dr. Chaim Weizmann, was understood to have given assurances that the American attitude toward the Palestine question had been properly presented and denied rumors that the intervention had been lukewarm.

Zionist circles predicted that the White Paper would be "a little worse than" the final proposals at the London conference on Palestine. They anticipated a declaration that the British obligations to the Jews had been discharged and elimination of the principle that Jewish consent was necessary for terminating the transition between the present status and statehood. It was also expected that the White Paper would be more specific about appointment of Arab ministers in the Palestine Government during the transition.

Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald was reliably reported to have denied, in an interview with Prof. Selig Brodetsky, that any deal was made with the Arab states neighboring Palestine whereby the policy was modified to meet their objections as a condition of their acceptance in advance.

JERUSALEM, May 16. (Havas) -- At 8 p.m. tomorrow a summary of the British plan is to be broadcast in English, Hebrew and Arabic. The entire broadcast is scheduled to take 36 minutes. British troops were posted in advance in the expectation there would be immediate trouble. Regional military commanders warned the local Jewish municipal councils that they would be responsible for the conduct of their respective colonies.

Zionist organizations have already circularized their members throughout the Holy Land with final instructions as to their line of conduct following publication of the White Paper. A special commission was appointed to act in cooperation with the Jewish National Council on all future questions.