

# NEWS

*from all over the world*

VIA

CABLE  
WIRELESS  
TELEGRAPH  
TELEPHONE

## by the JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. V. NO. 166.

Wednesday, June 21, 1939.

### PALESTINE JEWISH LEADERS CONDEMN VIOLENCE; "ONLY AIDS OUR ENEMIES," BEN GURION WARNS

JERUSALEM, June 20. (JTA) -- Jewish leaders here and in Haifa, scene of yesterday's bombing which took the lives of 18 Arabs, were on record today with statements strongly condemning violence.

At a session of the Jewish National Council this morning, President Isaac Ben Zvi declared that political aims would not be attained by spilling the blood of innocents. Moshe Shertok, head of the Jewish Agency's political department, reported on political activities in London and urged that the fight against British policy in Palestine be carried on with measures assuring the sympathy of friends and strengthening the justice of the Jewish stand.

David Ben Gurion, chairman of the Palestine Executive of the Jewish Agency, warned in a statement published in the Hebrew press that the "killing of innocent Arabs and Jews only aide our enemies."

"We must not defile our struggle," he said, "by unspeakable aberrations such as demented miscreants have been guilty of at Biraddas, Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and Haifa. The killing of innocent Arabs and Jews only aids our enemies. It is no accident that all the despicable, foul acts undermining the resistance to the White Paper has been carried out by a small, barren handful which has never been able to share in Zionist activities."

Summoned by the military commander of the Haifa district following yesterday's blast, Haifa Jewish leaders voiced the Jewish community's disgust with terrorism which they said was at "complete variance with Jewish policy." They emphasized, however, that there was no proof that Jews had been guilty of the bombing.

Eight Arab terrorists were killed and another captured late yesterday in an engagement with British troops atop Mt. Temptation, near Jericho. Havas News Agency reported that British troops seized 22 rifles, one revolver and a quantity of ammunition, while another cache of guns and bullets was discovered with an unfinished subterranean mine in the Jewish colony at Ramat Gan, near Tel Aviv.

### Zionists In Split Over Agency's Political Tactics

JERUSALEM, June 20. (JTA) -- The Palestine Center of the General Zionist "B" Party today disassociated itself from the political activities of the Jewish Agency Executive and the Jewish National Council in protest against failure of these bodies to accede to demands for formation of an all-inclusive Jewish emergency committee.

A communique stated that a meeting of the party yesterday adopted a resolution expressing non-confidence in the Jewish Agency's political department and deciding not to participate in the proposed broadened National Council. Demanding an end of "one-party domination" and establishment of a new Zionist leadership representing all quarters, the statement said the Agency and Council had failed to organize a fight against Britain's Palestine policy and had announced "unworkable projects creating anarchy in the Jewish community," while the party's efforts for creation of an emergency committee had been blocked.

- - -

London Paper Urges Firmness in Face of Violence

LONDON, June 20. (JTA) -- The Daily Telegraph, commenting on the bombing in Haifa yesterday, advised the Government today that the surest way to counter violence was to "give unmistakable evidence that under no circumstances will the new Palestine policy be abandoned." The newspaper said that the most sinister feature of the situation was that the Jews were "taking a leaf from the Arab book."

- - -

Palestine Economy Steady Under Strain of Unrest, P.E.C. Report Holds

NEW YORK, June 20. (JTA) --- Palestine's economy has so far withstood unrest and political uncertainty, but continuation of these conditions may have serious effects, the Palestine Economic Corporation declares in its report for 1938, issued today.

"In the emergency of the last three years," the report states, "Jewish Palestine has been purged of its dross, stripped of its economic fat. What was narrowly speculative or flagrantly unsound has to a large degree vanished. The steadiness with which Palestine has faced its long ordeal proves that what remains is generally well rooted in the needs of the country.

"A stable economic base has been provided for future contingencies -- for resistance if it is necessary; for expansion when it becomes possible. But continued unrest and dislocation of the country's normal economic processes may yet jeopardize the gains which have been won by so much labor and devotion. Modern Palestine is still too young to have built up the reserves which older and richer countries possess to tide them over long periods of economic stress."

The report, for the first time in its 12 years, is largely pictorial. The growth of the Jewish homeland, its farms, industries and towns, is depicted in profuse illustration.

Despite the note of warning, the report is generally optimistic. It notes that even in these troubled times, 27,390 dunams of land were bought in 1938, 58 new settlements established, citrus fruit growers exported a record crop of 15,000,000 cases, industry has held its own and production of electric power has increased slightly. It is estimated that "economic activity has not been reduced by more than 10 to 20 per cent since the halcyon days of 1935."

The "unexpected economic resiliency" is accounted for by (1) the "broader base of communal life" on which Jewish settlements rests, (2) "the investments of earlier years in the citrus industry are at last beginning to bear fruit" and (3) "labor is temporarily utilized in building strategic roads and defense works; and workers are employed in greater number in the Government security services."

"Acting as a community," the report finds, "the Jews have tapped their reserves of mutual self-help, of self-discipline, of cooperation -- and they have not been found wanting. Their resistance under emergency conditions springs from a spiritual enthusiasm arising from the knowledge that they are working to translate an ideal into concrete terms -- an ideal inseparably bound up with the territory in which they live."

Regarding its own activities, the corporation reports current assets of more than \$3,800,000, a total of 1,400 stockholders, an aggregate of \$25,000,000 issued in loans, an operating surplus of \$413,835 and continued payment of 2 per cent on its common stock. The corporation's activities are devoted largely to aiding Palestine cooperatives societies, which now have a total membership of 250,000; assisting housing developments and city planning, providing water and investing in basic enterprises like Palestine Potash, Ltd., and Palestine Electric Corp., Ltd.

The P.E.C. is the outgrowth of a meeting held in 1920 under the leadership of ex-Justice Louis D. Brandeis and began its corporate existence in 1926 upon the merger of several interested groups. Julius Simon is president and Bernard Flexner is chairman of the board.

#### NAZI PRESS SEES BRITAIN FACING ARAB REVOLT IN NEAR EAST

PARIS, June 20. (JTA) The inspired Reich press is seeking to add to Britain's far Eastern worries by picturing an incipient Near Eastern Arab revolt, it was reported today from Berlin by the Havas News Agency.

The concerted anti-British tone taken by the German newspapers strengthened reports in well-informed sources that Germany has launched a diplomatic and propaganda campaign to warn the Arab nations against alleged Turkish imperialist designs on her Southern neighbors. The anti-Turkish drive has become part of Berlin's strategy since Ankara aligned herself with the European peace front via a mutual assistance agreement with Britain.

The German press featured an Italian newspaper report that the Emir Feisal, son of King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia, had delivered an ultimatum to Britain in his father's name threatening a rupture of relations between Saudi Arabia and Britain if the Palestine question were not rapidly solved to satisfaction of the Arabs.

At the same time, the Nazi newspapers stressed that Italian political circles attached the highest importance to the lengthy talk Chancellor Adolf Hitler had on Saturday with Royal Councillor Kjalid Al Hud, a special envoy from King Ibn Saud, at the Fuehrer's Berghof villa near Berchtesgaden.

The Boersen Zeitung spread in a banner headline: "With Ibn Saud's special envoy the movement (of hostility to Britain) extends to the Near East also. Rome takes a stand on the Arab visit to the Fuehrer."

The newspaper then quoted a passage from the Lavoro Fascista, saying that "Ibn Saud's envoy's visit to the Fuehrer shows that while the British Colonial Minister (Malcolm MacDonald) was discussing his plan for settling the Palestine problem, the Saudi Arabian king deemed it useful to negotiate with the axis powers."

Meanwhile, it was disclosed that an uncle of King Feisel II of Iraq had been in Berlin recently on what was described as a private visit.

6/21/39.

Broad Arab Coalition Seen in Formation; Would Hit at Reich Penetration Hopes

LONDON, June 20. (JTA) -- Early extension of the four-power Saadabad pact (Iraq, Turkey and Afghanistan) to include Egypt and Saudi Arabia will deal a disillusioning blow to Reich penetration hopes in the Near East, it was said here tonight in well-informed Arab quarters.

The same quarters said King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia may be "flirting" with Berlin as part of a plan to force Britain to make further concessions in favor of the Palestine Arabs. When the final choice comes, they said, however, he plans to throw in his lot with other Arab countries in a strongly reinforced coalition built around the Saadabad pact.

While declining to offer a formal denial, Arab quarters here were skeptical of reports from Cairo that Ibn Saud was preparing to give Germany an oil concession in his country. Saudi Arabia only recently rejected a German bid in that direction and there was no reason to believe its Government had since changed its decision, they said.

The same sources denied that the current visit of Kjalid Al Hud to Germany was in any way connected with a possible oil concession. Describing him as a businessman, they said he did not represent the Saudi Arabian Government and was in Berlin to handle "personal" affairs.

Negotiations for Saudi Arabia's adherence to the Saadabad pact are proceeding slowly but surely at Baghdad, Arab circles said. A special mission of Egyptian Bedouins are meanwhile striving to reconcile the two sects of Iraqi Moslems hostile to Ankara's participation.

The recent marriage of Princess Fawzia of Egypt to Crown Prince Mohammed Reza Pahlavi of Iran has done much to appease this traditional enmity. Hopes are consequently high in Arab quarters that complete agreement will soon be reached permitting a general pact of non-aggression and consultation among all Arab countries.

PRIEST'S TESTIMONY HELPS ACQUIT RUMANIAN POET CHARGED WITH FLOUTING CHRISTIANITY

BUCHAREST, June 20. (JTA) -- Testimony by a noted Orthodox priest, a prominent literary critic and a legal scholar resulted today in the acquittal by a military court of Aron Oknitzer, Yiddish poet, who had been held for two months in the ill-famed Jilava prison on charges of insulting the Christian faith by his volume of poetry, "Evangelic Motives."

Father Gala Galaction, who is a professor at the Kishineff Theological Seminary and author of a Rumanian translation of the Bible published under the auspices of King Carol, declared that Oknitzer "far from insulting had extolled Christian morals by his beautiful verse. Similar opinions were expressed by Prof. Eugen Lovinescu, literary critic, and Prof. Eugen Heroveanu, of the Bucharest Law School.

BIGGEST NAZI BOOKSHOP HERE CLOSSES FOR LACK OF BUSINESS

NEW YORK, June 20. (JTA) -- The largest German bookshop in the East, located in the heart of the German-populated Yorkville section of New York and known as a center of Nazi literature, has closed for lack of business, it was learned today.

The store was the Deutsche Buchhandlung at 1472 Third Ave., owned by H. Jurgens, a member of Fritz Kuhn's German-American Bund. His shop had been listed in the "Trade Guide" of the German Consumers' League, an affiliate of the Bund.

Jurgens told a reporter that, although he had in stock a large supply of Nazi books and pamphlets, his business was worse than at any time since the establishment opened ten years ago. He has since found employment with the Germania Book and Specialty Corporation, 1523 Third Ave.

#### BELGIUM URGED TO FIX MONTHLY IMMIGRATION QUOTA BASED ON ABSORPTIVITY

BRUSSELS, June 20. (JTA) -- Introduction of an immigration quota to be fixed monthly by the Belgian Government in accordance with the country's economic absorptive capacity was suggested today by former Justice Minister Victor Delavey in a report on the Justice Ministry's estimates to be submitted to the Chamber of Deputies on Thursday.

Stating that Belgium, since March, 1938, had admitted 20,000 aliens, among whom were many of the Jewish race, the report stresses the necessity of regulating immigration in view of the fact that the Refugee Committee's funds are exhausted. The report congratulates the Government on its humanity toward the refugees, citing particularly admission of 250 of the St. Louis passengers, and the financial contribution toward their maintenance. Justice Minister Paul Emile Janson is expected to make a declaration on immigration policy during the Thursday session.

#### FRENCH DOCK WORKERS UNLOAD ST. LOUIS EXILES' BAGGAGE WITHOUT FEE

BOULOGNE-SUR-MER, France, June 20. (JTA) -- The Hamburg-American Line steamship Rhakotis today landed 223 refugees, France's quota of the 907 former passengers on the St. Louis, and then proceeded to Southampton, England, to discharge the remaining refugees. Dock workers demonstrated their sympathy for the exiles by refusing payment for unloading their baggage.

French officials cooperated with representatives of the Joint Distribution Committee and HIAS-ICA Emigration Association in executing the disembarkation within a half-hour. After housing had been arranged, Morris C. Troper, European director of the J.D.C., returned to Paris, voicing high praise for the cooperation of Government officials.

Lists of the refugees' names were immediately rushed to New York so that those with relatives in the United States could be informed of their safe arrival after a five-week odyssey which took them to Cuba and back to Europe. The contingent to whom France has offered temporary shelter will remain here a few days and then be distributed to various parts of the country, permitted to live anywhere except in Paris. Some of them will leave for Martigny Vosges, agricultural education center. The refugees are in France on special authorizations renewable monthly.

#### 450 Refugees Sail For Latin America

LA ROCHELLE, France, June 20. (JTA) -- The steamship Renia del Pacifico sailed today for Latin America with 450 German and Czech Jews aboard.

#### Child Refugees Reach Holland

AMSTERDAM, June 20. (JTA) -- A group of 100 Jewish refugee children arrived in Holland today from Germany. Another group of 100 is expected to arrive tomorrow, to be followed next week by 100 daily.

Lord Hailey to Quit London Refugee Body

LONDON, June 19. (JTA) -- Reports that Lord Hailey would resign as chairman of the British Coordinating Committee for Refugees at the end of June were confirmed here today. According to the Evening Standard, work of the committee will be continued under a new chairman and probably also under a new name, since Lord Hailey regards the present name as misleading on the ground that it suggests a wider measure of active control than the committee actually possesses. Lord Hailey has proposed renaming the committee as the Central Consultative Committee for Refugees.

Borah Hits Refugee Bill as "Politics;" Little Hope of Passage

WASHINGTON, June 20. (JTA) -- The Wagner-Rogers bill for admission of 20,000 refugee children of three faiths from Germany in the next two years received a setback today when Senator William E. Borah (Rep., Idaho) criticized the measure as containing "a touch of politics."

Opening discussion of the bill in the Senate, Mr. Borah declared he would support any movement to assist children and oppressed groups but contended that such a program should not be confined to any one country. "We ought to do service on a broad scale and not permit what I think is a touch of politics to enter the picture," he said.

Senator Robert R. Reynolds (Dem., No. Car.) urged that immigration quotas be suspended for five years. He said it was his duty as an American to provide aid for orphans in the United States before giving aid to orphans of the world. The Senator challenged the Senate to disprove that 90 percent of American parents did not agree with him. He read letters from American parents declaring their sons could not get jobs while German refugees were getting them.

Senate and House leaders hold little hope for passage of the bill, which is regarded as controversial legislation.

Daily News Holds Wagner Rogers Bill "Job-Making" Measure

NEW YORK, June 20. (JTA) -- The New York Daily News today editorially urged passage of the Wagner-Rogers refugee children's bill, declaring that "it is a job making proposal rather than a job-taking one." The paper said: "We must make ourselves look the least bit ridiculous, if nothing worse, when we get squeamish about letting in a handful of helpless, innocent child victims of the kind of Old World tyranny that a lot of our ancestors came over here to escape."

"ARYANIZATION" OF MEDICAL PROFESSION IN AUSTRIA REPORTED COMPLETE

NEW YORK, June 20. (JTA) -- "Aryanization" of the medical profession in Austria is now complete with the elimination of about 2,000 Jewish physicians and persecution of the few that remain, the Vienna correspondent of the Journal of the American Medical Association reports.

SENATOR VOLTERRA, FAMED MATHEMATICIAN, SERIOUSLY ILL IN ROME

ROME, June 20. (JTA) -- Senator Vito Volterra, one of Italy's greatest mathematicians, a member of the Papal Academy and prominent in the Rome Jewish Community, was dangerously ill here today following a heart attack. He is 79 years old.



COMMISSARS TO RULE JEWISH SHOPS IN SLOVAKIA TO END OF YEAR

LONDON, June 20. (JTA) -- The Slovakian Government has extended to the end of the year the period during which Government commissars are to supervise Jewish businesses, it was reported today from Bratislava. The commissars were originally scheduled to be withdrawn today. A decree regulating employment of Jews in private enterprises is now being prepared by the Slovakian Government, it was learned.

11 JEWS GET JAIL TERMS IN ITALY FOR FAILING TO REGISTER RACE

TRIESTE, June 20. (JTA) -- Jail terms of five to eight days were meted out today to 11 Jews found guilty of failing to register as members of the Jewish race within the period fixed by the Government's new racial laws.

MANDATES COMMISSION TELLS MACDONALD HIGHER LEAGUE BODY MUST PASS ON WHITE PAPER

GENEVA, June 20. (JTA) -- The League of Nations Mandates Commission, concluding its examination of Britain's new Palestine policy, was understood to have told Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald today that the question of approval of the policy was beyond its competence and had to be referred to a higher League authority. A three-man subcommittee was appointed to formulate the commission's observations for submission to the Council.

Form of Palestine State Not Yet Set, MacDonald Holds in Broadcast

NEW YORK, June 20. (JTA) In an address broadcast in the United States by the National Broadcasting Company, Colonial Secretary MacDonald tonight defended the British policy on Palestine, stressing that adequate safeguards would be provided for the Jewish homeland under the proposed independent state and again stating that the form of the state, unitary or federal, remained to be determined through experience.

It may be, the Colonial Secretary said, that the state should be unitary, or it may be that it should be composed of Arab and Jewish provinces, each with a large degree of autonomy. "We must wait and see how matters work out in practice during the transitional period," he declared.

At any rate, Mr. MacDonald promised, Britain would require that the Jewish homeland "really be safeguarded" before independent statehood would be established. During the 10-year transition, the homeland would be protected by the High Commissioner, who would retain power, he asserted. This policy, he held, was in accord with the aims of the mandate. He concluded with an appeal to Arabs and Jews for cooperation.

For 20 years, Mr. MacDonald said in the opening part of his 15-minute speech, Britain had been carrying out its promises to the Jews, resulting in creation of a flourishing community. Britain hoped that the Arabs would come to see the benefits of Jewish colonization, "but that hope has been finally dashed."

Arab fears of Jewish domination, he said, were expressed in the three-year revolt. If it were just a bandit movement, it could have gone unheeded, but it assumed the proportions of "a widespread, patriotic movement" which could no longer be ignored.

It would be "fatal," Mr. MacDonald said, if the animosity were allowed to become "permanent between peoples who must live in a common homeland." This fact, coupled with the

threatened spread of the unrest throughout the Near East, led Britain to seek a way to a solution that would ensure that neither group would dominate the other and "in time good will and peace might flourish."

#### REFUGEES THREATEN HUNGER STRIKE IN WARSAW

WARSAW, June 20. (JTA) -- Hundreds of hungry refugees today surrounded the offices of the Jewish Refugee Committee, demanding aid and threatening a hunger strike. Chief Rabbi Moses Schorr received a delegation of the refugees. The committee's funds have been virtually exhausted.

#### MIZRACHI WOMEN'S PARLEY VOTES \$50,000 TO PUSH PALESTINE PROJECTS

ATLANTIC CITY, June 20. (JTA) -- The Mizrahi Women's Organization of America, at its 14th annual convention, today approved a budget of \$50,000 for the coming year for its homes and training schools in Palestine, which were reported by Mrs. Nathan B. Fischer, financial secretary, to have an approximate value of \$150,000.

Mrs. Bessie Gotsfeld, of Palestine, director of the institutions, declared in an address at Palestine Night tonight: "There is no surrender and no despair in the Yishuv as a result of the British betrayal. We are training builders and defenders of our homeland in the Mizrahi Women's projects. The recent opening of the new Tel Aviv center, constructed during the disturbances, is symbolic of our dauntless determination to carry on."

Dissatisfaction with Zionist policy was voiced by Gedaliah Bublick, Mizrahi leader, who declared: "The next Zionist Congress will have to change the political policy. The policy of weakness is bankrupt and should be buried. The congress won't be concerned with the mistakes of yesterday, but must shape the plans of tomorrow. These plans must be underlined by a stronger position and a firmer stand in relations with Britain."

The Mizrahi Women have added 19 chapters in the past year, making a total of nearly 100 throughout the country, with a membership of 15,000, Mrs. Samuel Goldstein, secretary, reported. She urged the delegates to "rededicate ourselves to greater accomplishments."

#### GENE TUNNEY JOINS CATHOLIC COMMITTEE TO FIGHT ANTI-SEMITISM

NEW YORK, June 20. (JTA) -- Gene Tunney, former heavyweight boxing champion, has joined the Committee of Catholics to Fight Anti-Semitism in order to help combat the persecution of "any of God's children for racial or religious reasons," it was announced today. Other prominent Catholics who have enlisted in the drive are Monsignor John A. Ryan and the Rev. Paul Hanley Furfey of Catholic University; Ward Hard, Washington correspondent, Emmet Lavery, playwright; Will Lissner and John Hinkle, newspapermen; Theodore Maynard, writer, and New York State Assemblyman Robert F. Wagner Jr.

Dr. Emmanuel Chapman, executive secretary of the committee and Professor of Philosophy at Fordham University, said he "had no idea that the response from Catholic leaders, priests and laymen, would be so spontaneous and enthusiastic. The volume of mail, the stream of people willing to help has made it necessary to increase our office space considerably." He also announced that an eight-page tabloid size newspaper would be on the streets in about a week. He expects the final circulation of the paper will reach the half-million mark.

#### LATE PALESTINE NEWS

JERUSALEM, June 20. (JTA) -- It was officially announced tonight that unknown persons early this morning fired into a house in the Arab village of Lubiya in the Tiberias sub-district, killing two men and one woman and wounding one man and two children.