

# NEWS

from all over the world



by the

## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. V. NO. 191.

Friday, July 21, 1939.

### MacDONALD, DEFENDING ENTRY BAN IN BITTER DEBATE, CHARGES JEWS CONSPIRED TO FLOUT BRITAIN

LONDON, July 20. (JTA) -- Defending his decree banning Jewish immigration to Palestine for six months from a bitter onslaught by members of all parties, Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald accused the Jews of conspiring, through illegal immigration, to flout British authority and to "smash the White Paper policy."

He asserted illegal immigration "is producing the gravest unrest among the Arab population."

"It is making that population -- and it is designed by its authors to do so -- suspicious of the sincerity of His Majesty's Government in carrying out the White Paper policy," he said. "Once more distrust of our good faith and good word is becoming widespread not only among the Arabs of Palestine, but of the countries beyond."

He promised that if illegal immigration should cease, the Government would revoke its ban on legal immigration and allow Jews to enter up to the limits set in the White Paper.

Tom Williams, Laborite, launched the attack on the White Paper, charging that a majority of the League of Nations Permanent Mandates Commission had rejected it.

Williams announced that Laborite objections to the Palestine situation could be summarized under three points: 1--refusal of the Permanent Mandates Commission to approve the White Paper; 2--failure of the Government's policy as evidenced by disorders in Palestine and harsh measures used to repress them; 3--suspension of legal Jewish immigration into Palestine.

"It would not be untrue to say," the speaker declared, "that there has been a further surrender to violence."

"Europe being what it is, and Palestine being what it is to millions of people, illegal immigration during the past few months was almost inevitable. Just at the moment when the refugee problem was at its worst, the Government issued their White Paper restricting legal immigration and threatening complete cessation within five years."

Williams assailed MacDonald for using an "iron hand" not against the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, the Arab terrorists and Hitler, but against the refugees. He accused the Government, amid vociferous dissent from the Government benches, of cooperating with the extremist terrorist Arab elements.

Geoffrey Mander, Liberal, supported Williams in his criticism of the Government, demanding that the White Paper be submitted to the Permanent Court of International Justice at The Hague.

He insisted that illegal immigration is natural and will continue, and asserted that all but ten per cent of Jews who illegally arrive in Palestine come from Germany. He also asked the Government to deny reports carried in the press that concentration camps will be created for illegal entrants discovered in the future.

Alfred Duff Cooper, Conservative, declared: "I am afraid British justice and popularity in Palestine are lower than they have ever been, both with Jew and Arab. It seems to me that the latest evidence of the failure of our policy is that because illegal immigration has succeeded, legal immigration is to be stopped. Is that not another proof -- a lamentable proof -- of failure? It is punishing those who are observing the law for the success of those who are breaking it. That the Secretary of State for colonies should have been driven to adopt that measure seems to prove the policy is a failure."

Recalling that both Arabs and Jews have long been considered friends of the British Empire, Cooper said the two national groups are now asking favors which are mutually incompatible. In this circumstance, he suggested, Britain ought to favor the one in greatest need.

"If we look at the Arabs, we find," he declared, "that during the past 20 years they have enjoyed greater prosperity and freedom than they have known for centuries."

Cooper ascribed the recent prosperity of the Arabs to the outcome of the World War.

"What a different picture is presented by the present state of the Jews," he exclaimed. "In all their long and tragic history they have never gone through a period so terrible as this. To the claims of Jews at the present moment and our goodwill and gratitude for all they have done for civilization in the past -- and few races have done more -- we have to add the weight of our debt of gratitude."

This debt, he added, is so great that the world could not possibly repay it.

"The abominable regime to which they are being subjected in Germany," he said, "will be an indelible stain on Germany's good name throughout her future history, shared to some extent by the whole world."

He suggested that in the future people might refer to the present day as the "age of the German concentration camp," as they now refer to the "age of the Spanish Inquisition."

"We should make a real home for the Jews in Palestine," he advocated. "Having made up our minds to support the Jews, we should say frankly to the Arabs: 'This is what we propose to do.'"

"They understand that language. They can't understand our present policy."

Nothing less than an autonomous state in which Jews could make their own decisions on immigration would solve the problem, Duff Cooper asserted.

In replying for the Government, MacDonald first recalled that Commons had already voiced approval of the White Paper. The opposition, he asserted, was trying to revive an issue that had been disposed of several weeks ago.

5 ARABS SLAIN IN NEW BURST OF VIOLENCE; JEWISH CITIES PUNISHED

JERUSALEM, July 20. (JTA) -- Five Arabs were killed today and eight others wounded in a renewed burst of violence that was officially attributed to Jews.

Gunfire accounted for the victims who were attacked in Tel Aviv, Petach-Tikvah and Rehoboth. The authorities immediately invoked punitive measures, suspending Jewish traffic to and from Tel Aviv. The Florentine quarter of Tel Aviv, and all of Petach Tikvah and Rehoboth were put under curfew until further notice. The military commander of the southern district warned Mayor Israel Rokach of Tel Aviv that the punishment would be increased in the event the attacks were repeated.

A military court at Haifa last night sentenced to life imprisonment a 16-year-old Tiberias Jewish youth, Nachum Abbo, for fatally wounding an Arab last May 7. Nine Arab youths testified against Abbo, whose brother had been wounded by terrorists earlier that day.

A Jerusalem military court sentenced to a one-month term Joseph Alamoud, of Raanana, for possession of a revolver discovered during search of his home. His wife was acquitted.

REFUGEE BODY, ENDING 2-DAY SESSION, HEARS DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, MINDANAO CAN TAKE 120,000

LONDON, July 20. (JTA) -- The Intergovernmental Refugee Committee, concluding its two-day plenary session here, had before it today reports indicating that approximately 120,000 refugees can be settled in the Dominican Republic and the Island of Mindanao, the "pearl of the Philippines."

The meeting was concluded this morning with a short formal session at which the resignation of Robert T. Pell as vice-director was accepted with regret. In view of the new turn given by yesterday's British offer for financial participation in settlement of refugees overseas and President Roosevelt's invitation to the directorate, there was little left for discussion this morning.

A report of the Roosevelt Advisory Committee on Refugees, submitted to the committee by Director Sir Herbert Emerson, said that the Dominican Republic could absorb 29,000 families. It added, however, that experimental settlement was necessary before launching large-scale settlement and the Roosevelt committee recommended, therefore, establishment of a pioneer settlement of 200 families at an early date.

According to the American group's report, the Philippines appeared to present the best prospects for refugee settlement. The 32 representatives of the intergovernmental body were told that the Island of Mindanao could take 10,000 refugees who were adaptable for agricultural and industrial colonization.

Other reports of refugee settlement prospects were presented by Sir Herbert on British Guiana and Northern Rhodesia, where investigations by commissions of experts have also been completed. Sir Herbert said the British Guiana prospects were almost unlimited but for the time being only 500 persons will be established shortly as an experimental settlement with American help. He declared Northern Rhodesia could absorb at most 500 families over a period of many years and only at a per family cost ranging as high as \$5,000 to \$7,000.

Sir Herbert also reported that the International Jewish Colonization Society, which was founded last year by the Netherlands banker Daniel Wolf, was investigating the possibilities of Dutch Guiana and New Caledonia, the latter with the active approval of the French Government.

Praising private relief organizations for their "magnificent efforts," Sir Herbert, who is also League High Commissioner for Refugees, emphasized that their task was becoming impossibly difficult. He estimated that since 1935, the year the Nazi regime took power, American and European charitable groups had spent \$50,000,000 in cash for the relief and rehabilitation of refugees. Another \$25,000,000, he said, could be added to that figure in private contributions consisting of food, clothing and hospitality.

Sir Herbert said this sum had come from persons of all creeds, but for the most part from Jews. While private charity showed no signs of falling off, Sir Herbert said the liabilities of the private organizations were increasing continuously since tens of thousands of refugees who were only temporarily settled could be maintained only by charity.

In Europe alone, Director Emerson pointed out, there were more than 150,000 refugees, of whom 60,000 were being supported by private organizations. More than 120,000 persons left Germany in 1938, he reported, and an equal number is expected to emigrate before the end of 1939. Sir Herbert estimated that 400,000 refugees still awaited opportunities for permanent settlement.

While yesterday's opening session of the committee conference was devoted to Sir Herbert's report, a press conference concentrated on an outline of the aims of the newly organized Coordinating Foundation by Harold Linder, American business man who played an active role in its preparation and establishment. Intergovernmental committee officials informed the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the foundation, which will have a capital of \$1,000,000, did not need recognition by the German Government.

Mr. Linder listed the following aims of the foundation: 1) To cooperate with the League of Nations, governments, individuals and organizations working to improve conditions of persons who are subjected to political and racial discrimination in Germany; 2) to endeavor to improve the conditions of the above persons who are unable to emigrate; 3) to ensure orderly emigration of involuntary emigrants from the Reich; 4) to cooperate with individuals and organizations in investigations for settlement; 5) to establish a secretarial, intermediary agency for facilitating the transfer of goods and assets for use by the emigrants but not for resale.

#### "FRATERNAL ATTITUDE" OF N.Y. POLICE TOWARD COUGHLINITES CITED IN NATION ARTICLE

NEW YORK, July 20. (JTA) -- The "fraternal attitude" of New York's policemen toward Coughlinites, mounting terrorism by the followers of the "radio priest" and the failure of the New York press to report what is held to be a growingly dangerous situation are described by James Wechsler, a staff writer, in the current issue of The Nation, liberal weekly.

Mr. Wechsler, declaring that the Coughlin movement is still a "fringe" affair with whatever mass sympathy it has evoked largely passive and confined to the Catholic Church, points out that "six months of increasing effort have crystallized the major problems which New York has to face."

"The first," he writes, "is the inescapably violent emotion aroused by Coughlinite propaganda and the succession of violent incidents which have flowed from it. The second is the gradual division of some densely populated neighborhoods into warring camps, creating an atmosphere which will soon be explosive. The third is the uncertain role of a police force overwhelmingly Catholic in membership." In an editorial accompanying the article, The Nation calls upon Mayor LaGuardia to take strong steps to liquidate the situation "for the safety of the city."

ZIONIST YOUTHS PICKET BRITISH CONSULATES IN N.Y., BOSTON

NEW YORK, July 20. (JTA) -- Zionist youths here and in Boston staged demonstrations before the British Consulates in both cities today, in what was believed to be the first anti-British action of the kind taken by Zionists in America.

A picket line of 150 Zionist youths marched for three hours in front of the Consulate at 25 Broadway. Banners attacking the British ban on immigration to Palestine, the White Paper and Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain were carried by the demonstrators. A delegation representing the Zionist Youth Emergency Council, presented a petition to the Consul calling upon the British Government to cancel the immigration ban and abandon the new policy on Palestine.

The Boston picket line, at the head of which marched a troop of Hebrew Boy Scouts, attracted a throng of spectators. The demonstration was ordered ended by the police.

Zionist and non-Zionist organizations joined yesterday in sending a cable strongly protesting the British immigration decree to Prime Minister Chamberlain. Dispatched by the National Emergency Committee on Palestine, the message bore the signatures of leaders of the American Jewish Committee, the American Jewish Congress, the Zionist Organization of America, Hadassah, the Mizrahi Organization and the Poale-Zion.

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While admitting that the Government had no hope of restoring complete peace in Palestine in the near future, he attacked Duff Cooper's plan as calculated to turn Arabs and Jews into implacable enemies.

"We hear a great deal in this House," he said, "about promises which have been made to Jews, but very few references from the benches opposite about promises made to the Arabs of Palestine.

He declared that the White Paper offered the best basis for an accord between the two peoples, and added that the Permanent Mandates Commission was a purely consultative body and the final verdict on the White Paper's compatibility with the Mandate must be given by the League Council.

MacDonald promised that no steps would be taken to change the terms of the Mandate, in order to make it conform with the present White Paper policy, without further consultation of Commons.

He charged that many Jews from Poland and Rumania have thrown their papers overboard while enroute to Palestine, so that when they are captured trying to enter the country illegally they are classified with German Jews who cannot be returned to their country of origin. Consequently, the authorities are forced to let them remain. "These Polish and Rumanian Jews going into Palestine illegally are also keeping out of Palestine some of those Jewish refugees from Central Europe we would like to see going in," he declared. He accused Jews of conspiring by this and other maneuvers to break the immigration laws simply for the sake of flouting British authority. "It is an organization to smash the White Paper policy," MacDonald charged. "It is a position we cannot tolerate."

BULLETIN

LONDON, July 20. (JTA) - The Labor Party's motion to censure the Colonial Office for decreeing a six-month ban on Jewish immigration to Palestine was defeated tonight by the narrow margin of 69 votes, a reduction of 20 votes in the majority it obtained in the May 23 debate on the White Paper. The vote was 188 to 119.