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Wednesday, August 2, 1939.

AGENCY TO RAISE \$15,000,000 TO PLACE 25,000 REFUGEES IN PALESTINE IN 2 YEARS

PARIS, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- A plan to raise \$15,000,000 for absorption of 25,000 refugees in Palestine within two years was completed today by the Jewish Agency for Palestine. The largest part of the sum, about \$10,000,000, is expected to come from American and British Jewish organizations, with the remainder to be raised by the Jewish Agency itself in countries other than England.

The plan is based on the British Government's recently announced White Paper policy, which provides for admission of 25,000 refugees provided the High Commissioner is "satisfied that adequate provision for their maintenance is insured." (Under an edict issued last month by Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald, both refugee and regular immigration to Palestine has been suspended for six months starting October. The action was taken as a punitive measure to halt illegal immigration, which threatened to outstrip the regular quota from which the number of illegal entrants were being deducted.)

In addition to the refugees, the "normal" immigration for the next two years, according to the White Paper, will approximate 20,000. Thus, the Jewish Agency assumes that Palestine will be in a position to absorb within the next two years 45,000 Jews, of whom 35,000 would be victims of Nazi rule. Believing that 10,000 will immigrate either through their own means or with the aid of relatives in Palestine, the Jewish Agency's plan provides for the assisted immigration of 25,000 refugees. This number will include 10,000 chalutzim (pioneering students) aged 18 to 35; 3,000 middle class families comprising 8,000 souls between the ages of 30 and 45; 4,500 youths aged 15, and 1,000 students.

To facilitate rapid immigration, temporary encampments are foreseen in the Agency plan for those immigrants who will not be ready for absorption in settlements or towns immediately upon their arrival. Transitory camps will be prepared for the temporary accommodation of 8,000 persons. The camps will cost an estimated \$600,000, while maintenance during the first six months will be approximately \$500,000.

Leading American members of the Jewish Agency, especially those now in Europe on their way to the World Zionist Congress opening in Geneva August 16, have been acquainted with the plan in detail and have been consulted regarding the possibilities of obtaining at least half of the \$15,000,000 in the United States. The project does not include the cost of transportation, which would run into heavy sums. It is understood, however, that the

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British Government may facilitate transportation by offering free passage on British steamers. At least, that is what some Agency leaders took into consideration when preparing the plan.

Under the plan, about \$6,000,000 of the sum to be raised would go for absorption and settlement of the 10,000 chalutzim. In Germany and other various training centers in Europe, there are today about 10,000 persons aged 18 to 35 who are particularly fitted for immigration to Palestine. The majority have undergone several years of training in agriculture and horticulture.

For persons who are to be brought into Palestine over and above the authorized "regular" immigration quota, it will be necessary to satisfy the Palestine authorities that they will not be added to the labor market but that places will be created for them either in existing agricultural settlements through their enlargement or in new industrial undertakings or by their employment in special public works such as reforestation, land reclamation etc. To achieve this end, special resources will have to be provided for construction of buildings and for investments calculated to increase the country's absorptive capacity. Of the more than \$6,000,000 to be spent for absorption and settlement of the refugees, therefore, about \$1,500,000 will be expended on buildings.

Next to settlement of the 10,000 chalutzim is the problem of absorbing the 3,000 middle class families. Settling this category will cost, according to the Agency's plan, more than \$3,500,000 since it comprises immigrants who, because of age and general upbringing, are unsuitable for agriculture. Devoid of their own means the immigrants in this category cannot be considered as founders of industrial enterprises or trades. The Agency plan, therefore, provides that they be afforded a new opportunity to reestablish themselves through creation of auxiliary farms adjoining towns, and through loans for small businesses or trades in the towns. In both cases, assistance offered would have to be on the basis of \$1,200 per family. With such a provision, the Agency believes it should be possible to secure additional small credits from Palestine loan institutions to help the immigrants in this category towards reestablishing themselves.

The absorption of 4,500 15-year-old youths, 1,500 children and 1,000 students will cost an estimated \$4,000,000. The cost includes erection of dormitories and maintenance. Administration expenses involved in putting the two-year plan into execution are calculated at \$150,000, which sum will include reception of the immigrants.

Mandates Commission's Report, Censored by MacDonald, Expected Aug. 10

GENEVA, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- League circles expressed the belief today that the Mandates Commission report on the British White Paper on Palestine may be issued on August 10. The Commission's report, it is understood, has been censored by Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald. This is the first time that a League report has been blue-pencilled by a Government which is an interested party and certain circles wonder whether the document will, as a result, contain a full picture of the cross examination to which MacDonald was subjected during the closed sessions of the Mandates Commission meeting.

Laborites Join Zionists in Protesting Palestine Immigration Policy

NEW YORK, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- Jewish non-Zionist labor groups, meeting together with labor Zionists for the first time, tonight adopted a resolution protesting against the Palestine immigration policy. The conference, held at the Hotel Astor under the sponsorship of the Jewish Labor Committee, was attended by about 60 representatives of unions, labor groups, fraternal organizations, the Workmen's Circle, National Labor Committee for Palestine, Jewish National Workers' Alliance, the Poale-Zion and Left Poale-Zion.

Refugees on Captured Ship Stage Brief Hunger Strike

HAIFA, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- A short-lived hunger strike was staged today by 373 Jewish refugees aboard the S.S. Colorado, Panamanian ship which on Friday was captured while trying to land its passengers illegally. The strike, launched when reports were circulated that the Government intended to deport the refugees, was called off a few hours after it started as a result of negotiations between the authorities and representatives of the passengers. Hebrew newspapers reported that a British policeman had beaten the initiator of the strike.

HOPE SEEN FOR EXILES QUARANTINED IN BEIRUT; MAY REMAIN IF FUTURE IS GUARANTEED

PARIS, Aug. 1. (JTA) - Central refugee relief organizations here today received a cable from the Jewish Community of Beirut, Syria, declaring there was hope that the quarantined passengers of the S.S. Frossula would be permitted to remain in Syria provided Jewish organizations accepted the responsibility of maintaining them and guaranteeing that they would not become public burdens. The cable revealed the presence of two unidentified American citizens among the passengers and 28 non-Jewish refugees. A majority of the ship's 653 passengers, who were quarantined here when the ship was swept by an epidemic at sea, are Czech Jews, including 194 women and 77 children.

British Killed 5 Refugees in Attack on "Astir," Passenger Writes

NEW YORK, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- One of a group of some 700 Jewish refugees who were captured off Palestine's coast last May aboard the Greek freighter Astir as illegal immigrants and subsequently admitted to the country has written to her mother here that British police fired on the ship while at sea and killed five of the passengers.

"As we tried to get into Palestine, something awful happened," the letter said. "I did not write that in the first letter because I was afraid it would not reach you. We had a battle with the English police. They fired on us. Can you understand that? They fired hard-heartedly at innocent people. In this battle five persons from our boat, all Jews, were killed and a dozen were injured."

The refugees, who were once barred from Palestine, returned to the Greek port from which they had sailed and then crossed the Mediterranean again to attempt entry into Palestine, endured other hardships during their four-month odyssey, including epidemic, a fire, lack of sanitary facilities and scarcity of food and drinking water, according to the letter.

Two refugees were killed and a few others injured in a fight between the crew and the passengers, the letter said. Several attempted suicide when the ship was first barred from Palestine. "Almost every day somebody dies because old people could not stand" the undemorable conditions. Several children were born on board the ship, two of whom died.

FIRM POLICY TOWARD REICH WOULD FORCE NEW ATTITUDE ON REFUGEES, EX U.S. DIPLOMAT HOLDS

LONDON, Aug. 1. (JTA) - A firm attitude toward Germany on the refugee problem to force her to allow refugees sufficient expenses to reestablish themselves in other countries was advocated today by Robert Peet Skinner, former American publisher and diplomat.

Writing in The Times, Mr. Skinner advised that interested nations inform Germany that her refugees would not be admitted unless they were provided with all expenses and had at least part of their property restored to them in Germany. Mr. Skinner declared that such notice would force Germany to revise her policy and deal with the countries willing to accept refugees. "We should stand up to Germany in a cold, practical manner," he said, "and in this way we will render a better service to the suffering Jews."

HUNGARY ACTS TO AID MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY, HIT BY ANTI-JEWISH LAWS

BUDAPEST, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- In a move designed to save the nation's motion picture industry, virtually crippled by the ouster of all Jewish producers and actors under the anti-Semitic legislation, the Government ruled that 20 per cent of all feature pictures and 30 per cent of the supporting program in Hungarian cinema theatres must be produced in this country. Half the domestic feature film quota, under the new ruling, may be produced abroad provided they have been synchronized here.

COUGHLIN TALK "MOB INCITING," UNITARIAN MINISTER HOLDS IN DETROIT ADDRESS

DETROIT, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- Last Sunday's speech by "radio priest" Charles E. Coughlin was termed "mob inciting" in a radio talk last night by the Rev. Walton Cole of Toledo speaking under the auspices of the Unitarian Fellowship for Social Justice.

Mr. Cole admonished Coughlin to "be careful in even suggesting that any group in America fight in the Franco way." "We do not," he continued, "want the Hitler way, the Stalin way or the Franco way. We want the American way of understanding and of settling our differences without appeal to force."

Intimating that there had been efforts to curb the Unitarian broadcasts, answering Coughlin, Cole again opposed barring Coughlin from the air but demanded that the "radio priest" accept full responsibility for the consequences of his utterances and that he leave the privacy of his broadcasting booth and face the "Town Meeting of the Air" audience "not packed with his followers." Cole quoted from Coughlin writings to prove that the "radio priest" is anti-Semitic.

FOUND NO ANTI-SEMITISM IN MIDWEST, W.L. WHITE WRITES IN N.Y. POST COLUMN

NEW YORK, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- No evidences of anti-Semitism were found in the course of a 2,000-mile tour of the midwest, W.L. White declared today in a New York Post column written from Emporia, Kansas.

Mr. White, who is the son of William Allen White, the noted editor, compared New York "liberals" who speak of rising anti-Jewish feeling in America to a "man who, in a crowded theatre, rises to scream that all are in imminent peril."

"I haven't said there is no anti-Semitism in this country," the writer declared. "I didn't canvass the Racquet Club and can't honestly report on the Deep South or the West Coast. But if there were a rising tide some of it would be trickling down the upper Mississippi basin. A few drops would have spotted the high plains, and I found none. Maybe they heard my motor roaring over the hill and had their anti-Semitism rolled up and stuck away behind the stove."

BILL BANNING USE OF UNIFORMS, ARMS BY ANTI-GOVERNMENT GROUPS PASSED BY HOUSE

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- The House has passed and sent to the Senate a bill outlawing the use of uniforms and arms by any organization agitating against the Government. The bill, sponsored by Representative Joseph Gavagan (Dem., N.Y.), is aimed at Nazi, Fascist and similar groups. It provides a \$1,000 fine and one-year imprisonment for violation.

Representative Martin Dies' Committee on Un-American Activities will begin hearings in two weeks on Communist, Nazi and Fascist activities. Committee agents have been at work since the House ordered continuation of the investigation.

9 ARABS SLAIN IN BATTLE WITH BRITISH TROOPS

JERUSALEM, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- Nine members of an Arab rebel band were killed today in a battle with a detachment of British troops south of Hebron. The survivors fled, abandoning six rifles and a quantity of ammunition.

LABOR GROUPS POLL 68% OF CONGRESS VOTE IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- Unofficial returns from Sunday's elections for the World Zionist Congress indicated today a large majority for the Mapai (Jewish labor party) and the Left Poale-Zion, which together polled 68 per cent of the 64,000 votes cast. Barely half of the 158,000 persons entitled to vote for Congress delegates from Palestine, of whom there will be 144, went to the polls. The small turnout was ascribed to boycotts by three organizations in protest against alleged irregularities in sale of shekolim, or registration certificates. The Mizrahi Organization, religious Zionist group, had declared a boycott in advance and at midday Sunday the General Zionist "B" Workers Organization in Jerusalem and the Poel Hamizrachi in Haifa called on their members not to vote.

PEEL COMMISSIONERS DENY THEY REBUKED AGENCY ON ILLEGAL ENTRY ISSUE

LONDON, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- An assertion by Sir Ernest Bennett, National Labor M.P., that the Peel Royal Commission which investigated Palestine disorders two years ago had severely rebuked the Jewish Agency for Palestine during the hearings for its conduct on the question of illegal immigration, was flatly denied today by two members of the Commission. In a letter to The Times, Sir Horace Rumbold and Reginald Coupland declared that the Agency had actively discouraged illegal immigration at the time of the investigation, and that the only charge against it was that the police had not been helped in tracking down illegal immigrants who had already entered. They concluded that the Commission did not feel called upon to criticize the conduct of the Agency.

PRAGUE TO SPEED LAW FOR CONFISCATION OF EMIGRES' PROPERTY

PRAGUE, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- President Emil Hacha announced today that steps would be taken to speed publication of a Nazi-sponsored decree to confiscate the property of emigres. The announcement was regarded as a gesture of goodwill toward the German administration of the "Protectorate."

THIRD WORLD YOUTH ALIYAH CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT AMSTERDAM IN SEPTEMBER

LONDON (JTA) -- Five years of Youth Aliyah activity will be summed up in all its phases at the Third World Youth Conference, which will be held from Sept. 2 to 5 in Amsterdam. Coming at a period when the problems of Youth Aliyah grow constantly more urgent and complex, the conference will be faced with vital issues, on the solution of which depends the progress of the work during the months to come.

The Children Aliyah which has been recently included in the scope of Youth Aliyah will form an important item on the agenda. Of particular interest will be the reports from transit countries where large numbers of the refugee youth are being accommodated until ready for Palestine. Miss Henrietta Szold, head of the Movement, will preside over the conference which will be attended by a large representation from America, Palestine, England, France, South Africa, Holland, Scandinavia and Central Europe.