VOL. VI. NO. 41.

Thursday, September 21, 1939.

# EFFECT OF WAR ON REFUGEE PROBLEM TO BE AIRED AT WHITE HOUSE PARLEY

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20. (JTA) -- The conference of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees at the White House next month will have as the first point on its agenda the outlining of the entire European refugee problem in the light of the radically changed conditions brought about by the war, it was announced today.

In preparation for the conference, the committee is receiving reports from South American countries making clear their positions on immigration, the State Department said.

Some of these countries have indicated that they can accept limited immigration of refugees engaged in certain professions, such as medicine and engineering. Other countries would regard favorably the immigration of agriculturists, provided they were well equipped with funds to purchase land and machinery.

Myron C. Taylor, American vice-chairman of the Intergovernmental Committee, will visit the State Department tomorrow. Paul Baerwald, chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee and member of President Roosevelt's Advisory Committee on Refugees, arrived in Washington today to confer with State Department officials on preliminary plans for the White House conference.

## PALESTINE SEEN ABLE TO PUT TRAINED JEWISH FORCE OF 50,000 INTO FIELD

JERUSALEM, Sept. 20. (JTA) -- Palestine will be able to make a substantial contribution to Great Britain's fighting forces in a general mobilization. From among the 460,000 Jews in the Holy Land, it is estimated that 50,000 men could be put under arms, all of whom have military experience and would require a minimum of training.

The British authorities in Jerusalem and London are fully aware of this possibility and are reportedly giving it earnest consideration. Jewish troops could relieve British forces of the job of guarding Palestine itself, probably in collaboration with locally raised Arab fighting corps. They could also provide a reserve from which reinforcements could be quickly drawn for the British armies guarding the borders of Egypt and the Sudan if the occasion arcse.

There is, therefore, a high probability that war in the east would bring into action a Jewish army on a very much larger scale than the Jewish Legion which fought effectively in the ranks of General Allenby's army in the World War. The backbone of such an army would

consist of the present Jewish security forces in Palestine. Including all categories on active duty and in reserve, these number at present nearly 20,000 men. All are trained and most have been on active duty here and in Europe, having received during their period of service intensive training from British military men.

There is an additional reservoir of more than 80,000 Jewish men between the ages of 18 and 40, of whom a large proportion, perhaps 30,000, have performed service in European armies. Given instructors and equipment, the Jews could therefore quickly get into the field a force whose morale would be raised to the highest pitch by the knowledge that they were fighting for their national home and against Nazism.

There would be no lack of good officers for such a force. Among the refugees arriving in Palestine during the past year and more, and notably among the illegal immigrants, have been hundreds of former officers in the erstwhile Czechoslovakian and Austrian armies, some of high rank and many experts in special fields, such as army fliers, military engineers, chemical warfare experts and technicians of various types.

The army with which General Allenby conquered Palestine and Syria numbered at its greatest strength a little more than 100,000, and during most of the campaign between 30,000 and 70,000, while the combined Turkish and German troops opposing him hardly exceeded 50,000 at any one time.

The military potentialities of the Palestine Arabs cannot be accurately estimated. They would probably not supply much material for the regular fighting services, but in their own special field of desert raiding, they would undoubtedly furnish England with valuable auxiliaries as they did in the last war under the leadership of Colonel Lawrence. Despite the rebelliousness of the Arab populace in the past, a swing of sentiment toward Britain is seen, particularly if the war should extend to the east.

Proposal for a joint Arab-Jewish force for the defense of Palestine, which has been semi-officially put forward in London, has been received sympathetically in Jewish quarters. There is no question of conscription in Palestine, which is a mandated territory. On the Jewish side, however, a call for volunteers, backed by the Jewish Agency for Palestine and other Jewish institutions, would bring an immediate mass response.

### Jew, Arab Killed in Palestine Blast

JERUSALEM, Sept. 20. (JTA) -- A Jew, Emanuel Kaprussky, 32, and his Arab companion were killed today when a cart in which they were riding struck a landmine near Kfar Szold.

## BUND FLOODING CONGRESS WITH EMBARGO PROPAGANDA

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20. (JTA) -- Charges that the German-American Bund was manufacturing letters protesting against the lifting of the arms embargo and deluging Congress with them were made today by Representative I. Buell Snyder of Pennsylvania.

Snyder said he had received 150 letters protesting against lifting the embargo and was so impressed that he decided to conduct a personal poll in his own Congressional district The poll showed, he said, that nine out of ten persons actually favored lifting the embargo despite the flood of "inspired" warnings.

Nearly all the letters received at his office, the Representative said, ended with this identical paragraph: "We do not wish to sell arms or munitions to any belligerent nation, either directly or indirectly, for cash or credit, to be delivered by us or called for them as such a policy could not but lead us into war."

#### LINDBERGH'S "INCLINATION TOWARD FASCISM" CITED BY DOROTHY THOMPSON

NEW YORK, Sept. 20. (JTA) -- Col. Charles A. Lindbergh's "inclination toward Fascism" was cited today by Dorothy Thompson in her nationally syndicated N.Y. Herald-Tribune column, "On the Record."

In an analysis of the noted aviator's broadcast last Friday night, during which he urged retention of the arms embargo in advocating American neutrality, Miss Thompson takes her cue from his warning that the public should inquire into the personal interests and nationality of every commentator on the current European situation and into "who owns and influences the newspaper, the news picture and the radio station."

Examining the history of the aviator's three-and-a-half year residence in Europe, Miss Thompson finds that he was the recipient of a medal from the Aero Club of Nazi Germany in 1936; he gave a report on the German air force which contributed to the Munich "appeasement"; deprecated the Russian air force, thus encouraging opponents of collaboration between the Western powers and the Soviet; received in 1938 the Service Cross of the Order of the German Eagle with Star, the second highest German decoration, at the hands of Gen. Goering; indicated his intention, dropped upon a storm of criticism, of renting an apartment in Berlin at a time when the whole world was shocked by the breaking of the Munich pact and the outbreak of the anti-Jewish pogron.

Miss Thompson also points out that Col. Lindbergh's most intimate friend, the scientist Dr. Alexis Carrel, was considered the official philosopher of the French Fascist party headed by Jacques Doriot, and emphasizes that the aviator's "inclination toward Fascism is well known to his friends."

Concluding, the columnist writes: "'Pity, sentiment and personal sympathy' (a quotation from Lindbergh's address) play a small part in his life. On the other hand, he has a passion for mechanics and a tendency to judge the world and society purely from a technical and mechanical standpoint. The humanities, which are at the very center and core of the democratic idea, do not interest him, and he is completely indifferent to political philosophy. A man who has never spared himself physically. . . . He has the utmost contempt for physical weakness. . . He also is a national hero, and because this country loves its heroes, the press, which Col. Lindbergh hates, has behaved very chivalrously toward Col. Lindbergh's ideas. But since he himself has warned that all who speak in the present situation should have their personal interests inquired into, he cannot object to an inquiry into his own biases. And his are not the predilections of the majority of Americans or of democracies anywhere."

## ACTION TO PRESERVE POLISH JEWRY AS WEMISH NERVE CENTER" MAPPED AT PARLEY HERE

NEW YORK, Sept. 20. (JTA) -- A five-fold program aimed at closer organization of Polish Jews throughout the world, in view of the German invasion of Poland, to preserve Polish Jewry as a Jewish nerve center was under consideration today by the third biennial conference of Federations of Polish Jews Abroad.

The program, which provides for centralization of activities in the World Federation of Polish Jews Abroad, was laid before the conference yesterday by Executive Director Zelig Tygel and was referred to committee. It proposes that the federation:

(1) Strengthen existing federations of Polish Jews in various countries; (2) establish such federations in countries where Polish Jews are not organized; (5) move the world center of the federation to the United States, to be financed by a contribution of one-half of one per cent of all funds collected by constituent organizations; (4) organize emigration of Polish Jews from Europe under a coordinated plan and undertake negotiations with governments in immigration countries; (5) conduct political work in behalf of the Polish Jews, in cooperation with the Polish authorities, including the presentation of the case of Polish Jewish emigration needs to the Intergovernmental Refugee Committee.

In connection with the emigration question, Wolf Orzech, of Argentina, said that South American federations of Polish Jews were willing to accept responsibility for absorption of 2,000 Polish Jewish children and in this connection had obtained the support of the Cardinal of South America.

Jacob Botoshanski, of Uruguay, said last night that surveys by federations of Polish Jews in South America indicated that it was possible to arrange with governments of Latin American countries for admission of 100,000 Jews experienced in textile work. South American countries, he said, were eager to obtain trained textile workers. Many Jews were engaged in Poland's textile industries now disrupted by the war.

The conference was concerned to a great extent with organizational problems. The biennial report of Dr. Israel Taubes of Amsterdam, general secretary of the world federation, who was unable to come to New York, said the secretariat's plans included (1) periodic visits by central office members to various federations, (2) a series of lectures and other cultural functions, (3) increased publication and distribution of literature, (4) extension of relief activities in behalf of Polish Jewry.

Creation of an information service to establish contact between war victims in Poland and relatives in America was proposed in an address last night by Rabbi Joshua L. Goldberg, chairman of the American federation's advisory committee, who offered to go to Poland immediately to establish the apparatus for such a service. He suggested that similar services be established by Polish Jews in other neutral countries.

Dr. Simon Segal, member of the American federation's administrative board, in a paper on the political situation of the Jews in Poland, urged that federations abroad maintain close contact with Polish Government officials in Poland and abroad, as long as possible, with a view to cooperating with them concerning the conditions of the Polish Jews. Judah L. Wohlman, of Tel Aviv, this afternoon stressed the important role of Palestine in a solution of the Polish Jewish emigration problem and urged (1) creation of a special bureau to direct transfer of Jews to Palestine and (2) allocation of part of relief funds raised for Polish Jews to finance emigration to Palestine.

### WISE URGES ALL-INCLUSIVE JEWISH BODY BE SET UP TO ACT FOR DURATION OF WAR

NEW YORK, Sept. 20. (JTA) -- Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the American Jewish Congress, proposed today the formation of "one great organization of service to Jews who stand in need of all that their brother-Jews in lands that are free may do for them."

In a Yom Kipour message, Dr. Wise urged "that instead of a number of agencies dealing with Jewish self-defense loosely and unvitally coordinated, and no more than coordinated during the past year under the aegis of the General Jewish Council, these shall over the period of the war be united."

"Every manner of excuse may be offered for postponing the union of Jewish forces," he said. "In the end it will be found that timidity in the face of public opinion and pride in organizational integrity stand in the way of such union. As for the fear of moving non-jews to imagine that Jews are united in self-defense, I am more fearful lest non-jews hold us in contempt for our failure to stand together in defense of our fellow-Jews who are doubly and trebly wronged not by the victorious enemies of Poland but by the brutal Nazi regime which singles them out for wrong and massacre."

#### JEWS IN U.S. PUT AT 4,831,180; INCREASE IN DECADE LOWEST SINCE 1877

NEW YORK, Sept. 20. (JTA) -- The Jewish population in America witnessed its smallest ten-year increase since 1977 in the decade ending 1937 and reached a total of 4,831,180, according to statistics in the 41st volume of the American Jewish Yearbook for 1939-40, out today.

"Already ten years ago it became evident that the growth of the American Jewish community was slowing down," said Dr. Henry S. Linfield, director of the Jewish Statistical Beautical, in a survey of the numbers and distribution of Jews in the United States. "This trend continued during the past ten years.

"The decade ending 1927 started with a Jewish population of 5,389,000 and ended with an increase of 839,100. The decade ending 1937 began with a population of 4,228,000 and closed with an increase of 603,151. The drop in the growth of the Jewish population during the past ten years was due only in part to the fact that between 1918-1927 the total Jewish summigration amounted to 321,000, whereas during the decade 1928-1937 it was 70,000."

The yearbook is issued by the Jewish Publication Society under the editorship of Harry Schneiderman, assistant secretary of the American Jewish Committee. The current issue features an article, "Twenty-Five Years of Overseas Relief: a Record of the J.D.C.", by executive director Joseph C. Hyman; biographical sketches of noted Jews who died during the past year, an article commemorating the 900th anniversary of the birth of Rashi and a 202-page review of the year.

### COUNCILMAN NINFO WOULD FUT SON, HELD AS ANTI-SEMITE, "IN JAIL FOR LIFE"

NEW YORK, Sept. 20. (JTA) -- Ralph Ninfo, 29-year-old son of City Councilman Salvatore Ninfo of the Bronx, was denounced by his father today as a "fanatic" and "Coughlinite" who should be put "in jail for the rest of his life" after he had been tried in West Side Court on a disorderly conduct charge for making a soapbox speech attacking Jews on Sunday night. The son was charged with having "used expressions calculated to create a disturbance." Ninfo represents the American Labor Party in the Council.

#### 50 JAILED AFTER ANTI-JEWISH RIOT IN BULGARIA

NEW YORK, Sept. 20. (JTA) -- The Associated Press reported from Sofia, Bulgaria, today that 50 persons were arrested and sent to concentration camps after an outbreak of anti-Jewish rioting. Growds raided Sofia's business section, breaking hundreds of windows in Jewish stores. Police said the demonstrations were staged by a small Nazi-type party called Ratnitzi.

#### NAZI PROPAGANDISTS SEIZED IN ALGIERS

ALGIERS, Sept. 20. (JTA) -- Nazi propagandists coming from Ceuta and Tetuan were under arrest today for having in their possession huge quantities of propagands material. Moslem leaders said the Arab population was determined to live on good terms with the Jews. They expressed indignation at Nazi intrigues.