

# NEWS

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## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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### NAZIS IMPOSE SLAVE STATUS ON JEWS IN POLISH AREA; PROPERTY SEIZED, TEMPLES CLOSED

KAUNAS, Lithuania, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Conditions akin to slavery have been imposed by the Germans upon Jews in the occupied Polish area near the Lithuanian frontier, it was reported here today.

The invaders are rounding up all Jews, including rabbis, and placing them in special camps where they are organized into work groups. Cruelly treated and badly fed, the Jews are forced to work 16 hours daily in roads and fields.

Illness is rife among the prisoners, who have insufficient clothing for the cold weather, and many deaths are reported.

Many Jews, including women, have been sentenced to death on charges of sabotage and murder of Germans.

Property held by organizations has been confiscated and all synagogues that escaped the Nazi bombardments have been closed.

Jews in the town of Suwalki have been evicted from the few houses left standing, which have been taken over by the troops, and the entire population, largely Jewish, is suffering from hunger.

Members of community ruling bodies and the leaders of political parties have been arrested and transported to an unknown destination. Many who attempted to escape to Lithuania were caught at the frontier by German soldiers.

Adding to unbearable conditions in the occupied territories is a strong recrudescence of Polish anti-Semitism. In some areas, anti-Jewish excesses are reported to have occurred. Jewish apartments have been demolished and sale of food to Jews has been refused.

### ROMANIA EXTENDS STAY OF POLISH REFUGEES; ANTI-SEMITISM BY POLES STIRS ANGER

BUCHAREST, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Civilian Polish refugees have been granted a one-month extension of their residential permits, it was announced officially today. (An Associated Press dispatch from Bucharest said that the Rumanian Government had given the refugees until Feb. 2 either to leave or be subjected to restricted residence in 33 designated areas. The original deadline was Oct. 15.)

Meanwhile, indignation has been aroused among the Rumanian Jewish population by the fact that non-Jewish Polish refugees are maintaining an anti-Semitic attitude even in exile.

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despite the generous assistance given by the Rumanian Jews to refugees regardless of religion. The non-Jewish refugees refuse to live in Jewish houses or to patronize Jewish restaurants and shops.

The Bucharest Jewish Community has launched a campaign for funds to assist not only some 300 refugees who reached this city, but another 2,000 scattered in various parts of the country. The economically weak Cernauti Jews, who received the first stream of refugees, have contributed generously to an assistance fund.

From Cernauti, the Government directed the refugees to the interior, chiefly Bucharest, Vaslui, Roman and Bacau. The refugees, however, were not permitted to remain in the bigger cities and were distributed to townships and villages where they are enduring great hardships because of inadequate accommodations. Among the exiles are doctors, lawyers and other intellectuals. Their difficulties are expected to increase with the approach of winter.

The Mutual Aid Association of Jewish Immigrants from Russia, comprising Jews who emigrated after the Bolshevik revolution, is particularly active in refugee work in Bucharest, distributing food and placing refugees in private Jewish homes and institutions.

Since the authorities originally had limited the stay of the refugees to ten days from arrival, they were anxiously awaiting funds promised by the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society to finance their re-emigration. Most of the exiles, however, were without documents and were obtaining passports from the Polish Legation at Bucharest only with the greatest difficulty.

#### BERLIN HOLDS UP RED CROSS PLANS FOR OPERATIONS IN POLAND

PARIS, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- From Red Cross circles here it was learned today that plans of the International Red Cross to contact families in Poland for their relatives abroad have not yet materialized because the Berlin authorities have so far not permitted the relief organization to resume any activities in German-occupied territory. The Red Cross is, however, compiling lists of sought-for families with the hope of starting work in the occupied territory soon.

Meanwhile, the International Red Cross is establishing an office in Denmark for distribution of parcels and correspondence to war prisoners in all countries involved in the war, while the Danish branch of the Y.M.C.A. is completing preparations to assist refugees from Poland.

#### REPATRIATION OF BALTIC GERMANS HAS ADVERSE EFFECT ON JEWS

PARIS, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Repatriation of Germans from the Baltic countries has, paradoxically, struck a severe blow to Jews there, according to advices reaching here today.

Hardest hit are many Jewish firms in Riga, Latvia, who had sold merchandise on credit to the local German population. Collection of the debts is impossible, since the Germans are being rushed out of the country in unseemly haste.

At the same time, wealthier Jews in the Baltic lands are in dread of Communist occupation before the war is ended. Sandwiched between Soviet Russia and Nazi Germany, these Jews have no way to emigrate while there is still time. The only route theoretically still open to them is to the Scandinavian countries, but escape there is virtually impossible since no visas are being issued to the citizens of Baltic countries by the Scandinavian consulates.

EXPERTS' BODY FAVORS PHILIPPINES AS HAVEN FOR REFUGEES; REPORT TO BE AIRED AT PARLEY HERE

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- A favorable report on prospects for settlement of refugees from Central Europe in the Philippines has been turned in by an experts' commission sent to the islands by President Roosevelt's Advisory Committee on Refugees, it was learned today.

The report, which was completed several days ago, will be considered by the President's committee, which is headed by James G. MacDonald, at a meeting in New York on Friday and will be transmitted to officers of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees when they meet at the White House on Oct. 16 and 17 on President Roosevelt's invitation.

Manuel Quezon, president of the Philippine Commonwealth, indicated before the commission sailed from Manila last March that his Government was agreeable to accepting refugee immigration if the commission found the Commonwealth would support them. At the time, he mentioned a figure of 10,000 as the number he believed the islands could accomodate.

The experts' commission included O.D. Hargis, chairman, agricultural expert of the Goodyear Rubber Company, who conducted experiments on the island of Mindanao; Dr. Stanton Youngberg, director of the Philippine Bureau of Agriculture; Dr. Robert L. Pendleton, for many years advisor to the Government of Siam; Captain Hugh Casey, of the United States Army Corps of Engineers, and Dr. Howard F. Smith.

BURKE URGES REPEAL OF EMBARGO ON GROUND OF HITLER'S PERSECUTION OF MINORITIES

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Americans were called upon not to forget Hitler's record of religious persecution and racial atrocities as Senator Edward R. Burke of Nebraska spoke in the Senate today and threw his weight towards repeal of the arms embargo.

Burke, often a critic of the administration, said that neither keeping nor repealing the embargo could be called neutral but that he could see "no justification on any ground for permitting a law to stand that favors Hitler."

Senator Burke quoted the Pope as damning the religious persecutions in Germany, and then he went on to say:

"In determining whether we shall continue a law that favors Hitlerism we can properly consider the attitude and conduct of those who direct that movement toward minority groups, particularly the Jews. The story of recent and repeated atrocities is so fresh in our minds that further proof is unnecessary. I give only this brief statement from an outstanding American citizen whose sources of information are complete and whose veracity is above question. He said:

"The sufferings of the Jews in Germany have been so horrible, so terrifying, so diabolical, that no man of sensibility would ever dare make a public recital of them."

Burke told an applauding Senate: "It is my contention that traditional American policy does not require us to pursue a course of silence in the face of barbaric outrages systematically perpetrated upon helpless minorities anywhere on earth. Never in the history of this country has there been any hesitation to denounce such persecution and atrocities."

Burke told how when 60 years ago the world was shocked by the persecution of Jews in Russia, mass meetings of protest were held throughout the country, in which President Grant was an active participant, and he recalled other occasions when America has risen to denounce racial and religious intolerance.

Germans in America, Burke said, "are as nearly unanimous as any other cross section of our citizens in their opposition to Nazi excesses, to persecutions based on race or religion, to suppression of freedom of conscience and personal liberty."

"Let no one doubt," Burke continued, "that the day will come when Germans themselves will take matters into their own hands, when they will put an end to a regime which subordinates the individual to the state and sanctions religious and racial persecutions and denies God."

#### ARRANGEMENTS MADE TO LOCATE AMERICANS' RELATIVES IN POLAND

PARIS, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Americans desiring to locate their relatives in Poland, particularly in Warsaw, can now do so through the State Department, the J.T.A. was informed today by Anthony J. Drexel Biddle, United States Ambassador to Poland.

Biddle disclosed that prior to evacuation of the Embassy from Poland he made arrangements whereby American Vice-Consul Ghyllinski would remain in Warsaw in order to be helpful during the occupation period to Americans or to people in whom Americans were interested.

Ghyllinski is still in Warsaw and inquiries regarding relatives in the occupied zones can be addressed to him through the State Department in Washington, which can be transmitted via the American consulate in Berlin.

The possibility is not excluded that direct inquiries by interested persons in America can reach Ghyllinski in Warsaw if mail and cable connections between Warsaw and neutral countries are reinstated. In this case, inquiries should be addressed: "American Vice-Consul Ghyllinski, American Embassy, 29 Aleja Ujazdowska, Warsaw."

Ghyllinski is also representing the interests of British and French citizens in Poland and was entrusted with the keys to the embassies of these countries in Warsaw prior to their occupation.

#### STATUS OF CZECH REFUGEES NOT YET SETTLED BY BRITAIN

LONDON, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- While the Aliens Tribunals are engaged in sifting bonafide refugees from the Germans and Austrians appearing before them, it has apparently not yet been decided whether all Czechoslovakians or only those coming from the Sudetenland will have to be passed upon by the tribunals.

Calling attention to the fact that Czech refugees are now in a worse position than Austrians and Germans who have been passed by the tribunals, the information bulletin of the Self-Aid Association of Czech Jews expresses the strong desire of Czech Jews to be allowed to help the British people. The bulletin also urges use of the Czech Refugee Trust Fund for retraining of former shopowners, solicitors and commercial agents to occupations useful in the present emergency.

#### GROUP FORMED TO HELP MEDICAL STUDENTS, HELD HERE BY WAR, ENTER U.S. SCHOOLS

NEW YORK, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- In accordance with a suggestion of Secretary of State Cordell Hull, steps have been taken to obtain admission into American medical schools of 400 American students whose studies in Scottish schools were interrupted by the outbreak of war, and it is believed that the problem will receive favorable consideration at the annual meeting of deans of American medical colleges to be held in Cincinnati on Oct. 23, a committee of the students announced today.



The students, many of whom are Jewish, had protested against the State Department's refusal to grant them passports, and Secretary Hull had suggested that "a committee of experienced and interested persons should make every effort to work out with the American Medical Association and the Bureau of Education and any similar bodies which could be helpful" a plan for admission of the students into American schools.

Accordingly, a committee was formed which so far includes Dr. Ashford of the New York Academy of Medicine; Dr. Joseph Wrana, president of the Queens County Medical Society; Dr. G.E. Milani, president of the Bronx County Medical Society; Dr. Herbert Edwards, chief of the Health Department Tuberculosis Bureau; Dr. A.J. Rongy, Arthur Garfield Hays, Stanley Isaacs, Manhattan borough president, and Dr. Spivak, president of the Riverside Medical Society.

The Interior Department's Office of Education, through Commissioner John W. Studebaker and Dr. Walton John, has communicated with the A.M.A. urging it to take cognizance of the problem. The students' "Committee of Action" is preparing to make a full statement of the problem at the Oct. 23 meeting of medical college deans.

#### JEWISH SCIENTIST, IMMIGRANT, OFFERED WAR DISCOVERY TO FRANCE GRATIS

PARIS, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Paris newspapers told the story today of an immigrant Jewish scientist who discovered synthetic acetone, important in the manufacture of explosives, and turned down a huge offer for the formula by England with the explanation that he wanted to give it to France without compensation.

The scientist, who died in December, 1938, was affiliated with the Pasteur Institute. He was Prof. Schoen, who came to France from Riga, where his father was a druggist, 30 years of age and lived here ever since.

After Prof. Schoen's death, the Paris Soir said, his assistant was approached by British representatives and the formula was turned over to them for 100,000,000 francs. During his lifetime, the newspaper said, Prof. Schoen had worked in the Pasteur Institute for a salary equivalent to \$50 per week.

#### KURT BLUMENFELD COMING TO U.S.

JERUSALEM, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Dr. Kurt Blumenfeld, a director of the Palestine Foundation Fund and former president of the German Zionist Federation, left for New York today on a mission on behalf of the fund.

#### RALLY PLEDGES FIGHT ON NAZISM, COMMUNISM

NEW YORK, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- A resolution pledging to fight against Hitlerism and Communism "with every ounce of energy that we possess" and to aid the return of the Polish Jews "to a normal, free national life" was adopted by a large mass meeting at Cooper Union on Sunday night, called by the Jewish National Workers' Alliance to condemn the Russo-German agreement.

#### CORRECTION

In the story in yesterday's JTA News regarding the article on "Jews in the World War" in the Contemporary Jewish Record, a phrase was inadvertently omitted from a quotation, the meaning of which was thereby changed. The correct quotation is as follows, with the omitted part underlined: "...while the few advantages and privileges gained by Jews following the concluded peace were either illusory, as in the case of the minority rights, or were never fully realized, as in the case of the Jewish National Home in Palestine, the losses to the Jewish people were real, far-going and in most cases irreparable."