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IMPROVEMENT IN RUMANIAN JEWRY'S POSITION FORECAST

BUCHAREST, Nov. 7. (JTA) -- "The high point in the anti-Jewish policy of our country is past and the Jews can expect only improvement in their situation," this correspondent was told by Prof. Silviu Dragomir, Rumanian Minister for National Minorities.

In an interview in his chambers, the Minister disclosed that a central Jewish body, recognized by the Government as the legal representative of the million Rumanian Jews vis-a-vis the Government, would soon be established, headed by Chief Rabbi Jakob Niemirower, Dr. Theodor Fischer and other Jewish leaders, with whom Prof. Dragomir was now completing negotiations.

He admitted, however, that economic, social and legal discriminations were still going on in Rumania in full force and that liquor licenses revoked from Jews were not being returned to them. Similarly, the revocation of citizenship is being continued and will, according to Prof. Dragomir's estimate, affect a minimum of 120,000 Jews.

He explained that relaxation of anti-Jewish measures was not possible as long as the Government had not yet completed its thorough cleaning of the country from anti-Semitic Iron Guard conspirators because any pro-Jewish step would be utilized by Iron Guard remnant for propaganda against the Government.

A measure having particularly harsh effect is the imposition of a special tax upon all those Jews who have been deprived of their citizenship. Each must pay from 500 to 10,000 lei in extra annual taxes, depending on the locality in which he lives and on his former trade. As they are not permitted to work and can hardly earn enough for bare necessities, they are naturally not in a position to meet this special tax.

The burden of paying these taxes is therefore falling on the local Jewish communities. In cases where the communities cannot pay the taxes the individuals are severely punished. Cases are on record where Jewish women in this category were dragged out of homes for the aged and were arrested, despite the fact that their living in a poorhouse indicated inability to pay taxes.

All Jews have been eliminated from the executive bodies of law chambers and difficulties are being made for Jews in the artisans' chambers in acquiring artisans' cards, without which they cannot work.

Called up for military reserve service, thousands of Jews are now in reserve camps, but none of them is advanced to officers' rank, although many Bulgarians, Greeks and members of other minorities receive such advancement.

On the other hand, the Rumanian railways, short of engineers, are beginning to employ Jewish engineers, and this correspondent learns that a Government order was issued quietly to reinstate the Jewish firms in the official commercial register, thus annulling previous instructions to chambers of commerce to strike certain Jewish traders off their lists. The latter order, although issued apparently because of a marked reduction in tax income resulting from the ousting of Jews from trade, will spell relief to many Jewish enterprises.

Prof. Dragomir, revealing that he had started on a tour of inspection through Bukovina and other parts of Rumania to establish the extent to which local authorities were overstepping the restrictions concerning revocation of liquor licenses from Jewish restaurants and wine dealers, assured this correspondent that although the revoked licenses were not being restored, Jews deprived of them were given permission to continue their wine sales by obtaining licenses in the names of Rumanians.

"We have come to the conclusion that our wine trade needs the Jewish dealers, but we ask the Jews for the time being to have patience," he said. "We have not completed as yet our fight with the Iron Guard and we cannot take steps which would be taken up by the Iron Guardists to denounce us as a 'pro-Jewish Government'."

SHIFT OF JEWS FROM NEW REICH AREAS TO 'RESERVATION' SEEN COMPLETED BY NEXT SPRING

PARIS, Nov. 7. (JTA) -- A Havas News Agency dispatch from Amsterdam reported today that all Jews from regions acquired by Germany since Chancellor Hitler's accession to power will be transplanted by next spring to the projected Jewish "reservation" in the Lublin region of Poland.

The dispatch said that Jews from the Old Reich would be the last to go. Approximately 150,000 Jews from Bohemia-Moravia will be transported to the war-devastated area first, to be followed by 85,000 Austrians and 30,000 Polesonians, East Prussians and residents of the western Polish provinces.

All Viennese Jews, according to the dispatch, will be transferred to the "reservation" by March 31.

The agency quoted neutral observers who visited the Polish territories occupied by the German army as agreeing on the famine-stricken condition of these areas, especially among the Jewish population. Some of the observers said the Nazi authorities would not be sorry to rid themselves by starvation of a good proportion of their Jewish and Polish populations.

Nazi Paper Sees Warsaw Census Prelude to Expulsion

LONDON, Nov. 7. (JTA) -- A census of Jews in Warsaw was taken on Oct. 29 with a view toward their expulsion from any future Polish State, according to the Essener National Zeitung, organ of Field Marshal Hermann Goering.

The Nazi newspaper, which was quoted today by the Daily Telegraph declared that "when the results of the census are known, the days of the Warsaw ghetto, which has been a stumbling block to Germans and Poles alike, will then be numbered." The Polish Jews, the newspaper added, were Germany's "declared enemies and will be treated as such."

(A JTA Wilno dispatch yesterday said the census was preliminary to an order compelling all Jews to leave mixed quarters of Warsaw and to concentrate in Nalewki and

adjacent streets, one of the city's Jewish quarters. It was also reported that the census would be taken as a basis for imposing heavy collective "fines" upon the Jews.)

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Jews Forced to Make Poison Gas For Nazis

PARIS, Nov. 6. (JTA) -- French newspapers reported today that all Jews, Poles and political prisoners in the German concentration camps of Dachau, Oranienburg and Papenburg were being forced to produce poison gas. The camps have been transformed into "prohibited cities," the reports said.

At the same time, reports said, Jews in Nazi-occupied Galicia were undergoing tortures. In the township of Sanok, the entire Jewish population was forced out by the Nazis to do street labor in their underwear in cold weather, it was reported, later being forced to bathe in the frigid water of the local river.

Large numbers of Jews were forced to do road-building work under the severest treatment on the road between Radomsko and Miechov, it was reported.

BRITAIN GRANTS £100,000 FOR AID OF REFUGEES IN RUMANIA AND HUNGARY

LONDON, Nov. 7. (JTA) -- British action to relieve sufferings of refugees on the continent was revealed by Foreign Secretary Lord Halifax in answer to questions in the House of Lords today.

The Government, Lord Halifax said, has decided to offer "immediately the sum of £100,000 to meet immediate needs for clothing and medical supplies, which I understand are most urgent.

"It is proposed that these materials should be purchased forthwith in this country and sent with all possible speed to refugees in Hungary and Rumania."

The statement followed closely on the arrival from Paris of Jan Stanczyk, Public Welfare Minister in the Polish Cabinet-in-exile. Stanczyk came to establish contact with the British authorities and to discuss the problem of assistance to some 250,000 Polish refugees now stranded in various European countries.

LIFE OF JEWS IN SOVIET TOLD IN MANY YIDDISH PAMPHLETS PUBLISHED FOR NEW AREAS

MOSCOW, Nov. 6. (JTA) -- The Soviet occupation of the densely-populated Jewish districts of Western Ukraine and White Russia has caused an unprecedented output of books, leaflets and posters in the Yiddish language describing the life of the Jews in the Soviet Union.

The Ukrainian State Publishing House is issuing 30 pamphlets written by Itsik Feffer, David Hofstein, A. Kahan, Chaim Gildin and many other Jewish writers. A number of pamphlets are devoted to the question of new professions opened for Jews. The booklets will be published in 150,000 copies each.

The Ukrainian State Publishing House is also issuing 14 different Yiddish pamphlets in connection with the forthcoming elections in local soviets throughout the Ukraine. The pamphlets deal with the Soviet Constitution, election procedure and the role of the intelligentsia.

The campaigns against the Zionist Organization and the Bund (Polish Jewish labor party) continue unabated in the Yiddish press. An article in Der Stern accuses Zionists of encouraging and aiding Col. Josef Beck, former Polish Foreign Minister, in his mission to the Soviet Union for the purpose of "getting rid of a superfluous million Polish

DR. HEINRICH NEUMANN, NOTED VIENNESE EAR SPECIALIST, DEAD AT 66; ACTIVE IN REFUGEE AID

NEW YORK, Nov. 7. (JTA) -- Dr. Heinrich Neumann, noted Viennese ear specialist, died last night in his apartment of a gastric ailment. He was 66 years old. Since the Austro-German Anschluss in March, 1938, which resulted in his detention for a short time, he has devoted considerable time and effort to the refugee problem.

Dr. Neumann was arrested on March 15, 1938, and released when the Palestine Government announced it would admit him. He attended the Evian conference in July, 1938, cooperated with the ORT in Vienna and last Spring came to the United States, where he has been engaged in working with the Joint Distribution Committee and other groups.

As a physician, Dr. Neumann was one of the world's greatest authorities on ear diseases and numbered among his patients the Duke of Windsor, former King Alfonso of Spain and many other notables. Born in Methars, Hungary, on June 16, 1873, he studied in Budapest and Vienna and, after creating a stir in medical circles by his papers and lectures on ear surgery, he joined the faculty of Vienna University in 1918.

MOZES DISPATCH ON FATE OF POLISH JEWS CITED IN DAILY NEWS EDITORIAL

NEW YORK, Nov. 7. (JTA) -- The New York Daily News, commenting editorially yesterday on the present war as "A War of Starvation," cited a dispatch from Wilno by Mendel Mozes, chief of the former Jewish Telegraphic Agency bureau in Warsaw, in which the correspondent had reported that the "complete ruin and physical destruction of Polish Jewry under Hitler is a question of months, if not weeks."

ALASKAN REPRESENTATIVE SEES NATIVES OPPOSED TO TERRITORY'S USE AS REFUGEE HAVEN

NEW YORK, Nov. 7. (JTA) -- Legislation to set Alaska apart as a haven for large numbers of European refugees will be opposed vigorously by people of the territory, according to Anthony Dimand, Alaskan delegate to Congress, quoted in a Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance dispatch in the New York World-Telegram. He said that Alaska took the position that it was part of the United States and demanded that it be given the same treatment as the country as a whole.

Meanwhile, Norton Savage, chairman of the Engineering Seminar of City College's School of Technology, declared in a letter to the New York Post that the "United States should hang its head in shame" for not yet having opened Alaska, where "all that is needed is a determined effort to increase the permanent population of Alaska and the result will be to provide homes for refugees, jobs for them and for thousands of American citizens." Prof. Savage added that the Seminar was interested in Alaska because its development meant jobs for engineers "for years to come."

HIAS-ICA AGENTS GET FRENCH PERMIT TO HELP INTERNED REFUGEES EMIGRATE

NEW YORK, Nov. 7. (JTA) -- The French Government has granted permission to the HIAS-ICA Emigration Association to make contact with interned Jewish refugees in order to arrange their emigration, according to word received by HIAS here today. HIAS-ICA representatives immediately were sent to visit all concentration centers where Jewish refugees are located.

LOUIS KRAFT NAMED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF JEWISH WELFARE BOARD

NEW YORK, Nov. 7. (JTA) -- Judge Irving Lehman, president of the Jewish Welfare Board, has announced appointment of Louis Kraft as executive director of the Jewish Welfare Board. Kraft has been associated with the Board since 1917, when he served as director of welfare activities in camps in the United States during the World War emergency. He was appointed acting executive director in March, 1938, following the death of Harry L. Glucksmann, who had been the head of the Board since 1918.

GRYNSZPAN PLEA TO QUIT PRISON FOR ARMY REJECTED BY FRENCH COURT ✓

NEW YORK, Nov. 7. (JTA) -- The French courts today rejected a plea by Herschel Grynszpan, young assassin of a German Embassy secretary, that he be released from prison for the duration of the war so that he could join the Polish Legion, the United Press reported.

Grynszpan had promised that he would return and face trial at the end of the war. The trial cannot be held until the war is over since the complainant is a German, the father of the slain diplomat, Ernst vom Rath, the U.P. said.

The court also rejected a plea by Grynszpan's uncle, Abraham, for a parole so that he could join the Foreign Legion. It affirmed a six-month sentence imposed on him for harboring his nephew after the assassination.