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JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. VI. NO. 98.

Friday, December 1, 1939.

EPIDEMICS SPREADING IN WARSAW; STAY IN EXECUTION OF GHETTO EDICT REPORTED

WILNO, Lithuania, Nov. 30. (JTA) -- Trustworthy information received here today said that epidemics of typhoid and other diseases were spreading in Warsaw, particularly among the Jews, as a result of congestion, malnutrition and lack of fuel.

Enforcement of the ghetto order, under which some 500,000 Jews were to be concentrated in two narrow quarters of the former Polish capital, has been suspended, reportedly because of the epidemics. On the other hand, it is rumored that execution of the order had been held up pending negotiations over a "collective fine" which the Warsaw Jews are unable to pay.

Fuel is absolutely unavailable for Jews in Warsaw. Coal is distributed among non-Jews only, while Jews are forced to break up whatever furniture they have left for firewood.

Jews have been excluded from the city's hospitals. The Jewish hospital "Czyste" has been transferred to the military, hence only the most inadequate private medical aid is left for the Jews.

Because of the outbreak of epidemics, all schools have been closed.

The Jewish position is growing more difficult, since the German troops have been gradually replaced by Nazi storm troopers, Gestapo agents and Hitler youths.

All libraries have been ordered to submit lists of anti-Nazi books in any language.

Polish Cabinet to Frame Report on Nazi Atrocities

PARIS, Nov. 30. (JTA) -- Gen. Wladislaw Sikorski, Polish Premier, announced yesterday that his Government would issue an official paper on German atrocities in Poland and charged that "fearful oppression" has become the "daily bread" of millions of men in the German-occupied territory.

"The Polish territory under the German yoke has become the scene of an indescribable martyrdom," he declared. "One might have thought that by the time the enemy

placed his yoke on the entire country he had sufficiently slaked his thirst for blood and cruelty, but that was not the case. Not a day passes in which individual or collective executions do not take place. Goods are seized and landowners expropriated and deported with the members of their families. Citizens famed for their patriotism are shot. Professors of the University of Cracow, an institution famous for six centuries, are deported far into the interior of Germany.

"Once more the Germans will learn that by acting like this they are not winning glory but shame, not victory but disaster. Poland, which is undergoing the hardest trial in its history, will prevail in this merciless struggle. The world will raise its hand in the name of justice. God will judge and punish the guilty."

NAZI BROADCAST CALLS CHAMBERLAIN 'OLD MAN LED BY WILY JEWS'

LONDON, Nov. 30. (JTA) -- Continuing its anti-Jewish broadcasts in English, the German radio from Hamburg last night assailed Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain as an "old man led by wily Jews." The same broadcast asserted that the recent Prague disorders were acts of "a few malcontents subsidized by Jewish money and egged on by the British secret service."

RECORD J.N.F. INCOME, £560,000, REPORTED FOR PAST YEAR

JERUSALEM (JTA-By Mail) -- The Jewish National Fund had a net income of £560,000 for the year ended September 30, 1939, the highest in its history, it has been announced by J.N.F. headquarters here. The sum allows for deduction of expenditure by overseas offices.

The major increase was in the United States, where £361,000 or 64 per cent of the entire income, was raised. Great Britain and the British Empire contributed £95,000. English-speaking countries thus accounted for 81 per cent of the entire income of the J.N.F.

Contributions from European countries were seriously restricted by currency regulations. Jewish residents of Palestine contributed 5 per cent of the total.

The J.N.F. also attained a new high record for land purchases by buying 51,892 dunams of land during the recently-ended Jewish year 5699.

Total National Fund holdings at the end of the year were 471,000 dunams, 35 per cent of all the Jewish-owned land in the country, which aggregated 1,356,000 dunams (about 340,000 acres.)

400 CZECH JEWS LEAVE PALESTINE TO SERVE WITH LEGION IN FRANCE

JERUSALEM (JTA-By Mail) -- Four hundred Czech Jewish volunteers from Palestine have gone to France to serve in the French Army's Czechoslovak Legion. This first transport is expected to be followed by others. There are between six and seven thousand Czech Jews in Palestine and they have responded enthusiastically to the call for volunteers. The problem of the volunteers' families has not yet been settled.

REUBEN BRAININ, PIONEER ZIONIST, HEBRAIST, DEAD HERE AT 77

NEW YORK, Nov. 30. (JTA) -- Reuben Brainin, pioneer Zionist, Hebraist and writer, died this morning of a heart stroke at the home of his son, Joseph. He was 77. His body will be taken to Montreal for burial. He is survived by two sons, Joseph and Moses, the latter living in Montreal, and a daughter, Mrs. Bertha Schuller, also of Montreal.

After a long career of Zionist and Hebraist activities, Brainin visited Russia 13 years ago and became interested in the Soviet agricultural colonization of Jews. This interest brought him into controversy in recent years with erstwhile Zionist associates. At the time of his death he was engaged in preparing his "Collected Works," three volumes of which have already appeared, and also contributed articles to The Day.

Born in Ladi, Russia, on March 15, 1862, Brainin received a traditional Jewish education and also academic training in the Universities of Vienna and Berlin. While still a student in Moscow he founded the first Zionist student club and shortly afterward established the Zionist Political Group, the first Jewish body to appeal for political action to restore Palestine to the Jews. At 23 he was named editor of Hamelitz, a Hebrew daily in St. Petersburg.

In 1892, Brainin went to Vienna, where he aided Dr. Theodor Herzl in organizing the first World Zionist Congress in 1897, to which he was a delegate. He was active in these years in lecturing throughout Europe in behalf of Zionism.

He was credited with having introduced European literary standards into Hebrew writing. He discovered and encouraged many who subsequently became leading Hebrew writers. In Berlin, he established a society for reviving Hebrew as a conversational language, and also edited Hebrew publications in Berlin and Warsaw.

Coming to the United States in 1910, Brainin led the Hebrew revival here and founded the Histadruth Ivriith, Hebrew cultural organization. Between 1912 and 1917 he was editor of the Canadian Jewish Eagle in Montreal and of several monthly and weekly publications. Returning to the United States in 1917, he served as editor of the Hebrew publication, Hatoren, and was for many years honorary vice-president of the Zionist Organization of America. Visiting Palestine at the age of 64, he was given an enthusiastic reception.

YOUNG ITALIAN JEWISH ARMY OFFICER WINS RARE AWARD FOR BRAVERY

ROME, Nov. 24. (JTA-By Airmail)-- Lieut. Bruno Jesi, counsellor of the Union of Jewish Communities of Italy, today received his Gold Medal brevet from the War Office. The medal itself, it is understood, will be presented to Jesi by Premier Benito Mussolini on the first public occasion.

Being in possession of the brevet, however, Jesi is authorized to enjoy all the privileges of a Gold Medal bearer. The Gold Medal is given for the most outstanding military valor under fire and is nearly always awarded posthumously. To receive one while still living is an honor perhaps incomparable to military decorations in any other country.

Only 100 living Italian heroes have received the medal since its inception. These fought in the Ethiopian campaign of 1898, the Libyan campaign, the World War, the Ethiopian conquest and the Spanish War. Bearers of this rare award are always referred to as Medaglia d' Oro. They receive honors above a general, even though they may hold the rank of private. They enjoy all the privileges of a senator, can enter any ministry unannounced, visit the King and Duce almost as a relative, travel on all trains free and on ships and planes for only a small fraction of the fare.

Jesi is only 23 years old. Although he was a student officer at the time, he left the academy and home to enlist as a private at the outset of the Ethiopian campaign. He has been decorated four times previously, including silver and bronze medals.

Heroism under fire while leading his men in combat against a large group of Ethiopian rebels on June 28, 1938, led to award of the Gold Medal. On that day, Jesi was wounded seven different times and although he was weak from loss of blood, he continued to direct the fight. His last wound was received while climbing a fence into the enemy's stockade. His left leg was almost completely blown off by an Ethiopian's point blank fire.

While being returned to his military base in a cart, his men were attacked by another group of rebels. He took personal command from his position in the cart and, despite his desperate condition, directed a successful defense. When Jesi's commander learned of his part in the skirmishes, he immediately recommended him for a Gold Medal. That evening the young Jewish lieutenant's leg was amputated. The next morning his mother read his obituary.

Jesi's exploits are popular among Italian soldiers, up to and including Mussolini. This, despite his typical Italian Jewish name. The racial campaign started shortly after Jesi's feat or he would long ago have been in possession of his Gold Medal. It is little short of a miracle that he is receiving it. It is felt that this honor to a Jew will reflect on the welfare of all Italian Jews.

KUHN, CONVICTED AS THIEF, FORGER, FACES 30-YEAR JAIL TERM

NEW YORK, Nov. 30. (JTA) -- Fritz Kuhn, convicted by a jury last night on three grand larceny and two forgery charges, was held without bail in Tombs today pending sentencing next Tuesday by General Sessions Judge James G. Wallace. The maximum penalty would be 15 to 30 years' imprisonment.

Judge Wallace, in charging the jury yesterday, warned the talesmen against allowing themselves to be influenced by Kuhn's unpopularity as head of the German-American Bund. He limited the issue on the larceny counts to the point of whether the Bund's "leadership principle" permitted Kuhn to make any use of Bund funds he wished. Judge Wallace had previously excluded five of the ten indictments. The "blue ribbon" jury, on which there were no Jews, returned the verdict after eight-and-a-half hours of deliberation.

OVER \$50,000 RAISED FOR ORT DRIVE IN CANADA

MONTREAL, Nov. 30. (JTA) -- More than \$50,000 was pledged toward the ORT's campaign for \$410,000 at a dinner on Tuesday night which inaugurated the drive. The principal speaker was Lord Marley, chairman of the British Parliamentary Council of the ORT.