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LEARN BRITISH HAVE TAKEN NO DECISION ON WHITE PAPER SINCE WAR

LONDON, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- It was learned authoritatively today that the British Government has taken no decision affecting the Palestine White Paper policy since outbreak of the war. The official view is that the Government is committed to the White Paper policy and is determined to carry it out, but actual implementation has been delayed because of the war.

It is understood here that any change from this official view could only follow a decision by the Prime Minister or the War Cabinet. On this score, it is reliably understood that the Government has given assurances that it would consult Opposition leaders before taking further steps, particularly in view of the fact that the League of Nations Council has been unable to consider the policy.

This is considered a definitely encouraging development, since the Opposition is strongly sympathetic to the Zionists and would not support the White Paper policy if given an opportunity to press their views. Zionist anxieties, however, are not yet relieved. Zionist circles believe that Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald is anxious to implement the policy further, notably in connection with regulation of land sales.

The Zionists are deeply concerned over the rigorous enforcement of immigration provisions of the White Paper and the unresponsive attitude met in negotiations for the extension of certificates from the previous schedule which had been assigned to Polish emigrants but not used because of the war.

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Chamberlain Asked to Relax Policy

LONDON, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- The Jewish Chronicle said today it understood that during the recent conversations between Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain and Labor M.P.'s Clement Attlee and Arthur Greenwood efforts were made to obtain relaxation of the British policy on Palestine along the following lines:

(1) Continuation of immigration and immediate release of certificates withheld as punishment for illegal immigration; (2) immediate release of all certificates intended for refugees; (3) the Government's cooperation to alleviate the economic crisis in Palestine by extension of public works and loans; (4) assurance that noth-

ing would be done to implement the White Paper in regard to administration or land legislation; (5) a better understanding for Jewish defense services and quashing of sentences upon people training for self-defense.

The Chronicle said it was expected that attempts of officials in London and Jerusalem to enforce the White Paper would not succeed, although it was impossible to foretell the actual results of recent interventions.

3,000 REFUGEES HIT BY CUBAN BILL CONFISCATING \$1,125,000 IN BONDS

HAVANA, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- A bill which would confiscate approximately \$1,125,000 in bonds posted by refugees who have overstayed their six-month residence permits will come before the Senate for action tomorrow. Passage was predicted tonight by its sponsor, Senator Luis Kainas, a leader of the anti-immigration bloc.

(The bill, which is part of a general tax measure, was prepared by the Government in order to cope with its poor Treasury condition, according to advices reaching Washington, which said that many of the bonds for refugees in Cuba had been posted by American organizations and individuals.)

Refugees landing in Cuba on temporary visas must provide a \$500 bond. The Kainas bill would confiscate 75 per cent of the bonds of those who have remained longer than six months. Approximately 3,000 Jewish refugees would be affected by the measure.

Following passage by the Senate, the bill would require the approval of the Chamber of Representatives and the President of the Republic. Refugee circles expressed the hope that the interim would be used for speedy intervention with the Government from abroad.

Senator Kainas is known for his anti-immigration and anti-Jewish bills and is one of those responsible for restrictions on immigration of German Jews and Cuba's refusal to permit landing of the refugees on the steamship St. Louis last June. In conversation with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent, Senator Kainas expressed confidence that the bill would pass the Senate because, he said, it had a good legal basis. He declared that since the refugees had come into Cuba for only six months they had forfeited the right to the deposits by remaining longer.

PRIESTS, RABBIS TARGETS OF BRUTAL GESTAPO ACTION IN POLAND

PARIS, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Reliable information reaching Polish Government circles today said that 25 Catholic priests and a number of rabbis had been taken from their homes by Gestapo officials in the Polish city of Lodz and forced to clean streets.

Terrorism against the Catholic and Jewish clergy in Poland has reached the point where priests are afraid to walk on the streets, while rabbis, or any bearded Jews, when seen by uniformed Gestapo officers are halted and half of their beards are cut off publicly, the report said. In Warsaw, all rabbis had to report to Gestapo headquarters, where one side of each one's beard was shorn. Every Gestapo officer carries a pair of scissors which he uses whenever he meets a bearded Jew to cut off half his beard before a crowd.

The report also declared that Wloclawek was the first city where the Nazis introduced the yellow badge for Jews. Gestapo officers set fire to the local synagogue, then forced local Jewish leaders to sign a statement saying that Jews had burned it down. After obtaining the statement the Gestapo announced a fine of 500,000 zlotys (\$100,000 at pre-war rates) on the city's population "for burning down a public building."

The exiled Polish Government also obtained today the official map issued by the Gestapo in Warsaw showing the boundaries of the ghetto together with a list of about 150 streets in Warsaw where Jews are forbidden to reside.

NAZIS BRACKET ENGELBERG SLAYING HERE WITH GUSTLOFF, VOM RATH KILLINGS

PARIS, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- The Havas News Agency reported via Amsterdam today that comments in Berlin were describing the murder of Dr. Walter Engelberg, German Consulate attache in New York, as a political crime.

The killing, according to the agency, was being compared to the shootings of Wilhelm Gustloff, Nazi leader in Switzerland, and Ernst vom Rath, German Embassy attache, in Paris. In both the latter cases young Jews were the assassins.

Grynspan's Family in Wilno

PARIS, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Herschel Grynspan, now in jail awaiting trial for the assassination of a German Embassy official in November, 1938, today received a letter from his father saying the entire family, including Herschel's parents, sister and brother, had arrived safely in Wilno, Lithuania, from Nazi Poland.

U.S. RED CROSS AGENT LEAVES BERLIN FOR POLAND TO DIRECT RELIEF WORK

PARIS, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- James Nicholson, member of an American Red Cross delegation in Europe, has left Berlin for Poland to direct the administrative work of distributing the \$250,000 relief which the American organization has appropriated for medical, sanitary and other aid to the suffering population under the Nazi occupation.

This was disclosed by Ernest Swift, another member of the delegation, prior to his departure for Geneva. Mr. Swift, who is scheduled to return to the United States on Dec. 11, said that the Red Cross supplies will be distributed in Poland through the German Red Cross. A representative of the American Red Cross, he explained, will participate in supervising the distribution, which will be handled separately through Jewish and non-Jewish organizations on the spot under an arrangement by which each of these two separate organizations will have to apply for the American relief to the German Red Cross.

FRENCH BILL WOULD PUT ALIENS ON PAR WITH CITIZENS FOR ARMY SERVICE

PARIS, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- A bill that would make all aliens residing in France longer than three months liable to military service on the same principle as Frenchmen has been prepared for introduction to Parliament, it was announced today by Socialist Deputy Bardt, author of the measure. Aliens refusing to participate in

defense of France would be ordered to leave the country within a month under the bill. Bardt said his measure was based on the contention that aliens living in France enjoyed full liberty and the protection of the French Army, facts which obligated them to help defend the country.

CHURCH GROUP CALLS ON ALL PROTESTANTS TO COMBAT 'CHRISTIAN FRONT'

NEW YORK, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- The Brooklyn Church and Mission Federation today intensified its campaign against the Christian Front by naming the Front's eight constituent organizations and calling upon all Protestants to repudiate them as "un-Christian."

A meeting of the federation's commission on public welfare, headed by the Rev. Ben F. Wyland, voted to send to all Protestant ministers and others in Brooklyn and elsewhere a resolution condemning the Christian Front, which was adopted on Nov. 14, together with an appeal to preach that true Americanism creates unity, not "racial and religious hatred."

The components of the Front named in today's resolution are: the Social Justice Distributors' Clubs, the Crusaders for Americanism, the American Nationalists, the American Patriots, the Citizens' Protective League, the Christian Mobilizers, the German-American Business League and the German-American Bund.

This development came after Postmaster General James A. Farley, in an address Wednesday night to 500 persons attending a dinner of the Washington Heights and Inwood Coordinating Committee in Behalf of Persecuted Minorities, had denounced the Christian Front and Mobilizers.

"How my blood boils," Farley declared, "when I hear the adjective 'Christian' used by these organizations, the Christian Front and Christian Mobilizers, which thus insult the gentle Jesus who preached love for all mankind. Their members haven't been here long or they would have heard of the Know Nothings."

Today's resolution of the Brooklyn Protestant federation declared that the twofold object of the Christian Front "is the extermination of the Jews and the establishment of a Fascist government. The first is a sacrilegious attack upon the spirit of Christianity and the second an assault upon our American democracy."

It called on all Protestants "to do all in your power to make plain to your people that true Americanism is a creator, not of disunity and racial or religious hatred, but a creator of a perfect union, one and inseparable, established upon the four great liberties: freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of press and freedom of assembly."

"We furthermore call upon you," the statement concluded, "to teach that true Christianity is the spirit of the neighbor who knows 'neither Jew nor Greek, bond or free,' and derives its character from the Prince of Peace, who said the two great laws of religion were love of God and love of man. As our American democracy is the protector of all kinds and conditions of man, so is Christianity truest and purest in its expression of a universal love above all distinction or race or class or creed."

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SOVIET TO NATIONALIZE TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN BIALYSTOK

LONDON, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- A Moscow broadcast announced last night that the entire textile industry in Bialystok will be nationalized. The industry, in which 500 enterprises operated until the conquest and partition of Poland, will be reorganized into 34 large mills under the direction of experts from Moscow and local engineers, the announcement said.

BRODETSKY TO RUN FOR PRESIDENCY OF DEPUTIES; STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF UNITY

LONDON, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Prof. Selig Brodetsky, member of the Jewish Agency Executive, announced today his acceptance of an invitation to run for the presidency of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, post made vacant by the retirement of Neville Laski.

In a statement to a deputation of Zionist and non-Zionist members of the Board, Prof. Brodetsky stressed the organization's vital role in shaping Jewish destinies, especially at a future peace conference. Later, he expressed the conviction that one of the Board's most important duties at this time was to "unite all sections of British Jewry to produce, in cooperation with the Jewish communities in the United States, Palestine, France and others, a united Jewish front on all issues concerning the Jewish people." Also contesting the election will be Col. H.L. Nathan, Labor M.P. Nominations will close next Tuesday.

CANADIAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK IS PUBLISHED

MONTREAL, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- The Canadian Jewish Year Book for 1939-1940 was published here today under the editorship of Vladimir Grossman, author and journalist.

The volume, paper-bound and containing 352 pages, includes articles on the history of Canadian Jewry, biographies of prominent Canadian Jews, a survey of world Jewry by Jacob Lestchinsky, statistical tables and a chronological record of Jewish world developments in the past year. One chapter is devoted to a survey of Jewish agricultural achievements in the United States.

The Jewish population of Canada, as of the 1931 census, is listed as 155,351, or 1.51 per cent of the total. More than 120,000 of this number reside in the provinces of Quebec and Ontario. Twelve Jewish publications are listed, five of them Yiddish, including two dailies, and seven Anglo-Jewish.

LIQUIDATION OF JEWS' PROPERTY IN AUSTRIA COMPLETED

ZURICH, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- The Neue Zuericher Zeitung reported today that the liquidation and transfer of Jewish property in Austria has been completed by the Nazis. It was officially stated that Jewish property in Austria amounted to 2,290,000 marks.

NAZIS SEIZE FOOD PARCELS SENT TO JEWS FROM U.S., REFUGEE REVEALS

NEW YORK, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Nazi seizure of food packages sent from America to Jews in Germany was revealed today by a refugee here. The refugee said he had sent a parcel of food to relatives in the Reich and had received a letter from them which said that upon receiving it they had "donated" it to the Nazi Winter Relief Organization. This the refugee took to mean that the authorities had delivered the parcel and then forced the recipients to give it up.