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## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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### EPIDEMICS MOUNT IN WARSAW GHETTO, SPURRED BY SEARCH FOR DEAD IN DEBRIS

PARIS, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- Polish Government circles reported receipt of news from Warsaw today that an intensified search for dead bodies lying under debris had added to the epidemics raging in the Jewish ghetto, from which several hundred Jews had already died in recent weeks. The Gestapo has ordered burial of all corpses within a week, the information said, and hundreds of funerals can be seen on the Warsaw streets, especially in the ghetto.

The Nazi authorities could check the epidemics in the Jewish-populated streets if they delivered medical and sanitary relief, it was said, but instead they permitted the diseases to rage, only taking precautionary measures to protect German soldiers. Many Jews fall in the street, swollen from hunger, it was declared.

A curious incident was revealed in the Polish report. During the cleaning of debris in Warsaw, several Jewish families were uncovered who had been living under the ruins for as long as three or four weeks without seeing sunshine, but well stocked with food which they had stored before the bombardment.

A person who left German-occupied Poland on Nov. 28 reported to the Polish authorities here that in Rzeszow and numerous other cities the Nazis had forbidden the Polish population to deal with Jews and had ordered the Jews to deal with their coreligionists exclusively.

The Nazi attitude towards Jews and Poles was formulated, it was said by Arthur Greiser, Danzig Nazi leader, in a speech in Lodz in which he said: "The Jews must altogether disappear from the surface. They will not be tolerated by the Reich. The Poles may just as well get used to the fact that they must become the serfs of the Germans."

Pillaging of Jewish homes in Lodz was reported to be continuing, together with the burning down of synagogues, including the large synagogue on Aleja Kosciusko. All Lodz Jews must carry yellow armbands, including women and even infants in baby carriages.

### 'Reservation' Seen Pretext to Force Jews Into Soviet Area

PARIS, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- Reliable sources declared today that the Nazi project for a Jewish "reservation" in the Lublin district of Poland had turned out to be only a pretext for removing Jews to this district and then forcing them into Soviet Poland.

These sources said that almost 80 per cent of the Jews from Bohemia-Moravia and Vienna who had been sent to Lublin were forced by the Nazis to cross the San River into the Soviet territory. This explains, it was said, why the Soviet authorities this week began erecting a barbed-wire barricade on their side of the San.

This information coincided with an independent report in the newspaper Paris-Midi that hundreds of Jewish men and women, including aged and sick, who had been taken to Lublin from various parts of the Reich were compelled by the Gestapo at gun's point to cross the Soviet frontier. These Jews have been met with gunfire from the Soviet side, Paris-Midi said.

It is expected, the newspaper added, that when the river freezes over more Jews will be sent to Lublin to be forced to cross on the ice into Soviet Poland.

#### Transit Permits Sought in Norway

OSLO, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- The chief of the Central Passport Control Office informed the press today that his office was receiving a number of applications for travel and sojourn permits from Jews in Germany seeking to escape deportation to the Lublin "reservation."

#### 'Gestapo Courts' Range Poland

LONDON, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- The Manchester Guardian reports that the Nazis have created special "Gestapo courts" in Poland which travel from town to town investigating the behavior of the Jewish population and ordering frequent executions.

Commenting editorially on the reports of savage persecution of the Jews by the Gestapo in Poland, the Guardian declares that nobody, knowing what the Gestapo has done to the Jews in Germany, can have difficulty envisaging the still more extensive campaign of "synagogue-burning and brutality in Poland."

"The terrible case of that people both there and in all places where the Nazis are supreme," the newspaper states, "makes one wonder how the doctrine that force is no remedy can be made to apply. The Jews as Jews have no threatening alliances, no armaments, no Sudetenland, strong points or barbed wire. They have done nothing to provoke attack or reprisal, and in Germany itself their only course was submission, which some say is a better way than force; in return they have been beaten, robbed, executed, imprisoned or expelled, have seen their synagogues in flames. So it was in Germany. It is with swifter, wider ferocity in Poland. What else but force can make effective answer to savagery that has so replied to submission."

#### SZOSZKES NAMED POLISH CONSUL IN TEL AVIV

PARIS, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- Dr. Chaim Szoszkas, Warsaw Jewish leader, who reached Paris from Poland last week, has been appointed by the exiled Polish Government as consul in Tel Aviv, Palestine. Before assuming his duties he will proceed to the United States to acquaint American Jews with conditions of the Jews in Poland.

#### CUBAN PRESIDENT BACKS BILL SEIZING \$1,125,000 REFUGEE BONDS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- The Cuban measure confiscating \$1,125,000 in bonds posted for Jewish refugees, which is understood to have been adopted by the Cuban Senate, has the secret backing of President Federico Laredo Bru, it was reliably learned here today.

Informed Government circles expressed the view that he supported the bill despite his knowledge that passage would mitigate against his chances of obtaining much-needed credits from the American Government. The measure affects about 3,000 refugees, for whom \$500 bonds were posted by American organizations and individuals.

#### CZECH POLICE BREAK UP NAZI ANTI-JEWISH MEETING IN PRAGUE

PARIS, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- Le Temps reported today that the Czech authorities had prohibited an anti-Jewish meeting called by the Czech Nazi organization, Camp of National Socialist Czechs, in Prague on Nov. 30.

When a number of Czech Nazis crowded into a meeting hall, despite the ban, and shouted, "Out with the Jews!" and "Long live Hitler!" the Czech police, aided by the local population, intervened and dispersed the gathering. German elite guards who attempted to arrest several Czech policemen were attacked by the crowds before they succeeded in delivering these policemen to the Gestapo.

#### Czechs Seen Blocking Anti-Semitic Agitation by Nazis

NEW YORK, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- The former editor-in-chief of a Prague daily who has arrived in New York reported that attempts to arouse anti-Semitism in the Protectorate have failed "and steps against Jews have been taken only by the Nazi Protector's office after the Czech Government has refused to act," according to a news bulletin issued by the American Friends of Czecho-Slovakia.

The editor also said that every street in the cities and every village "has its group of Czech patriots, closely organized to resist the invader. Neither Jews, foreigners, nor those previously prominent in political life are permitted in the organization in order to reduce the risk of detection by the Gestapo," he said.

#### Czech Savings Sequestered by Nazi Edict

LONDON, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- Czech circles here report that to defeat refusal by the Czechs to keep their deposits in the Prague German bank, Boehmische Diskontobank und Kreditanstalt, the Nazi authorities have decreed that all Czech savings banks must place 30 per cent of their deposits into the bank as a "permanent investment." The money, it was stated, will be used to purchase Czech and Jewish properties, especially industrial concerns that the Nazis wish passed into German hands.

#### PARIS NEWSPAPER LAUDS WORK OF J.D.C.

PARIS, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- In connection with the 25th anniversary of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, the newspaper L'Ordre publishes an article captioned, "Touching Activities of Human Solidarity -- the Joint Distribution Committee." It reviews the history of the J.D.C. briefly and emphasizes that during its 25 years the organization raised and expended for relief in Europe more than \$100,000,000.

"It can be said that the J.D.C. is everywhere where immediate relief is necessary," the article said, adding: "The J.D.C.'s work of yesterday as well as of today and its very useful activities every day are the best example of human solidarity, meriting the highest praise."

GROUP SET UP IN GENEVA TO SPONSOR SEMITIC CONFEDERATION OF STATES

GENEVA, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- Creation of a Pan-Semitic Group, composed of Jewish, Arab and Egyptian intellectuals living in Geneva, to promote the idea of a confederation of Semitic states including all Arab countries and a Palestine Jewish state, was announced today.

STEAMER WITH 600 EMIGRANTS ON WAY TO PALESTINE

GENEVA, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency for Palestine announced today that its emigration department had chartered a third steamship which sailed from Trieste for Palestine on Nov. 30 with 600 emigrants, including 70 refugees from Poland.

SLOVAKIAN JEWS SEIZED FOR SPREADING 'ALARMIST RUMORS'

BRUSSELS, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- The German newspaper Essener National Zeitung reports that a number of persons, mostly Jews, have been arrested in eastern Slovakia during the last few days on charges of spreading "alarmist rumors" under instructions of the British intelligence service.

ROMANIAN JEWS SUBSCRIBE TO NEW DEFENSE LOAN

BUCHAREST, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- Government circles today voiced appreciation of large subscriptions by Jews to the new Rumanian defense loan, declaring they recognized the importance of Jewish contributions to success of the loan.

MANY ITALIAN CONVERTS SEEK TO RETURN TO JUDAISM

ROME, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- Italian Jews who left the Jewish religion after promulgation of Italy's anti-Semitic legislation but who have not yet been accepted into the Catholic Church are now applying in large numbers to Jewish communities throughout the country to have their membership restored. An estimated 5,000 Jews abandoned Judaism since 1938, the majority of them joining the Catholic Church. Ninety per cent of the converts are people of means and their quitting the Jewish community has financially affected Jewish welfare and religious work.

OVER 700 ATTEND 18TH ANNUAL CHANUKAH FETE OF EDUCATION BODY

NEW YORK, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- More than 700 persons attended the 18th annual Chanukah dinner of the Jewish Education Association at the Hotel Commodore tonight. Scheduled speakers included Judge Samuel I. Rosenthal, president of the Jewish Education Committee; Mark Eisner, president of the American Association for Jewish Education, who presided; Bernard Semel, Michael Schaap, Harry H. Liebovitz and Mrs. Gabriel Hamburger.

IMMIGRATION TO U.S. AT LOWEST POINT SINCE 1840, SURVEY REVEALS

NEW YORK, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- The present decade has seen the lowest rate of immigration since 1831 to 1840, according to statistics presented in a special issue of the magazine Social Work Today, which refutes allegations that European unrest has spurred a flood of immigrants to this country.



A total of 457,675 immigrants entered the United States from 1931 to 1939, the magazine reports from Labor Department statistics, as compared to 600,000 in the fourth decade of the nineteenth century.

The issue, prepared under the editorship of a leading Protestant, Catholic and Jew, urges maintenance of the traditional American hospitality to the immigrant, "a tradition upon which her (America's) greatness was built." The editors are Dr. John P. Boland, chairman of the State Labor Relations Board; Dr. Eduard C. Lindeman, of the New York School of Social Work, and Harry L. Lurie, director of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

#### PALESTINE NOW CHIEF SOURCE OF POTASH SUPPLY; PRODUCTION RISES SHARPLY

JERUSALEM, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- Palestine has become the chief source of potash supply to the Allies and neutral countries, it was stated here by M. Novomeysky, managing director of the Palestine Potash, Ltd.

Novomeysky explained that German, Russian, and Polish potash were out of the market and the Spanish mines had not been restored since the Civil War, while the French mines were too near the western front. Because of this situation, Novomeysky said, a five-year program of developing the Palestine potash works will now be carried out in half the time or less. He revealed that several new substances have been produced which include chlorine, caustic soda, caustic potash, a bleaching powder which is useful for treatment of mustard gas burns, magnesium salts, and mixed fertilizers.

Novomeysky said that exports were 35 per cent higher than last year and would probably increase still more.

Forty-three new industrial and commercial undertakings were registered in Palestine in the first two weeks of November. Nineteen new attorneys were admitted to the Palestine bar in the same period.

The largest ambulance in Palestine has been placed in service by the Hadassah Medical Center. It was donated by the family of Dr. Ira Kaplan, head of the cancer department at Bellevue Hospital, in New York. A film depicting the Palestine activities of the Hadassah medical organization has been completed here. The film, produced by Lazar Duenner, shows scenes in hospitals, clinics, nurseries and child welfare stations in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Tiberias, Safed, Meir Shefaya and elsewhere.

#### CZECH REFUGEE HELD AT ELLIS ISLAND

NEW YORK, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- Marek Morsel, a Czech Jewish exporter, who arrived here Wednesday on the Italian liner Vulcania after he had been barred from Portugal despite possession of a visa for that country, has been detained at Ellis Island pending disposition of his case. Czech authorities in the United States had intervened in his behalf.