

# NEWS

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## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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### RUSSIA ASKS LITHUANIA TO OUST ALL REFUGEES DEEMED 'HARMFUL' TO HER INTERESTS

PARIS, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- Russia has brought pressure against Lithuania to expel all refugees considered "harmful" to Soviet interests, it was learned today from official reports reaching the Polish Government-in-exile.

A special commission from Moscow has arrived at Kaunas and has presented the Lithuanian Government with the following demands:

(1) Preparation for the Soviet authorities of a complete list of all refugees from Poland who are not Lithuanian citizens; (2) a ban on residence of Polish refugees in sections of Lithuania where Soviet military forces are stationed; (3) expulsion of all Polish refugees and other immigrants who might be considered harmful to Soviet interests.

Many Jewish refugees known to be unfriendly to the Soviets, particularly Socialists, will be affected by the last-named demand, with which Lithuania will be forced to comply.

The position of these Jewish refugees is precarious, since they are sandwiched between Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia and, if expelled, would have nowhere to go because Latvia, third country bordering Lithuania and also under Soviet domination, is determined not to admit any refugees from Lithuanian soil.

Foreseeing trouble for many of the refugees, the Lithuanian Government has appealed to the governments of the United States, Sweden, Denmark and Norway to accept some of the thousands of exiles now in Lithuania. (According to a Kaunas dispatch yesterday, the Scandinavian countries have turned down the request, explaining they were preoccupied with the problem of caring for Finnish refugees.)

Forty Jewish journalists and writers who escaped from Poland to Lithuania, meanwhile, have appealed to the HIAS-ICA Emigration Association here to arrange emigration facilities for them to such countries as Palestine, France, England, the United States and Latin American nations. The appeal expresses the hope that Jewish newspapers and publications abroad will take an interest in their fate, since all are bona fide journalists whose works have been featured in American, Argentinian, and South African Yiddish newspapers.

Disbarred Lawyer Liquidates Jews' Property in Lwow

LONDON, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- A disbarred lawyer, Dr. Fabian, has been entrusted with liquidation of the Jewish community's property in the Soviet-held city of Lwow, it was reported here today.

All schools in the West Ukraine have been nationalized and balloting was carried out among parents regarding preference in language of instruction -- Ukrainian, Polish or Yiddish -- the majority of Jews choosing Yiddish.

LUBLIN AREA, MAPPED IN NAZI PAPER, COVERS 5,000 SQ. MILES

LONDON, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- The Jewish "reservation" in the Lublin area of Poland covers an area of approximately 5,000 square miles, according to a map published in the Ostdeutscher Beobachter, a Nazi organ.

The area is bounded on the south by the San River and Russo-German frontier, on the east by the Bug River, on the west by the Vistula River and the northern line runs through the Pulawy district north of the town of Pulawy, crosses the Bystrea River 12 miles south of the city of Lublin, reaching the River Wieprz and turning southeast toward the Bug River.

The Polish population living within these boundaries, the paper said, "will be gradually transferred to ethnographically Polish territories included in the governorship of Warsaw," while the Ukrainian population will be transferred to Russia.

According to official Polish quarters the Settlement of Jews in the "reservation" continues "in a way calculated to destroy them physically." The same sources state that the position of the Jews in the German-occupied territory is becoming more unbearable daily. Throughout the country Jews are deprived of all civil rights and protection of the law.

A general prohibition against trading has been imposed on Jews, who are only allowed to do manual work. Jewish landlords in Warsaw are not permitted to collect rents or withdraw bank deposits.

DELIVERY OF LETTERS TO NAZI, SOVIET AREAS OF POLAND NOW ASSURED

PARIS, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- The International Red Cross announced today through the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee that it has finally completed arrangements for transmission of mail from the United States and other countries to both Nazi and Soviet Poland. The arrangements climaxed several weeks of negotiations with the German and Soviet authorities.

Transmission of letters to residents of Upper Silesia, Pomerania, Posen and Lodz districts will be by ordinary mail since these provinces are considered integral parts of the Reich. Residents in other sections of Nazi Poland will receive their mail through the German Red Cross, to which it will be forwarded by the I.R.C.

The I.R.C. said that all letters must be limited to 25 words and must be strictly personal. In several instances, the announcement said, replies are already being received in Geneva by the I.R.C.

UNUSED PALESTINE VISAS VALID TO MARCH 1, MacMICHAEL DECIDES

LONDON, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- It was understood here today that as a result of negotiations Palestine High Commissioner Sir Harold A. MacMichael has agreed to extend the validity of unused immigration certificates from the entry schedule which expired at the end of September. The certificates are now valid until March 1

600 Sail From Trieste

GENEVA, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- A transport of 600 Jews from Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia, for whom immigration certificates were issued before the outbreak of the war, sailed for Palestine today from Trieste, Italy, aboard the steamship Galilee.

Council Not to Air Palestine Entry Petitions

GENEVA, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- With no representatives of the Palestine Administration present, it is considered unlikely that the current 37th session of the League of Nations Council will take up a number of Jewish petitions on the question of Palestine immigration.

3 WELL-KNOWN POLISH JEWS DIE IN LWOW

LONDON, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- Three well-known Jews have died in Lwow, Soviet Poland, it was reported here today.

Zdislaw Smigryder Konopka, 42, former Senator, authority on Greek and Roman history and former lecturer at Warsaw University, died during a lecture at Lwow University. He had been appointed to the history chair in Lwow a month ago. Dr. David Malz, 70, veteran Zionist leader in East Galicia, also died, as did Karl Stand, also a pioneer Zionist.

ROOSEVELT TO GET RALLY'S RESOLUTION ASKING ACTION ON NAZI OPPRESSION

NEW YORK, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress and Jewish Labor Committee planned today to send a delegation to Washington in the near future to present to the Government a resolution adopted at last night's mass meeting of 20,000 persons in the Madison Square Garden appealing to President Roosevelt to express to the German Government "America's abhorrence and condemnation" of oppression in Poland.

The resolution was adopted after the capacity audience -- it was announced that 8,000 had been turned away -- had heard Herbert Hoover, Alfred M. Landon, Mayor LaGuardia, William Green, Dr. Stephen S. Wise and others denounce anti-Jewish "bestialities" in Poland.

An impressive part of the program was the chanting of "El Mole Rachamin" by a chorus of the Jewish Cantors-Ministers Association. Thousands in the audience, on the platform and even in the press section shed tears during the memorial prayer for the victims of the occupation of Poland.

Hoover, who arrived unexpectedly, coming by airplane from Chicago, read a message which he had sent previously (JTA NEWS DEC. 14), in which he denounced "the bestialities visited upon the people of the Jewish faith."

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Mayor LaGuardia, who had come in by plane with Hoover, denounced "those who are responsible for the outrages and the cruelties which are being inflicted upon hundreds of thousands of innocent people," and the "new cruelty of exploited, occupied lands that were taken contrary to all rules of civilization." He declared "there is being crystallized throughout the country today, throughout the world, a public opinion that will be visited upon the culprits not only in their day but for centuries to come."

Landon, speaking by radio from Topeka, said that "this evening you are expressing the conscience of America, a conscience that refuses to be silent in the midst of persecution." He declared: "The time will come when the plain, average people of Germany will want to return to the amenities of international life. Decent treatment of all minority civilian groups will have a profound effect on our future respect for and appreciation of the German people."

Dr. Wise, who presided, declared: "American Jews are strongest in opposing every manner of political aggression and every form of religious and racial oppression because American Jews are free and do not know oppression in the land of freedom and equality. We would be unworthy of being American if we did not challenge a nation, however mighty, to cease warring upon a necessarily defenseless minority in a land by it overrun, trampled upon, conquered."

The resolution appealed to "the President and the people of the United States to convey to the German Government America's abhorrence and condemnation of this oppression and to utilize every avenue of help for the succor of the Jews of Nazi Poland."

It particularly urged President Roosevelt, "who has led the world in condemnation of aggression and brutality, to raise his voice and exercise his great power once again in behalf of the relentlessly oppressed Jewish people of Poland, upon whom is practiced a cruelty devised by a perverted human ingenuity which violates every impulse of humanity and justice."

The resolution cited Nazi terrorism in Poland, segregation of Jews in ghettos, starvation, "degradation" of women, enforcement of yellow badges, the Lublin "reservation." The Jews of Poland, it said, "are the double victims of war and anti-Semitism," and added that "the future of the Jewish people is bound up with the fate of civilization itself."

Supporting the "moral embargo" on Soviet Russia for the invasion of Finland and relief measures for Finland, the statement urged "the President and the people of the United States to extend their interest in oppressed peoples to include the Jewish people in occupied Nazi Poland."

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'Reservation', Stalin Regime Hit by Mizrahi Women

LAKEWOOD, N.J., Dec. 14. (JTA) -- Resolutions condemning the Jewish "reservation" in Nazi Poland as "a barbarian and inhumane measure" and attacking the "godless regime of Stalin," while sympathizing with the cause of the Allies, were adopted here yesterday at the closing session of the annual eastern regional seaboard conference of the Mizrahi Women's Organization of America.

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Veterans to Send Ambulance to Finland

NEW YORK, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- The Jewish War Veterans of the United States announced today launching of a campaign for funds to purchase an ambulance for Finland as an "expression of American Jewry's sympathy" with the Finnish people.

ROMANIAN COURT RULING HITS ALL NOT LISTED IN NATIONALITIES REGISTER

BUCHAREST, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- Rumanian subjects whose names do not appear on the nationalities lists must be considered foreigners, the Kishineff High Court ruled today in dismissing an appeal by a Jewish firm from conviction for violation of the labor law forbidding enterprises to employ more than a specified percentage of foreigners.

The appellants had contended that a number of employed Rumanian subjects whose names do not appear in the nationalities register because they had omitted necessary formalities should be considered Rumanians. The court rejected the contention, holding they must be considered foreigners, and upheld the conviction. The decision is particularly interesting because the recent revision of citizenships revealed that more than 48,000 Rumanian Jews were not listed in the nationalities register.

Justice Minister Istrate Micescu has requested provincial bar associations to halt the revision of lists of lawyers excluded from practice pending issuance of new laws governing admission to the bar. The effect of this measure is expected to be to postpone reconsideration of the cases of hundreds of Jewish lawyers barred from practice.

PRESIDENT OF ROMANIAN SENATE PAYS TRIBUTE TO NIEMIROWER

BUCHAREST, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- A moving tribute was paid to the late Senator Chief Rabbi Jakob Niemirower in the Senate today by former Premier Argetoianu.

Speaking as President of the Senate, Argetoianu declared that Dr. Niemirower came of an old rabbinical family and was possessed of the tact and tradition of the ancient rabbis in making his presence in the Senate agreeable and valuable. Dr. Niemirower, he said, always found the correct expression and had succeeded in adapting the activity of his people to the national movement. He concluded by declaring that the Chief Rabbi's memory would remain forever with the present Senate.

POLISH REGIME HELD UNABLE TO ENFORCE LEGION SERVICE IN BRITAIN

LONDON, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- Sir Victor Warrender, financial secretary of the War Office, reaffirmed in Commons that the Polish Government has no powers of compulsion over nationals resident in Britain with regard to conscription for the Polish Legion.

The only measures the Polish Government can take where conscription is evaded Sir Victor pointed out, are withdrawal of consular protection and citizenship. Subject to the risk of these penalties, he said, Polish nationals here are eligible equally with other aliens for service in the British Army. Sir Victor's statement was in reply to Col. Josiah Wedgwood, Labor M.P., who asked whether in view of the alleged beating up of 40 Jews who joined the Polish Legion in France, the War Minister would consider permitting Polish Jews to join the British Army instead of the Legion. Sir Victor declared that the report of the beatings had been authoritative denied.