

# NEWS

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## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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### EXODUS FROM REICH GOES ON AS PERSECUTION IS INTENSIFIED; EXILES FACE CLOSED BORDERS

PARIS, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Driven by intensified persecution, thousands of Jews continue to seek their way from the Greater Reich to other countries despite the closing of borders.

A report received today by the HIAS-ICA Emigration Association from Amsterdam said that 1,700 Jewish refugees were ready to sail from the Netherlands ports for overseas lands after obtaining visas from consulates within and outside the Reich, but still needed fare. Another report declared that more than 2,000 Jews, after undergoing Nazi torture in Vienna and Prague, had arrived on Danube barges and small boats in Rumania, penniless and exhausted, in the hope of being able to emigrate overseas.

A special ship may be chartered for those who reached Amsterdam to transport them to Latin American countries for which they have secured visas. However, the position of the 2,000 in Rumania is more complicated since they were forced out of Germany without visas for any other country.

In France, the authorities, in line with Interior Minister Albert Sarraut's declaration in Parliament several days ago that interned refugees would be dealt with liberally, yesterday released one group of refugees to sail for Palestine and another to sail for the United States. Those released are holders of visas for these two countries and are the first to be released en masse. They were freed on condition they emigrate immediately. Losing no time, the Palestine-bound refugees sailed from Marseille, while the holders of the American visas are en route to New York on the Italian liner Conte di Savoia.

Consideration for refugees has also been displayed by the military authorities, who have agreed henceforth not to take refugees off neutral ships passing French waters, provided that the HIAS-ICA Emigration Association in Paris submits to the naval authorities in advance the names of the ships and lists of the refugees aboard who are sailing from neutral countries or embarking for overseas lands.

The same procedure has been followed by the British naval authorities with regard to 57 Jewish refugees travelling to Australia on the steamship Maloja, according to cabled advices received by the HIAS-ICA from Bombay. Since these refugees came from Germany and Austria they were detained while passing British waters and were

interned. However, the Jewish Relief Association in Bombay was authorized by the military authorities to interrogate them, after which they were released. This association also informed the HIAS-ICA that of 333 Jews interned in India, 287 have been released and the rest are expected to be released shortly.

The British consulate in Paris is still in possession of valid Palestine visas in the capitalist category assigned to refugee applicants not yet released from internment. It is certain, however, that they, as well as others holding visas for overseas lands, will be released and permitted to emigrate.

Sir Herbert Emerson, League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, has concluded a five-day visit to Paris during which he discussed the problem of the interned refugees with the French police and military authorities, who displayed sympathy with his task. Sir Herbert also conferred with directors of the HIAS-ICA in Paris on the problem of arranging emigration from France of those refugees who will be permitted to leave isolation centers. The French authorities expressed to Sir Herbert their especial satisfaction with the holders of Nansen passports, of whom all of military age have joined the French Army.

#### 2,000 Refugees Stranded on Danube

BUCHAREST, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- More than 2,000 refugees from Greater Germany are stranded on four small steamers and barges in Rumanian waters of the Danube.

Interviewed by reporters here, they tell of Jews being beaten to death on the streets of Vienna, Prague and other cities, and assert that the local Czech population is enraged by the atrocities committed by young Nazis sent into Prague with specific instructions to terrorize the Jews.

On the small German ship Saturnus are 811 of the refugees, including women and children. All are undernourished and without medicaments. Thirty are sick. Another 500 are on the barge Spirula, which has been wandering on the Danube under the most primitive circumstances. Seven hundred more are on two Yugoslav boats.

Among the refugees are formerly well-to-do merchants, industrialists, lawyers, engineers, editors and artists. Penniless now, they are neither permitted to land in Rumania nor able to continue their trip. Jewish communities have undertaken to feed the refugees but they are not in a position to help them in their emigration efforts.

Two of the women refugees died on the steamers. Two others gave birth on the barge. Some of the refugees have been released from Nazi concentration camps on their pledges to leave the Reich. Those on the German ship Saturnus have been warned by the captain that they will be returned to Germany unless they succeed in landing within a few days or are transferred to another ship.

#### SCHORR REPORTED SENTENCED TO 9-YEAR JAIL TERM BY REDS IN LWOW

LONDON, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Religious circles here reported today that Senator Moses Schorr, former Chief Rabbi of Warsaw, has been sentenced by the Soviet authorities in Lwow to nine years' imprisonment. (Earlier dispatches from Wilno and Paris said that Rabbi Schorr had been released from arrest by the Soviet authorities.) The same circles reported receipt of a telegram from Senator Jacob Trockenheim saying he was in Bialystok, Russian Poland.

ORZECZ, FORWARD CORRESPONDENT, WAS ON SHIP SEIZED BY NAZIS

KAUNAS, Lithuania, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Moses Orzech, correspondent of the New York Jewish Daily Forward, was one of the passengers on board the ship Estonia which was captured by a Nazi warship, it was learned here today. Orzech, a refugee from Poland who had been ordered to leave Lithuania, was on his way to France.

The Latvian Government organ Rits reports from Tallinn that all the Estonia's passengers, with the exception of officers, were released after the ship had put into the port of Swinemunde. Also among the passengers were two representatives of the Joint Distribution Committee, Isaac Giterman, formerly head of the Warsaw bureau, and Moses Beckelman, an American who was attached to the organization's European staff.

\$500 DONATED TO FINNISH RELIEF FUND BY SPONSORS OF GARDEN PROTEST RALLY

NEW YORK, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- A check for \$500, representing half the sum collected at Wednesday night's protest meeting in Madison Square Garden, has been forwarded to former President Herbert Hoover as a contribution to the Finnish Relief Fund by the American Jewish Congress and the Jewish Labor Committee, it was announced today by Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the American Jewish Congress.

WRITERS' UNION HERE OPENS DRIVE TO AID REFUGEE COLLEAGUES ABROAD

NEW YORK, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- The Peretz Verein, Jewish writers' organization, today launched a campaign for funds to aid Jewish refugee writers in Europe. The Jewish Labor Committee is cooperating in the drive.

HENRY ROSMARIN NAMED POLISH CONSUL GENERAL IN JERUSALEM

NEW YORK, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- The Polish Consulate General announced today that Dr. Henry Rosmarin, Polish Jewish leader and former deputy in the Polish Parliament, has been appointed Polish Consul General in Jerusalem. Dr. Rosmarin, who left Bucharest for Palestine last month, will assume his duties Jan. 1, 1940.

GESTAPO MURDERED PRAGUE JEWISH LEADER, CZECH CIRCLES REPORT IN LONDON

LONDON, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- The Czech press service today reported the brutal murder by the Gestapo in Prague of Dr. Zdenek Thon, a member of the Prague Jewish Community.

On Nov. 1, the entire German press published the text of a letter allegedly sent to Dr. Thon by an unknown person in London. The letter, which betrayed complete ignorance of political life in England, purported to prove that Hore-Belisha, Churchill, Eden and Duff-Cooper were in the pay of Jewish interests. Its publication was followed by the arrest of Dr. Thon, who was then beaten unconscious by the Gestapo in the Pankrac Prison and finally shot.

WEIZMANN DEFERS TRIP TO U.S.; ARRIVAL NOW SET FOR JAN. 6

LONDON (JTA--By Airmail). -- It was learned here that Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, has postponed his departure for New York and now anticipates arriving in the United States by Jan. 6 and not before the end of the year as originally scheduled. It is understood that Dr. Weizmann is hesitant about leaving London because of the uncertain political situation with regard to Palestine.

ELECTION OF BRODETSKY AS DEPUTIES' CHIEF SEEN SPUR TO CONGRESS COOPERATION

LONDON, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Formal election of Prof. Selig Brodetsky on Sunday as president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews is expected to result in accentuation of the movement for closer cooperation between the Board and the World Jewish Congress, for which the preliminary basis has already been established by an agreement for cooperation in the technical work of preparing material in connection with the presentation of Jewish views to the ultimate peace conference.

For the present, it is understood that there are not likely to be any efforts to secure the Board's formal affiliation with the Congress for several reasons, the chief one being the adverse effect that such a move might have on efforts to achieve unity here with regard to major problems arising from the war and the peace conference, and endeavors to assure that British Jewry speaks with one voice on these questions. It is likely, however, that this question will be raised next May when the present treaty with the Anglo-Jewish Association on the Joint Foreign Committee expires and the question of renewal comes up for decision.

Prof. Brodetsky has already conferred with the Rothschild group and other elements in the community on the question of ensuring that the Board's war-time executive committee will be representative of all elements. The result of these talks is reported to have been successful and it is expected, consequently, that Anthony de Rothschild and Simon Marks will be coopted for the executive committee as one of the five deputies who are to be included in the committee in accordance with the constitutional amendment which is to be voted Sunday.

As further evidence of the desire for unity, the Zionists in the Board are strongly supporting Sir Robert Waley Cohen's resolution of thanks to Mr. Laski, which will be moved on Sunday with the Rev. Maurice L. Perlzweig seconding.

Meanwhile, the Jewish Chronicle editorially voices misgivings about the election of Prof. Brodetsky. The weekly expresses the fear that his activities as president of the Board and member of the Jewish Agency Executive, coupled with his university duties (he is professor of applied mathematics at the University of Leeds) will prove too much for him. It also states that Prof. Brodetsky's Zionist activities may result in the danger that any representations he may make at Whitehall as the spokesman of Anglo-Jewry "will be treated merely as an echo of Great Russell Street" (Zionist headquarters). There may conceivably come a time, the magazine concludes, when he will have to face a conflict of opinion and have to choose between loyalty to the Board and loyalty to the Zionist organization, of whose executive committee he is also a member.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS BODY SET UP BY WORLD AGUDAH

LONDON, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Establishment of a foreign affairs committee to study Jewish problems arising from the war and to make preparations necessary for presentation of the Jewish viewpoint to the Allied Powers and the eventual peace conference was announced here today by the executive committee of the World Agudath Israel, orthodox religious body.

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The committee is composed of Jacob Rosenheim, chairman; Maitre Mathieu Muller, representative to the French Foreign Ministry; H.A. Goodman, representative to the British Foreign Office; Dr. S. Engel, representative to the League of Nations at Geneva; Dr. Leo Jung of New York, representative to the State Department at Washington; Dr. T. Lewenstein of Zurich, director of the International Red Mogen David, liaison officer with the International Red Cross; Dr. Maximilian Landau, adviser on Polish affairs; M.R. Springer, adviser on Czechoslovakian matters, and Rabbi Moshe Blau, representative to the Palestine authorities.

The announcement declares that the Agudah will cooperate with other representative Jewish organizations and will seek a united presentation of the Jewish case.

#### ESCAPED POLISH CARGO SHIPS MAY BE USED FOR PALESTINE EXPORTS

LONDON, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Polish sources here reported today that negotiations were nearing completion with Arab and Jewish business circles in Palestine for the use of Polish cargo steamers to carry Palestine exports. The negotiations are being conducted with the Polish Navigation Company, whose fleet of cargo boats succeeded in escaping from the Baltic.

#### NAZI JEW-BAITERS IN BRITISH CAMPS TO BE TRANSFERRED, COMMONS TOLD

LONDON, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Home Secretary Sir John Anderson admitted in the House of Commons yesterday that Nazi sailors in British internment camps were victimizing interned Jewish refugees. Charges of Jew-baiting by Nazi internees had been published by Hannen Swaffer in his Daily Herald column. Sir John promised that the Nazis would be transferred to separate internment camps.

#### BELGIANS HUNT NAZI PROPAGANDISTS

BRUSSELS, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- The Belgian authorities are trying to establish the identity of Nazi agents who, posing as Belgians, are continuing to flood Belgian intellectuals with anti-Semitic and Nazi propaganda. The propaganda is published in French in Antwerp and mailed from there.

#### JEWISH CHEMIST, NOW DEAD, INVENTED EXPLOSIVE IN MUNICH BOMB, NAZIS CLAIM

LONDON, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- The newspaper Daily Sketch reported today that Nazi experts have discovered that the explosive used in the Munich bomb attempt on Chancellor Hitler's life was the invention of a Jewish chemist, Gabriel Emmerich, who committed suicide in the Dachau concentration camp. The explosive reportedly was known as "No. 17," the formula of which was found among Emmerich's effects. It was used for the first time in the Munich bomb, according to the Sketch.

#### EXHIBIT AT SEMINARY MARKS 900TH ANNIVERSARY OF RASHI

NEW YORK, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- More than 100 books and manuscripts of Rashi and his historians have been assembled in a public exhibition at the Museum of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America in celebration of the 900th anniversary of the birth of the great French-Hebrew scholar. The exhibition will be on view from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily except Fridays and Saturdays after December 17.