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JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. VI. NO. 115.

Tuesday, December 19, 1939.

NAZIS STAGE MASS EXPULSIONS OF JEWS FROM POLISH TOWNS; CRACOW SHOPS PILLAGED

PARIS, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- Reports reaching here today from Nazi Poland told of mass expulsion of Jews from numerous townships, pillaging of Jewish shops in Cracow and Nazi preparations to exile all of Cracow's Jews to the Lublin "reservation."

The reports emphasize the Nazi determination to press the extermination of the Jews in Poland by every possible means. Expulsions of entire Jewish populations at several hours' notice were reported to have occurred chiefly in Polish towns bordering the territory which Chancellor Hitler has proclaimed an integral part of the Reich and also those in the vicinity of the Soviet frontier.

To dramatize the deportations, the Nazi authorities forced brass bands of the local fire brigades to lead the exiles out of town. Polish firemen, touched by the tragedy, wept as they played their instruments, according to one report.

Several thousand Jews whose townships are near the Soviet border were directed by the Nazis to the frontier. They found the border closed, however, with the Soviet guards under orders not to permit anyone from the Polish side to enter.

After shivering many hours in the cold night, the exiles, mostly elderly orthodox Jews and their wives and children, as a last despairing effort to win admission to the Soviet side of the border began singing the Red anthem "The Internationale." Touched by this demonstration, the Soviet troops opened the gates and admitted the refugees.

Information reaching Polish Government circles and relief organizations here reported that the anti-Jewish terror in Nazi-occupied Galicia is constantly increasing. The Nazi authorities in Cracow have ordered a census of all Jews in Galicia over 16 years of age.

A Polish Government statement said that the swastika was flying over all Catholic churches in Cracow, that Jewish shops were being pillaged and the merchandise shipped into the interior, and a plan was being prepared for the expulsion of all Cracow Jews to the Lublin "reservation."

The Krakauer Zeitung, official Nazi organ, reported that the Mogen David arm-lets which Jews are required to wear must be purchased by the Jews themselves. The paper hinted that the armlets were not "the last word in Nazi measures against the Cracow Jews."

BRODETSKY NAMED 35TH PRESIDENT OF DEPUTIES; WAR-TIME EXECUTIVE SET UP

LONDON, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- Prof. Selig Brodetsky, noted mathematician and Zionist leader, was today the 35th president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews. He was elected head of the 179-year-old representative organization of British Jewry without opposition yesterday to fill the unexpired term of Neville Laski, who resigned. The Board at the same time voted to set up a war-time executive committee empowered to act in its name for the duration of the present emergency.

In a short speech thanking the Board for his election, Prof. Brodetsky pledged himself to maintain the Board's independence and expressed a whole-hearted desire to achieve unity in the ranks of Anglo-Jewry. He made it clear that while he was a Zionist and a member of the Zionist Executive by conviction he considered it the primary function of the Board's president to conduct the affairs of the Board with due regard to the views of all sections.

The Board, in unanimously adopting a resolution thanking Laski for his "tireless services in behalf of Jewry," gave the retiring president an ovation. Sir Robert Waley Cohen, who moved the resolution, paid tribute to Laski, declaring that to him had fallen the task of defending Jewry in a world "inured to tragedy by the terrible experiences of the last war." The resolution was seconded by the Rev. M.L. Perlzweig and supported by Leonard Stein, who took occasion severely to criticize an editorial in The New Palestine, American Zionist organ, welcoming Laski's resignation.

Laski, in his valedictory address, thanked his colleagues for their support, referred to his association with the Board for 27 years, described the problems facing the organization today, urged reforms to make the Board more representative of the community, and expressed opposition to proposed affiliation of the Board with the World Jewish Congress but advised discussion with Congress representatives on the separate functions of each body.

Stressing Jewry's general keen interest in Palestine, Laski warned against "rigid, uncompromising orthodoxy" with regard to Palestine. "Remember," he said, "there are other places than Palestine and other problems than Zionism."

Laski deprecated as misleading and dangerous the description of the Board as a "Jewish Parliament." He pleaded for continued cooperation with the Anglo-Jewish Association in the Joint Foreign Committee and urged critics to retain a sense of proportion and to remember that the Jews were a very small factor in the European and still smaller in the world scene.

Concluding, he said: "I know you will refuse to allow a partisan spirit to invade the conduct of public business in this place and that you will realize a united front by coordination which cannot be translated as subordination."

Acting to place itself on a war footing, the Board adopted an amendment to its constitution permitting election of an executive committee whose functions and powers "shall cease at termination of the present war." The amendment specifies that the committee can include a maximum of three persons who are not members of the Board.

The Board then voted immediate appointment of the committee to comprise the executive officers and joint chairmen of the Joint Foreign Committee, the chairman of the law and parliamentary committee and five other members of the Board with the power to cooperate with other persons who need not be members of the Board.

The Board elected Mr. Perlzweig, Elsley Zeitlin and Harry Samuels additional members of the Joint Foreign Committee. The latter committee's report was adopted. Among other things, the report expressed the hope that the present Rumanian Government, which has been committed by Premier Tatarescu to a just policy toward minorities, "will give an opportunity to disenfranchised Jews to regain a status of equality in which they can loyally work for the welfare of the country."

The defence committee of the Board is considering the launching of a speaking campaign on a limited scale with experienced speakers to counter anti-Semitic propaganda in England which seeks to brand the Jews as the cause of the war, the committee disclosed today.

A scheme is also being prepared to check the marking of walls with anti-Semitic slogans, a report by the committee said. The report stressed the new underground methods of anti-Semites who use peace propaganda for their own ends and stated that anti-Jewish propaganda in London was trying to permeate circles more influential than hitherto.

JEWS, UKRAINIANS HELD 'DEEPLY DISILLUSIONED' BY SOVIET RULE IN POLAND

NEW YORK, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- Sonia Tomara, New York Herald Tribune correspondent, in a Bucharest dispatch today quoted refugees as stating that even Ukrainians and Jews who had welcomed the Soviet entry into Poland were now "deeply disillusioned" because they were being ousted from State positions and many Jews were losing their positions as traders.

"The Jews who had at first obtained jobs in the new administration have, according to all reports, lost their main livelihood with the Sovietization of trade the dispatch said. "Many of them had lived as middle men, but the creation of co-operatives and Sovtorgs deprived them of their earnings. The refugees now say that a common anti-Soviet front has been created among the Poles, Ukrainians, and the Jews."

WEIZMANN NOW SET TO LEAVE DEC. 29 FOR U.S.; WILL FLY FROM LISBON

LONDON, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, will board the Pan-American Clipper at Lisbon on Dec. 29 for New York for a visit of several months in the United States, it was understood today. His long-planned visit has been delayed by preoccupation over the Palestine situation here.

Dr. Weizmann's wife, Mrs. Vera Weizmann, has resigned from the executive committee of the Women's International Zionist Organization and has accepted the committee's unanimous invitation to become joint honorary president with Lady Samuel.

ELIS SARAGA, BOOK PUBLISHER, DEAD IN RUMANIA AT 82

BUCHAREST, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- Elis Saraga, one of Rumania's most important book publishers, has died at the age of 82. He was the first to publish the works of the famous Rumanian poet, Eminescu. He had been decorated by King Carol and had received an expression of appreciation from the Rumanian Academy for his services to Rumanian culture.

HEYWOOD BROWN, Foe of Racial Hatred, Dead at 51

NEW YORK, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- Heywood Brown, noted newspaper columnist and founder of the American Newspaper Guild, who died this morning of pneumonia and complications at the age of 51, was one of the most outspoken campaigners against racial and religious hatred.

In recent years Brown had devoted increasing attention to prejudice, frequently discussing the issue in his column and calling for a positive stand in defense of human rights. Last June he announced at his home in Stamford, Conn., that he would run for Congress on a platform in which "I shall stress religious and racial tolerance." Brown was a Catholic.

The last column in which Brown discussed anti-Semitism appeared on Nov. 20. A campaign for tolerance was not enough in the fight against racism and mounting prejudice, he said. "The time has come for non-Jews to testify out of their hearts, out of history and out of their own religious faith that the world stands in debt to the past and present achievements of Jewry." His column on the S.S. St. Louis incident last June 15 was considered a classic. With deep feeling he compared the plight of the refugees on the ship to passengers on a vessel flashing an SOS to indicate danger.

At the time of his death, Brown was employed by the N.Y. Post, for which he had written only one column, however, before being stricken. He came to the Post from the World-Telegram.

CONGRESSMAN SIROVICH DIES OF HEART ATTACK AT 57

NEW YORK, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- Representative William Irving Sirovich died yesterday at his home of a heart attack at the age of 57. In addition to serving in Congress for 13 years, he was also a physician and playwright.

Born in York, Pa., in 1882, he lived in New York City since the age of 6. In 1906 he began medical practice on the lower East Side, was superintendent of People's Hospital from 1911 and became Commissioner of Child Welfare in 1919. In 1926 he was elected to Congress.

Mayor LaGuardia, on learning of his death, declared that "the city has lost a fine citizen and the country a statesman." Sirovich, who was not married, is survived by two sisters.

REFUGEE FINED FOR TRYING TO CHIP PIECE OFF WALLING WALL

JERUSALEM, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- The District Court today fined a Jewish refugee who admitted he tried unsuccessfully to chip a piece of stone from the Walling Wall as a souvenir. The Arab police inspector who appeared to testify against the defendant declared that such acts were likely to cause trouble between Jews and Arabs.

FUNDS FOR PALESTINE FOREST TO HONOR NIEMIROWER SOUGHT IN RUMANIA

BUCHAREST, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- An appeal for funds to plant a forest in Palestine in memory of Dr. Jacob Niemirower, Senator and Chief Rabbi of Bucharest, has been launched jointly by the Union of Jewish Communities, the Rumanian Zionist Federation and the Jewish National Fund.

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JAN MASARYK STRESSES CZECH-JEWISH UNITY IN FIGHT ON HITLERISM

LONDON, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- Unity between Czechs and Jews in fighting Hitlerism was stressed by Jan Masaryk, former Czechoslovak Minister to Britain and son of the Republic's first President, when he was presented with a Bible last night by the Federation of Czechoslovak Jews at a benefit concert for refugees in the Phoenix Theater.

"We are victims of a bloody and deceitful man for no crime except that we lived in an exposed part of Europe," Masaryk said. "The Jews are his victims. They are sons and daughters of a proud race. I do not wish to return to my country unless the Jews return with me. Czechs and Jews, united, will confront this bloody, deceitful man. I will devote myself to everything my father left me and to your cause."

CATHOLIC PRELATE BACKS KIMBERLEYS REFUGEE PROJECT

MELBOURNE, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- The Jewish refugee settlement project for the Kimberleys today had the support of Archbishop Mannix of the Roman Catholic Church. In a letter to Dr. Isaac N. Steinberg, honorary secretary of the Jewish Freeland League, the prelate expressed the hope that the "people and Government of Australia, recognizing the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man, will give sympathetic consideration to the Kimberley proposals. You have my good wishes for the success of any scheme to help the refugees wipe out the stain against common humanity."

NEW CITIZENSHIP REVISION DEMANDED BY ANTI-SEMITIC PAPERS IN RUMANIA

LONDON, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- Demands for a new revision of Jewish citizenships have been made by the anti-Semitic press in Rumania. Commenting on the demands, the Jewish organ Curierul Israelit declares that anti-Jewish newspapers have never been satisfied with official figures on the number of Jews and have always preferred their own imaginative totals. The anti-Jewish papers had declared there were 1,500,000 Jews in Rumania, twice the number reported in an official census.

Dr. William Filderman, Rumanian Jewish leader, has appealed to the Jewish population to support the new defense loan.

CZECH REFUGEE, GEORGE SINGER, TO CONDUCT PALESTINE ORCHESTRA

TEL AVIV, Palestine, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- George Singer, young Czech Jewish refugee conductor, who formerly conducted opera at Prague, Hamburg and Bremen, has been engaged to conduct the next concert of the Palestine Symphony Orchestra. The orchestra, which is composed almost entirely of refugee musicians, will mark on Dec. 26 the third anniversary of its first performance.

VITAL NEED OF TRAINING REFUGEES CITED BY LORD MARLEY

NEW YORK, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- Lord Marley, chairman of the British Parliamentary Council of the ORT, addressing the annual membership tea of the Women's American ORT at the Hotel Astor, declared today that one of the most vital needs of refugees was "to provide training so that they will not cause 'refugee resistance' by being unable to do the work which is of value to their new countries." Mrs. Rose Gisnet, president of the organization, presided.