

# NEWS

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### RELIEF IN POLAND 'ROTTEN MESS', QUAKERS QUIT UNTIL SURE OF SQUARE DEAL FOR JEWS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Relief in Poland is a "rotten mess," Clarence Pickett, director of the American Friends' Service Committee, said today after a conference with President Roosevelt.

Pickett said the Quaker organization, through which the Commission for Polish Relief intended to operate, had been blocked by the German authorities in every attempt to get American relief administrators into the occupied territory and that it had ceased, at least temporarily, in its attempts to provide relief within Poland.

"We will not send supplies into Poland," he said, "unless we feel that the Jews will not be deprived of their share. We have promises, but we cannot send American-purchased goods into there unless the distribution is supervised by Americans."

Pickett said that some cod liver oil had been sent to Warsaw to be distributed among children by Polish-American residents of that city. The future of distribution on a large scale remains uncertain until the Germans agree to allow American supervisors into Poland, he added.

The Quaker leader visited the President, together with representatives of the Dunkers and Mennonites, which three faiths are considered the traditional "religions of peace," to discuss peace plans and European relief matters.

### No Relief Without U.S. Supervision, Commission States

NEW YORK, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- In comment on Clarence E. Pickett's statement in Washington, it was authoritatively declared today at the office of the Commission for Polish Relief that it was "impossible to have relief action in Poland without American supervision."

The Commission spokesman added: "The donors in the United States expect to have reports on the use to which their money is put. We still have hope that the German Government will consent to this supervision. We had received complete assurances from the German authorities that there would be no discrimination between Jews and Christians. Every paragraph of the agreement said that 'this relief will be distributed alike to Christians and Jews.' The basic point now appears to be to gain American supervision."

Reich Red Cross Leader Attacks Jews

PARIS, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Leaders of Jewish relief organizations here, expressing skepticism over the chances of Jews' receiving any part of American relief in Poland if it is distributed through the German Red Cross, pointed out today that the leader of the German Red Cross recently broadcast a speech which contained a racial attack on the Jews.

RAPE BY TROOPS, HANGINGS, EXPULSION OF THOUSANDS RELATED IN LETTER FROM LODZ

PARIS, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Rape of Jewish women by German soldiers and officers, hangings of Jews, and expulsion of thousands to the Lublin "reservation" were described in a reliable report which reached this correspondent from Lodz, Nazi Poland, today. Some of the events related in the report are unprintable. The account, which is dated Jan. 1 in Lodz, describes the situation in that city as follows:

All Jews of Lodz were originally ordered to leave the city by Jan. 15, but the Nazi authorities, realizing that this would be impossible, postponed the deadline to March 1. Meanwhile, the Gestapo is packing thousands of Jews daily into cattle trains directed to Cracow, Warsaw and Lublin. The Lublin Jewish community has been ordered by the Gestapo to prepare barracks for 15,000 persons. The expulsions are officially explained by the Nazi authorities as punishment for the refusal of the Lodz Jewish community to supply women for the military brothels.

Twenty-four members of the Jewish Community Council were arrested in connection with this refusal. After being held in prison for several weeks, they were sent on Dec. 28 to Cracow, seat of Dr. Hans Frank, Nazi civil governor of Poland.

Despite the Nuremberg "racial purity" laws, Nazi soldiers and officers drag Jewish women from their homes to military trains, where they are raped. The whereabouts of many of the women remain unknown, but a large number of them are known to be held in military brothels. Jewish parents, anxious to protect their daughters are exerting all possible efforts to send them to Warsaw and Cracow.

Meanwhile, in order to mislead public opinion abroad about the treatment of the Jews, the Gestapo forced 400 Jews into a synagogue where they were directed to don their prayer shawls and pray while they were photographed with moving picture cameras. They were then led into a restaurant where food was abundantly laid out on white tablecloths and were ordered to sing and look merry for the benefit of the photographers--but were forbidden to touch the food. After the filming was completed, the Jews were taken away for forced labor.

A number of Jews and Poles were hanged for "conspiring against Nazi interests" and their bodies remained suspended for 48 hours in the Balut quarter, the poorest section of Lodz.

Panic among the Lodz Jews was described in the report as "unimagineable." Many Jews pay as much as 1,000 zlotys for a taxicab to take them to Warsaw, two hours away. The fare by train would be ten zlotys if they could obtain tickets.

The Jewish community council, which received the order to clear the city of Jews by March 1, can hardly cope with the task. Under the Gestapo's supervision,

the council daily packs thousands of Jews into cattle cars going mainly in the direction of Warsaw and Cracow, but the trains move very slowly, sometimes taking eight days or longer, during which the Jews suffer from cold and lack of water and food. One such train reached Warsaw with eight children dead. The trains from Lodz to Lublin are few. Their number is expected to increase when the barracks in Lublin have been completed.

Jews are given three days' notice to vacate their apartments in Lodz and directed to leave behind their furniture and other property. These apartments are then given to Germans repatriated from Baltic countries.

The report emphasizes that the 70,000 Germans in Lodz are cooperating completely with the Gestapo and are receiving confiscated Jewish enterprises as compensation.

#### Nazis Order Polish Jews to Set Up New Community Councils

PARIS, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- The text of a decree issued by Dr. Hans Frank, Nazi civil governor in Poland, requiring establishment of new Jewish community councils to carry out orders of the German authorities, reached Paris today. The decree follows:

"1. A Jewish representation is to be formed in every Jewish community.

"2. This representation, to be called the Judenrat, is to be composed of twelve persons in towns of population up to 10,000 and of 24 persons in towns where the population is over 10,000. These persons must be local residents and are to be elected by the Jews of the given community. In case one member of the Judenrat departs, another is to be elected immediately.

"3. The Judenrat is to elect, from among its members, one person as the head and another as the substitute.

"4. The list of members of the Judenrat must be submitted to the regional and municipal authorities, who will decide whether the composition of the Judenrat is acceptable. They are also authorized to change the composition of the Judenrat with new persons.

"5. The Judenrat is obligated, through its head or through his substitute, to receive the orders of the German authorities and is responsible for the carrying out of these orders to their full extent. All Jews and Jewesses must obey the provisions contained in these orders.

"(Signed) Governor-General Frank."

#### ADLER TRANSMITS ROOSEVELT PEACE APPEAL TO 2,000 RABBIS; INVITES SUGGESTIONS

NEW YORK, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Dr. Cyrus Adler, president of the Jewish Theological Seminary, today sent copies of President Roosevelt's peace appeal to the 2,000 rabbis throughout the country together with a letter inviting suggestions "with regard to the method and procedure to be followed in obtaining peace for the world.

Dr. Adler was selected by President Roosevelt as the representative of the Jewish faith in a move to organize the forces of religion for peace and alleviation

of war suffering, and he, together with the Protestant representative, conferred with the President on Dec. 27.

Dr. Adler's letter to the rabbis, made public by the seminary, follows:

"I am enclosing herewith a copy of the letter which the President sent me on December 23rd, and also a copy of the telegram which I sent to the President. The President is hoping that many people connected with our various religious bodies will actively spread the idea of peace, which he is voicing, I am sure, for many millions of people. I am sending a copy of his letter direct to you in the hope that you will make it known to the members of your congregation through the spoken word or through some publication which you may issue.

"I shall be very grateful for any suggestion you may make to me with regard to the method and procedure to be followed in attaining peace for the world. I am sure you will agree that every effort should be made to spread this idea, and that no time should be lost in doing so."

Meanwhile, the executive board of the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, closing its annual meeting at the Temple Emanu-El Community House this afternoon, adopted a resolution commending President Roosevelt's action, "which recognizes the significance of religion as the dominant force in the establishment of a new world order that shall achieve permanent peace and universal brotherhood." The approximately 40 delegates approved the six-point peace program of the National Peace Conference, particularly a recommendation for a continuing conference of neutral nations, and called for increased emphasis on peace in religious education.

ROOSEVELT DISPLAYS 'TREMENDOUS INTEREST' IN DOMINICAN PROJECT, ROSENBERG REPORTS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- James N. Rosenberg, president of the Dominican Republic Settlement Association, conferred with President Roosevelt today prior to sailing for Ciudad Trujillo tomorrow and reported that the President had shown "tremendous interest" in the association's plans for colonizing refugees in the Caribbean republic.

Rosenberg was called to Washington to outline the corporation's plans. As he left the White House he said that the association, which has been formed with a non-sectarian list of stockholders, would sign a contract with the Dominican Government for carrying out of the settlement plan.

Sailing with Rosenberg from New York tomorrow will be Stephen Morris, secretary of the Inter governmental Committee on Refugees, and Robert Pell, a State Department official who will represent the United States Government at ceremonies surrounding the signing of the contract.

Officers of the settlement association, in addition to Rosenberg, include Vice-President Dr. Joseph Rosen, who has been in the Dominican Republic with a staff of technicians to prepare the way for the colony, and the following members of the board of directors: George L. Warren, secretary of the President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees; Clarence E. Pickett, director of the American Friends Service Committee; Lewis Kennedy, a Catholic leader, E.I. Kaufman of Washington; Rufus Jones, Alexander Kahn, Dr. Bernhard Kahn and Joseph C. Hyman.

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### Van Zeeland to Visit So. America on Refugee Projects

LONDON, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Paul van Zeeland, former Premier of Belgium, will soon return to the United States to direct the activities of the Coordinating Foundation in settlement of refugees from the organization's headquarters there, it was learned today. Van Zeeland, who returned to Brussels yesterday, presided at a meeting of the British members of the Foundation earlier in the week. It is understood that Van Zeeland is contemplating a visit to South America to study at first hand the possibilities of refugee settlement that can be developed there.

Morris C. Troper, chairman of the European council of the J.D.C., returned to Paris today after participating in the Foundation meeting and in a series of conferences on various aspects of the refugee problem.

### 2 GROUPS HERE JOIN FORCES WITH HUMAN RIGHTS BODIES IN EUROPE

NEW YORK, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Incorporation of the American Committee for the Defence of the Rights of Jews in Central and Eastern Europe and the American Union for the Protection of the Human Person as the American counterparts of similar organizations existing in Europe was announced today. Dr. Boris Gourevitch, initiator of the European groups, is vice-president and general secretary of the identical boards of directors of the two groups here.

Directors of the organizations include Dr. Henry Smith Leiper, president; Bishop Francis J. McConnell, Prof. Morris R. Cohen, Mrs. William Dick Sportborg, Frank Ritchie, Melvin M. Fagen, Mitchell S. Fisher, Mrs. Ernie Michael Sondheimer, Dr. Mark Soliterman, Dr. Walter Floersheimer and Melvin D. Hildreth.

### HADASSAH SHIPS SUPPLIES FOR 15,000 TURKISH QUAKE VICTIMS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Hadassah, the American women's Zionist organization, today dispatched to Turkish earthquake areas a shipment of emergency supplies sufficient for 15,000 persons. The shipment was addressed to the Red Crescent, Turkish Red Cross, "with Palestine Jewry's sympathy."

Turkish Consul General Kharaspan, speeding the shipment on the way, declared that his country "especially appreciates the assistance of Palestine Jewry, which itself has been suffering for three years." He added: "One cent from you is the equivalent of a dollar from more prosperous persons."

### ITALIAN PAPER RIDICULES REPORT OF RETREAT ON ANTI-SEMITISM

ROME, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- The authoritative newspaper Giornale D'Italia carries a denial today of an assertion by Madame Genevieve Tabouis in the French newspaper L'Oeuvre that there has been some abatement in Italy's anti-Semitic program. The denial, captioned "Where Has She Seen It?" indicates that all the racial laws have been applied vigorously and that "vigilance over the life and work of the Jews" has not been diminished."

### WILNO RIOT LEADERS ARRESTED, FACE EARLY TRIAL

KAUNAS, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- The Lithuanian police authorities announced today that they have succeeded in arresting the ringleaders of the anti-Jewish riots in the Wilno district last November shortly after its occupation by Lithuanian troops. They will be placed on trial in the near future.