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JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. VI. NO. 132.

Friday, January 12, 1940.

GESTAPO LEADER SENT TO PRAGUE TO ORGANIZE OUSTER OF 90,000 JEWS BY FEB. 1

PARIS, Jan. 1. (JTA) -- The Nazi authorities have acted to begin expulsion of 90,000 Jews from Bohemia-Moravia on Feb. 1 by sending to Prague a leader of the Gestapo, Herr Klein, who organized the removal of Jews from Maerisch-Ostrau to the Lublin Jewish "reservation" in Poland, according to advices reaching Paris today.

The sending of Klein from Maerisch-Ostrau to Prague created panic among the Jews of Prague, who fear his reputation for brutality, and virtually dispelled hopes that the Feb. 1 deadline for Jews to emigrate or be removed to Lublin would be postponed. The Prague Jewish Community accordingly began to mobilize its meager resources to prevent disease and deaths through freezing when the mass exile of Czech Jews in cattle trains is launched.

News of Klein's designation for the job of expelling the Jews coincided with advices from Prague which said the authorities had officially ordered a census of all inhabitants of the Protectorate between the ages of 17 and 55, to be held from Jan. 15 and 30, after which those found fit for physical work would be sent to labor camps.

The announcement did not indicate where these labor camps would be, but it was believed in Prague that Jews would be transported to Poland and Czechs would be used for forced labor behind the German Army's front lines. The action will be taken under the Reich law authorizing the drafting of men and women between the ages of 17 and 55.

Even before the Feb. 1 expulsion deadline, central Jewish organizations in Prague have been ordered to arrange the emigration of a minimum of 4,000 Jews from the Protectorate during January. Baron Konstantin von Neurath, Reich Protector for Bohemia-Moravia, this week visited the Central Jewish Emigration Office in Prague to inquire as to the progress of the emigration work.

Simultaneously, the Gestapo called the presidents of all Jewish communities in Bohemia-Moravia to a meeting in Prague and told them bluntly that not a single Jew would be permitted to remain in the Protectorate, hence it would be advisable for Jews, regardless of age and health, to find a way to enter other countries before Feb. 1.

The Gestapo announced dissolution of 123 Jewish communities in the Protectorate--some of them the oldest and richest in Europe--their assets to be converted by the Prague Jewish Community into cash with which to support legal and illegal immigration into other countries. This will leave only 18 Jewish communities in existence, which will be responsible for organizing the vast emigration, with the Prague community to be held answerable to the Gestapo for all matters concerning the Jews.

Gestapo orders regarding the Jews are no longer announced publicly, in order to avoid attracting attention abroad. Instead leaders of the Prague Jewish Community are given the orders verbally with instructions to convey them orally to all Jews covered by the existing 18 communities.

Action has also been taken to prevent emigrating Jews from taking their property, which is confiscated by the authorities. In Maerisch-Ostrau, where the entire Jewish male population was removed to Lublin under Klein's direction, there remain about 2,000 Jewish women and children, as well as aged and sick men, completely penniless as a result of confiscation of their money, jewelry, furniture and merchandise, and dependent on what assistance the Prague Jewish Community can send them.

Reports of Klein's activities in Maerisch-Ostrau threw dread into the Prague Jews when it became known that he was shifting the scene of his work. It was reported that the Jews, before being expelled, were in many cases physically tortured, and that Klein personally interrogated Jews, striking them with a pointed stone which pierced their skin while he stripped them of watches and other valuables.

Klein "Aryanized" all Jewish enterprises in Maerisch-Ostrau. He held Jewish business men in prison until they agreed to give away their enterprises without compensation. He also forbade Jewish storekeepers to enter their own shops, appointing Nazi commissars as managers of the stores. To manage the shops he sometimes appointed former employees who had been dismissed for various reasons, such as theft.

Nazis Persecute Rabbis

PARIS, Dec. 22. (JTA-By Mail) -- It is reliably learned here that many rabbis in former Czecho-Slovakia have recently suffered at the hands of the Nazis. Dr. Hoch, rabbi of Pilsen, is reported to have been murdered by the Nazis, and Dr. Schoen, rabbi of Bruenn, is reported to have been sent to the Dachau concentration camp.

LABOR GROUPS AROUSED BY NAMING OF HALLER AS POLISH REGIME'S EMISSARY TO U.S.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- Polish and Jewish labor groups have registered their strong dissatisfaction with the action of the Polish Government-in-exile in sending as its "goodwill ambassador" to the United States General Josef Haller, who for many years has been identified with anti-Semitism and reaction in Poland, it was announced today by the Jewish Labor Committee.

A delegation composed of two representatives of the Committee and two of Polish labor organizations this week called on Ambassador Jerzy Potocki in Washington.

and made known to him their attitude on General Haller's appointment. General Haller, who is a Minister Without Portfolio in the Polish Cabinet, is scheduled to arrive on the Italian liner Rex tomorrow.

Count Potocki informed the delegation that General Haller was not coming to this country as a representative of any faction in the Polish Government, but as a representative of the entire Government which, he said, had declared its intention of setting up a democratic regime in reconstituted Poland.

Koc Demoted, Endek Ousted in Cabinet Shake-Up

NEW YORK, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- A shake-up in the Polish Cabinet-in-exile which resulted in the removal of two known anti-Semites from important posts and the appointment of Dr. Henryk Strasburger, noted Polish diplomat and economist, as Finance Minister, was reported today by the local Polish newspaper Nowy Swiat.

Dr. Strasburger replaces Col. Adam Koc, founder of the anti-Semitic Camp of National Unity in pre-war Poland. Col. Koc, according to Nowy Swiat, was forced to resign and has accepted the subordinate post of Vice-Minister of Finance. Also forced out of the Cabinet was Marjan Seyda, the only representative of the pre-war anti-Semitic National Democratic (Endek) party in the Angers Government. Seyda was a Minister Without Portfolio.

Dr. Strasburger was Undersecretary of State in the Commerce Ministry from 1918 to 1923 and Polish Commissioner in Danzig from 1924 to 1932.

LUBAVITCHER REBBE APPEALS TO U.S. JEWS TO AID BROTHERS IN POLAND

RIGA, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- From a sanatorium where he is convalescing after his recent harrowing experiences in Poland, the famed Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Schneerson, issued an appeal to American Jewry today to aid the Jews of Poland.

SENTENCES OF 38 PALESTINE JEWS FOR POSSESSING ARMS ARE REDUCED

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- The General Officer Commanding British forces in Palestine today reduced the sentences passed on Dec. 22 by a military court at Acre on 38 Jews for possessing explosives in violation of emergency regulation. The sentences of 28 were reduced from ten years' imprisonment to seven years, the terms of six defendants were reduced from five to three years, and the four girls among the defendants, who had received two-year terms, were instead bound over for two years.

ONLY 307 JEWS AMONG 2,503 PALESTINE ILLEGALS IN 1938

JERUSALEM, Dec. 22. (JTA-By Mail) -- The first Blue Book published by the Palestine Government shows that 2,503 illegal immigrants arrived in Palestine in 1938. The majority of them, 1,683, were Arabs. There were only 307 Jewish illegal immigrants. In 1937 there were 1,772 illegal immigrants, including 897 Arabs and 93 Jews.

SEEK PERMISSION FOR REFUGEES IN SHANGHAI TO ENTER MANCHUKUO

HARBIN, Manchukuo, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- The Third Congress of Far-Eastern Jewish Communities has decided to seek permission for European refugees in Shanghai who have relatives in Manchukuo to join them, and also for holders of special permits to enter Manchukuo from Soviet Russia, which hitherto has been strictly forbidden.

Shanghai delegates reported on the critical condition of the 17,000 refugees in Shanghai, 80 per cent of whom, they said, were unable to earn a livelihood and were "caught as in a mouse-trap" because of the prohibition on their proceeding to the Chinese provinces and Manchukuo. Their position has been rendered still more difficult by the inability of the local Jewish community to continue relief work on the previous scale.

The Shanghai delegates therefore urged the national council elected by the congress to begin negotiations with the Japanese and Manchukuoan authorities to secure immigration permits for specialists and transit visas for refugees intending to join their relatives and friends.

4 BILLS OFFERED IN N.Y. LEGISLATURE TO BAR DISCRIMINATION

ALBANY, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- Four bills to bar discrimination in employment because of race, religion or creed have been introduced in the Legislature.

Senator Charles Perry of Manhattan offered a bill to bar discrimination by labor unions against prospective members. Assemblyman Robert J. Crows introduced two measures to prevent such discrimination by employment agencies and public utilities. Assemblyman Wachtel presented a bill which would prohibit utilities from even asking an employe for information about religion, race or color.

Measures to extend the prohibition on discrimination had been urged by Governor Lehman in his annual message to the Legislature last week.

DELEGATION SAILS TO SIGN DOMINICAN SETTLEMENT CONTRACT

NEW YORK, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- A delegation of the Dominican Republic Settlement Corporation, headed by James N. Rosenberg, sailed this afternoon aboard the steamship Coamo for Trujillo City to sign a contract with the Dominican Government for settlement of German refugees in the Republic. Those sailing included Harold Linder, also of the association; Robert T. Pell, of the State Department; Stephen Morris, secretary of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees; Andres Pastoriza, Dominican Minister to the United States, and Don Carlos Davila, former President of Chile.

BOOK LISTS JEWISH CONTRIBUTIONS TO CIVILIZATION

NEW YORK, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- "The Jewish Contribution to Civilization," a 198-page catalog of creative works of artists and scientists of Jewish origin in the past 2,000 years, has been published in England under the editorship of C.A. Stonehill Jr., with a preface by Stefan Zweig.

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In the preface, Zeig states: "It is well known that some countries, in order to justify their real programme, the rape of Jewish property, have tried to propagate the belief that the Jewish mentality has always been of a purely destructive nature. Simply and without ostentation, the evidence is here presented to speak for itself, and as book after book and name after name are enumerated, the malicious falsehood of this statement is laid bare."

DECISION RESERVED ON MOTION TO HALT U.S. ACTION AGAINST ANTI-SEMITES

NEW YORK, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- Supreme Court Justice Louis A. Valente yesterday reserved decision on a motion by Joseph E. McWilliams, head of the Christian Mobilizers, seeking to enjoin Attorney General Frank Murphy and United States Attorney John T. Cahill from prosecuting anti-Semitic organizations for violation of income tax, passport and foreign agent laws. Mathias Correa, Chief Assistant U.S. Attorney, challenged the jurisdiction of a State court in a matter concerning the statutory duties of a Federal officer.

BRITISH INSTITUTE IN ROME BARS JEWISH STUDENTS

ROME, Dec. 25. (JTA-By Mail) -- The British Institute in Rome and Florence is not to accept any new Jewish students, in conformance with the Italian racial laws. Jewish students already admitted, however, will be allowed to finish their studies. The British Institute will, in cooperation with the Jewish communities in Italy, arrange special English courses in Jewish schools.

SERBIAN PATRIARCH VOICES SYMPATHY FOR JEWS IN VISIT TO SYNAGOGUE

BELGRADE, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- The Serbian Patriarch, visiting a synagogue in a nearby town, where he was received by the local rabbi and leaders of the Jewish community, declared that "I feel greatly depressed over the fact that there are countries where you are persecuted because of your religion."

"Our church has always condemned brutalities and has never persecuted anyone because of his religion," the Patriarch said. "You may rest assured that we Serbs have never recognized any difference between ourselves and our Jews. Therefore I feel so sorry when I hear of anti-Jewish persecution."

CHARLES RESS HEADS KEREN HAYESOD BOARD

NEW YORK, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- Charles Ress has been elected chairman of the board of directors of the Keren Hayesod of America (Palestine Foundation Fund), it was announced today. Mr. Ress, an attorney, lives in Mt. Vernon, N. Y.