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REFUGEES CURBED IN LITHUANIA; RED CROSS GIVEN ALL RELIEF POWERS

KAUNAS, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- The Lithuanian Refugee Commissioner today announced a series of sweeping limitations on the activities of refugees in this country.

Refugees, under the restrictions, are prohibited from becoming members of political parties and other organizations. They may not obtain work or engage in commerce. They are also prohibited from addressing public meetings, collaborating with the local or foreign press, or owning typewriters. The commissioner, however, is authorized to make exceptions in certain cases.

Another decree concentrates refugee relief in Lithuania in the hands of the Lithuanian Red Cross. All organizations and individuals possessing relief funds and goods have been ordered to deliver them within ten days to the Red Cross, together with reports on funds already spent.

Additional money received from abroad must be delivered to the Red Cross within seven days. Foreign relief organizations may appoint representatives to the Red Cross, which will distribute relief either directly or through authorized private organizations.

PICKETT DOUBTS QUAKERS ADMITTED TO POLAND; RELIEF 'MESS' HELD UNCHANGED

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- The reported presence in Nazi Poland of Quaker relief representatives was described as "highly unlikely" today by Clarence E. Pickett, executive secretary of the American Friends Service Committee.

(The German radio on Sunday broadcast a report that Nazi Governor General Hans Frank had received American Quaker representatives in Cracow, had thanked them for their "good intentions" and had promised full facilities for traveling in Nazi-occupied territories to investigate the situation and to carry out relief activities.)

Mr. Pickett told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that as far as he knew the Nazi authorities have not yet permitted Quaker representatives to enter Poland. The position, he said, has not changed since Jan. 10, when he issued a statement in Washington after a conference with President Roosevelt describing the relief situation in Poland as a "rotten mess" and declaring that efforts to initiate relief action had been temporarily abandoned until the Nazi authorities agreed to permit American supervision of relief distribution to guarantee that it was done on a non-sectarian basis.

Mr. Pickett said that the only two Quaker representatives in Europe at this time were Arthur Gamble, who was in Berlin, and J. Edgar Rhoads, who was in Rome.

MOVE TO BLOCK DEBATE ON DIES PROBE DEFEATED; FAILURE ON CHRISTIAN FRONT CHARGED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- A move to steamroller through the House the resolution which would continue the Dies committee and thus prevent debate on charges that Chairman Martin Dies "went easy" on the Christian Front and William Dudley Pelley was blocked in the Rules Committee today.

The committee reported out the resolution to continue the Committee on Un-American Activities for one year, and action by the House was expected this week. It was viewed as certain that the House would approve the resolution continuing the Dies investigation and would appropriate \$100,000 for the purpose.

There will be no vote in the House, however, until Rep. Frank E. Hook (Dem., Mich.) has had his chance to oppose continuance of the Dies committee on the House floor. An attempt was made, on motion of E.E. Cox (Dem., Ga.) to throttle all debate in the House. It was blocked by John Dempsey (Dem., N.M.), member of the Dies committee, and the Rules Committee agreed to allow two hours of debate.

The Rules Committee allowed Rep. Hook only three minutes in which to present arguments for open debate, but during this time Hook managed to read excerpts from two letters written by Pelley to his Washington agent in which he showed his "appreciation" of Dies. Later, Hook introduced into the Congressional Record a mass of testimony intended to show that Dies was delinquent in investigating the Christian Front.

Hook read to the Rules Committee a photostatic copy of a letter from Pelley to David D. Mayne, his Washington representative. The letter, dated July 22, 1938, in Boston, said:

"The conference verified the belief that we may safely continue in the understanding that Dies will not go out of the way to call us or embarrass us, True (James True, Washington anti-Semitic propagandist), Father Coughlin, George or the Legion (Silver Legion). However, there remains the chance of disagreement between Dies and one of his committee--or even between him and one of those entrusted with the responsibility of keeping us off the fly paper..."

All members of the Dies committee who attended the Rules Committee hearing said they were confident that Dies had no secret dealing with Pelley. Hook charged that twice while the Dies committee was seeking him, Pelley visited Washington without interference.

But the Michigan representative, in the speech he inserted in the Congressional Record--he could not speak because the House adjourned early for the funeral of Senator William E. Borah--turned his heaviest guns on Dies' alleged connections with Merwin K. Hart, chairman of the New York State Economic Council, and with the Christian Front.

He said that on Dec. 8, 1938, Hart presided at a luncheon at New York's Hotel Biltmore at which Dies was the principal speaker and which was attended by Fritz Kuhn, leader, and James Wheeler-Hill, secretary of the German-American Bund. Four days earlier, he said, Dies was a luncheon guest at the American Defense Society, whose president, Robert Appleton, provided free desk space for Joseph McWilliams, leader of the Christian Mobilizers.

Hook branded Hart as a friend and co-worker of Allen Zoll, who was arrested for attempting to extort money from Station WMCA in return for calling off Christian Front pickets.

COUGHLIN SEEN FACING PROBE AS 'INCITER' OF FRONTIST PLOTTERS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- Possibility that the investigation of the Christian Front would be extended to include Charles E. Coughlin, who yesterday reversed his previous stand and admitted his support of the Front, was seen today in the statement of Attorney General Robert H. Jackson that he had instructed United States Attorney Harold Kennedy in Brooklyn to examine the activities of anyone who "abetted, directed, financed or incited" the 17 Frontists under arrest for seditious conspiracy.

(In Brooklyn, Kennedy said he had not yet received the official instructions from Jackson and declined to comment on Coughlin's possible connection with the case on the ground that the whole investigation was a matter coming before the Grand Jury this week.)

The Attorney General's statement came yesterday after growing demands that the Justice Department investigate Coughlin's connection with Christian Front activities and while the radio priest himself, in his Sunday broadcast, was announcing that "I do not disassociate myself" from the Front.

The statement follows: "I have today instructed United States Attorney Harold Kennedy at Brooklyn as to the scope of the grand jury investigation. This investigation will include examination of the activities of any individual or group, wherever located, who may have aided, abetted, directed, financed or incited these particular defendants or any other subversive groups working for similar unlawful ends.

"Out of the investigation should come a clear identification of any persons or groups who have provoked or financed or otherwise conspired with these defendants. They should be held responsible for their conduct if they have violated or induced the violation of any Federal law.

"In order to expedite the Brooklyn proceedings I have instructed Assistant Attorney General O. John Rogge, Chief of the Criminal Division, and members of his staff who have been in charge of cases involving subversive groups elsewhere in the United States, to go to New York to cooperate with United States Attorney Kennedy and I have asked United States Attorneys John T. Cahill of New York and William J. Campbell of Chicago to cooperate by furnishing all helpful evidence in their possession."

Coughlin Supports Front

DETROIT, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- "While I do not belong to any unit of the Christian Front, nevertheless I do not disassociate myself from that movement," declared Charles E. Coughlin in his weekly broadcast yesterday, contradicting his own previous statement in which he "roundly disavowed" the Front.

"I reaffirm every word which I have said in advocating its formation," the radio priest said. "I reencourage the Christians of America to carry on in this

crisis for the preservation of Christianity and Americanism, more vigorously than ever despite this thinly-veiled campaign launched by certain publicists and their controllers to vilify both the name and the principles of this pro-American, pro-Christian, anti-Communist and anti-Nazi group."

Coughlin Held Responsible

NEW YORK, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- The Commonweal, Catholic magazine, charged today that "Father Coughlin, the Brooklyn Tablet (Catholic newspaper friendly to Coughlin), Social Justice and their many abettors and sympathizers must bear the direct responsibility for the plight" of the 17 arrested Christian Frontists. The paper said "Catholics are largely responsible and we shall continue to be responsible for the creation of other groups of hypnotized men, who may carry out their scheming with more tragic results, until we all recognize and nullify the powerful propaganda which directly creates them."

BOSTON, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- National Commander Raymond Kelly of the American Legion told reporters here that "if the Christian Front is anti-Semitic, then it is certainly un-American" and may eventually be placed in the same category as the Communist Party, the German-American Bund and the Silver Shirts. Kelly said members of the "so-called Christian Front" were "screwballs who should be in an insane asylum."

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL TO BE CONTINUED IN 1940

NEW YORK, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- The United Jewish Appeal for Refugees and Overseas Needs, combining the fund-raising efforts of the Joint Distribution Committee, United Palestine Appeal and National Refugee Service, Inc., will be continued in 1940, Chairman Abba Hillel Silver and Jonah B. Wise announced today.

A formal statement setting forth the needs of constituent agencies and details of arrangements for the 1940 campaign will be issued next week, Rabbis Silver and Wise said. Today's announcement said that the united campaign had "proved to be most acceptable to the donors throughout the whole of the United States, and also proved to be the most efficient method of meeting the tremendous needs involved."

NAZIS FORCE JEWS OVER BELGIAN BORDER, PARLIAMENTARY BODY TOLD

BRUSSELS, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- Germany is continuing to force illegal entry of Jews into Belgium, crowding Belgian jails with honorable people whose only offense is that they were expelled by the Nazis, according to a report submitted by ex-Justice Minister Victor Laveley to the Parliamentary Commission of Justice in connection with the Government budget for police supervision of aliens.

The Belgian authorities do everything possible to make these victims feel like political prisoners rather than like criminals, the report said, adding that they would soon be transferred to a refugee camp which the Government is now establishing to accommodate 6,000 refugees.

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BRODETSKY DEMANDS RECOGNITION OF DEPUTIES BOARD AS CENTRAL ANGLO-JEWISH BODY

LONDON, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- A demand that the Board of Deputies of British Jews be recognized as the central institution of Anglo-Jewry and be independent, democratic and representative of every section of the community was made by Prof. Selig Brodetsky yesterday in his inaugural address as president.

Pointing out that reform of the Board was necessary, Prof. Brodetsky, whose election had been unopposed, warned against radical reconstruction at a time when the Board may have to carry out vital tasks. He stressed the need for unity and voiced the opinion that the new executive committee of the Board would have every prospect of drawing all sections together in friendly cooperation.

Discussing problems of the near future, Prof. Brodetsky outlined them as follows: (1) Questions affecting the Jews of England; (2) questions concerning the Jews of central and eastern Europe "when Nazi domination is removed and this part of the world can return to civilized order;" (3) the future of Palestine and the Jewish national home; (4) the problem of Jewish refugees.

The Board elected as members of the new executive committee the following: Lavy Bakstansky, Lionel Cohen, Percy Cohen, Barnett Janner and Lord Swaythling. First meeting of the committee will be held Tuesday when additional non-deputies will be coopted. The election of Gordon Liverman as president of the Jewish Defense Committee, succeeding Neville Laski, was announced.

The British Government's restrictive policy on immigration to Palestine was sharply criticized by Prof. Brodetsky last night before a conference of the Jewish National Fund. Prof. Brodetsky expressed the hope that the Government, in view of the disaster that has overtaken millions of Jews, would revise its attitude.

The conference adopted a resolution welcoming the inauguration of a "Forest of Freedom" in Palestine and calling upon all sections of the community to participate in its planting.

FINNISH CHIEF RABBI SEES WAR ON RUSSIA BASED ON PROPHETS' IDEALS

HELSINKI, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- The entire press publishes a message from Chief Rabbi Simon Federbusch to Jewish soldiers in the Finnish Army declaring that "this fight of defense is based on the ideals of the Hebrew prophets." Dr. Federbusch stressed the patriotism of Jewish youth and pointed out that numerous Jews had volunteered for front-line service. Recalling that the liberated Finland had granted equal rights to Jewish citizens, the message concluded by quoting Psalm 27, paragraphs one to three.

ZIONIST UNITY ON PALESTINE POLICY URGED BY ELIAS GINSBURG

NEW YORK, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- Elias Ginsburg, chairman of the executive committee of the American Jewish Association of Palestine and member of the Hadar Hacarmel Municipal Council, urged last night that Zionists unite on a policy for Palestine, rather than leave its formulation to the British Government. He addressed a reception at the Hotel Edison at which other speakers were Dr. S. Margoshes, Rabbi Louis I. Newman, Isaac Allen, Isaac Zaar, Prof. J.J. Smertenko, Mordecai Danzils and former Judge Nathan Sweedler, who presided.