

VOL. VI. NO. 145.

Sunday, January 28, 1940.

### 9 RED SOLDIERS SENTENCED TO DEATH FOR ADMITTING REFUGEES, TAKING BRIBES

LONDON, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- A court in Lwow, Soviet Foland, has sentenced nine Red Army officers and soldiers to death and 145 others to heavy prison terms for permitting Jewish refugees to enter from Nazi Poland and accepting bribes from them, official Polish quarters here reported today.

Twenty Jewish soldiers among the 172 defendants were acquitted when the court accepted their explanations and evidence that they had not taken money from refugees but had permitted them to cross the border out of humanitarian motives, it was said.

The defendants included 12 officers and 160 privates. According to the Polish report, the trial caused great uneasiness and depression among the Jewish population, who feared that the Soviet-German frontier might be entirely closed as result of the trial.

A number of synagogues in Lwow, Soviet Poland, have been converted into Jewish workers' clubs, it was also reported here.

## WARSAW J.D.C. ASKS \$500,000 MONTHLY TO AID JEWS IN NAZI POLAND

PARIS, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- The Warsaw office of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee has forwarded to the organization's European headquarters in Paris a budget asking 5,000,000 zlotys monthly--nominally about \$500,000--to provide bare necessities for the starving Jewish population in German-occupied Poland.

Two thirds of the funds are needed, according to the budget, for feeding adults and children, the balance being required for medical and sanitary assistance which the Nazis refuse to Jews and for maintenance of sheltering homes for refugees from devastated towns and hostels for children who have lost their parents during the occupation.

The figures give a graphic picture of the starvation prevailing among the Jews in Poland. In Warsaw alone 75,000 meals daily must be issued from J.D.C.-supported soup kitchens. Jewish children in Warsaw who must be fed number more than 25,000. In the provinces of Nazi-occupied Poland at least 300,000 Jews require free meals.

In addition to issuing food, the J.D.C. must provide shelter for thousands of Jews, since, according to verified figures, about 40 per cent of the houses in Warsaw's Jewish quarter have been destroyed and no less than 50,000 Jews are victims of fires in their homes. Many have been given shelter by relatives and friends, but a large number are homeless and penniless and are accommodated in collective lodgings.

It is believed that thousands of Jews in Poland could obtain assistance from relatives abroad were it not that the Nazis are keeping the occupied territory isolated from the rest of the world, apparently because contact with persons abroad would reveal the enormous number of Jewish casualties in the occupation and the subsequent anti-Semitic persecution.

#### ITALY SKIZES \$250,000 WILLED TO JEWISH CHARITIES IN ROME

PARIS, Jan. 25. (JTA) -- The Italian Government has confiscated the sum of 5,000,000 lire (about \$250,000) bequeathed by the late Jewish engineer and industrialist David Almagia to Jewish educational and charitable institutions in Rome, including.orphanages, it was learned here today. The will was annulled and the money confiscated under the Italian anti-Jewish legislation.

### PIONEER REFUGEE CORPS ATTRACTS MANY IN ENGLAND

LONDON, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- Permission by the British Government for the recrument of a pioneer corps of refugees is meeting with an extraordinary response.

New groups are leaving daily for training camps and many are already serving overseas. The recruits include lawyers, bankers, electricians, actors, cinema employes, champion auto drivers and ace fliers. Members of the corps do not participate in actual fighting but are doing work behind the lines, where they are generally allocated to special jobs.

## BOYCOTT EXTENDED TO EXPORTS DESTINED FOR GERMANY

NEW YORK, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- The executive committee of the Joint Boycott Council has decided at an emergency meeting to extend the anti-German boycott of firms exporting raw materials and semi-manufactured goods to the Reich, Chairman Dr. Joseph Tenenbaum announced today.

The decision was reached after investigation had disclosed that large quantities of war materials were reaching Germany from the United States via neutroports, Dr. Tenenbaum said. A special department of the Council has been set up dealing with shipments of American and Latin American products to Germany and a list of firms engaging in this practice will be released soon, Dr. Tenenbaum added

Dr. Tenenbaum also announced that the Council was investigating, with a view to seeking Federal prosecution, several shipments of German merchandise which had effected this country via neutral ports, where they had been repacked and relabeled before being forwarded to the United States.

# RHODE ISLAND GOVERNOR ASSAILS 'FRONT'; CHURCH URGED TO REPUDIATE COUCHLIN

NEW YORK, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- The National Conference of Christians and Jews made public today a statement of Governor William H. Vanderbilt of Rhode Island denouncing the Christian Front as "a pack of vicious, muddleheaded individuals in New York, blasphemously masquerading under the name of the Christian Front, the ramifications of which organization seem to extend a long way to the west of New York."

An editorial in the February issue of Equality, journal devoted to combating intolerance, voices an "urgent request to the American hierarchy" of the Catholic Church to "end their silence" on Charles E. Coughlin's activities and repudiate him publicly.

# HADASSAH SETS FEB. 14 AS EDUCATION DAY; SCORES WAR, FALSE THEORIES

NEW YORK, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- A proclamation scoring "men and nations who resort to war and spurious theories to settle their conflicts" and designating February 14 as National Hadassah Education Day was issued today by Hadassah. According to Mrs. David de Sola Pool, president of Senior Hadassah, and Miss Nell Ziff, president of Junior Hadassah, who signed the proclamation, 87,000 members of the group plan to celebrate the event by lectures, forums and panel discussions in 46 states where the organization has chapters.

# PALESTINE FOR JEWS, TRANSJORDAN FOR ARABS, BRITISH GROUP SUGGESTS

LONDON, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- Solution of the Palestine problem by assigning the Transjordan to an Arab State and the Cisjordan to the Jews is urged in the current issue of Palestine, organ of the British Palestine Committee. The periodical contend that the war has brought this solution "definitely within the bounds of political possibility" and points out that the White Paper of last spring has been defeated by "bitter facts."

## ITALY TAKES REICH'S PLACE IN PALESTINE MARKET

JERUSALEM, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- Italy has taken Germany's place in the Palestine market, it was reported today by the newspaper Hamashkif, increasing her shipments by L220,000 compared with last year. Products formerly imported from Germany are now being supplied largely by Italy.

## JEW, POLE NAMED VICE-MAYORS IN WILNO

WILNO, Lithuania, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- Expressing willingness to cooperate with all loyal minorities, Mayor Staszis today announced election of a new municipal council, including two vice-mayors, one a Pole and the other a Jew.

## MEMEL REFUGEES TO GET FIRST PAYMENTS ON PROPERTY SOLD TO GERMANS

KAUNAS, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- The sum of 8,000,000 lits has been paid into the German Reichsbank on the account of the Lithuanian National Bank by purchasers of property from emigrated Memel Jews, it was disclosed here today.

The Lithuanian bank will start shortly to make payments to the former owners of Memel houses and liquidated enterprises. Further instalments will be paid probably in the spring, when funds from the sale of property held by Germans leaving Lithuanian for German-occupied territory are expected to be at the disposal of the Lithuanian bank.

## 24 ORAZIO REFUGEES SHIPPED TO GENOA BY HIAS-ICA

PARIS, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- The HIAS-ICA Emigration Association has transported to Genoa 24 of the 25 Jewish refugees who were among the passengers rescued at sea when the Italian liner Orazio burned. From Genoa the refugees will resume their journey to Latin American destinations on the next Italian steamer. The twenty-fifth refugee, a Madame Weiskopf, is in a Marseilles hospital.

#### TEACHERS' MAGAZINE DEVOTES ENTIRE ISSUE TO RACIAL TOLERANCE

CHICAGO, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- The January issue of The American Teacher, organ of the American Federation of Teachers, is devoted to racial tolerance. It includes articles by Education Commissioner John W. Studebaker, Fay-Cooper Cole, Prof. Franz Boas, Martin D. Jenkins, and Prof. George S. Counts.

#### AMERICAN ORT ISSUES ECONOMIC BULLETIN

NEW YORK, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- Approximately 1,275,000 Jews were added to the population of Soviet Russia through the Polish occupation, making a total Jewish population of about 4,575,000 in the U.S.S.R., according to an article by Jacob Lestschinsky in the first issue of the ORT Economic Bulletin, bi-monthly publication of the American division of the ORT Economic Research Committee. The bulletialso contains articles by Dr. David Lvovitch on "Why Jewish Economic Research?" Lestschinsky on "The Jews in Lithuania," Margaret T. Edelheim on "The Jews in Germany Before 1935," and Joseph W. Pincus on "Jews as Farmers."

## CZECH REFUGEES FORM B'NAI B'RITH BRANCH IN LONDON

LONDON, Jan. 26, (JTA) -- Czech Jewish refugees have founded a "Czechoslovak ian B'nai B'rith-in-exle" as a branch of the leading Jewish fraternal organization on whose headquarters are in Washington. Sixty-four of the 70 Czech B'nai B'rith members now in London took part in the organization meeting.

## GREECE DISTRIBUTES 5,000 TEXT BOOKS TO JEWISH SCHOOLS

SALONICA, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- The Government has distributed 5,000 copies of 12 new text books without charge to Jewish community schools, it was announced heretoday. The books are the same as those approved for all schools but passages dealing with the Christian religion are replaced by passages acquainting the children with matters concerning the Jewish religion.

## TURKISH PRESS, OFFICIALS PRAISE JEWS' ROLE IN QUAKE RELIEF

ISTANBUL, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- Government officials and leading newspapers have joined in denouncing the anti-Semitic newspaper Cumburiyet for publishing an article asserting that Jews had remained unmoved by the earthquake disaster and were not sufficiently responding to appeals for aid to the victims. Governor General Lufti Kirdar of Istanbul, at a press conference, took pains to praise the aid extended by "our Jewish compatriots," who he said were participating in the disaster relief "with the fullest means at their disposal."