

VOL. VI. NO. 154.

Wednesday, February 7, 1940.

PELLEY SURRENDERS TO DIES BODY; GRAND JURY PROBE HELD CERTAIN

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- William Dudley Pelley, leader of the anti-Semitic Silver Legion, whom the Dies Committee has been seeking unsuccessfully for a year, made a surprise appearance in Washington today to deny before the Dies Committee and the House Rules Committee that he had had any relations with Chairman Martin Dies.

As a result, Rep. Frank E. Hook (Dem., Mich.) offered to withdraw from the Congressional Record purported letters linking Pelley to Dies, and the Rules Committee withheld action to give Hook time to do so, but a Grand Jury investigation of the entire Pelley affair seemed certain as both Hook and the Dies Committee demanded a probe by Attorney General Robert H. Jackson.

Rep. Joe Starnes (Dem., Ala.) said that Pelley would be questioned at open hearings of the Dies committee on his alleged un-American activities. Acting Chairman Starnes said he was being held under subpoena, but not being jailed. The Silver Shirt leader is also wanted by the North Carolina authorities for violation of parole.

Both Starnes and the offices of the Dies committee refused to say whether Pelley would be held to answer the North Carolina charges. Judge Zeb Nettles, who issued the capias for Pelley's arrest, said it was still in force and that it would be up to the sheriff of Buncombe County to seek Pelley's extradition from Washington to Asheville through the Governor of North Carolina.

Starnes had told the Rules Committee yesterday that "one additional witness" would be heard before the transcript of the testimony before the Dies committee on the Hook charges would be made available. Committee aides would not say today whether this had been a reference to Pelley.

At any rate, Pelley this morning walked into the headquarters of the Dies Committee--in time to testify that he had not written the letter to David Mayne, his Washington agent, which Rep. Hook had inserted in the Congressional Record and which implied that Dies would go easy on Pelley and other anti-Semites.

Pelley, who has some reputation as a writer of highly imaginative stories, made his entrance dramatic. Immaculately attired and wearing spats, the goated would-be "Fuehrer" of America entered the Dies Committee offices and blandly inquired: "Gentlemen, were you looking for me?"

Immediately, Robert Stripling, committee secretary, served him with a subpoem and at 11:15 a.m. the committee opened an executive session to hear his testimony. Rep. Starnes then hustled him before the Rules Committee, which was considering action to expunge Hook's remarks from the Record. There Pelley said he had not written, composed or signed any of the letters bearing his signature.

Rep. Hook then said he was convinced that the letters were spurious and offered to withdraw them from the Record. The Rules Committee withheld action so as to give the Michigan Representative time to withdraw the speech containing the purported Pelley letters. A few days ago Hook had attempted to withdraw the speech but was prevented from doing so by Rep. Keefe because Hook refused to admit then that the letters were forgeries.

Pelley said he had never met, talked to or communicated with Dies but that he had sent a letter to Rep. Jerry Voorhis, head of a special subcommittee of the Dies Committee entrusted with finding him.

Between the time Pelley appeared at the Dies Committee offices and his appear ance before the Rules Committee he talked to reporters briefly and said: "I'm giving Martin Dies an absolutely clean bill of health."

Meanwhile, the whereabouts of Dies himself continued to be a mystery. Dies left his home in Orange, Texas, on Friday, accompanied by a bodyguard, according to reports received by his Washington office, but he has yet to appear in Washington.

Pelley, one of the most vocal anti-Semites in the country, has been the object of Dies committee search for almost a year. After initial failure to bring him before the committee, details of his personal and political record were given at a public hearing by a committee investigator last October. Afterward, a subpoena was issued for him and a fruitless search was launched.

NAZIS DECIMATED JEWS IN TOWN NEAR WARSAW, POLES REPORT

PARIS, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Polish official circles reported today that German troops on Dec. 26 executed every tenth inhabitant of the predominantly-Jewish town of Varka near Warsaw in reprisal for the shooting of a German policemen by a criminal escaping from a police raid. A total of 140 persons were executed, including 17 women and children, 4 youths under 18 years of age and 12 persons over 60 years of age.

Wilson Statue Dynamited by Nazis

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- A monument to Woodrow Wilson in Poznan, Nazioccupied Poland, has been dynamited by drunken Nazi storm troopers, unofficial sources here reported today. The statue was first shot through the head by a German soldier, the report said. A high official of the State Department said the Department had received no information about the incident.

Nicholson Allocated Supplies in Cracow

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- James T. Nicholson, American Red Cross representative entrusted with the task of distributing relief in Poland, has returned to Berlin from Cracow, Red Cross headquarters announced today.

Nicholson was allowed to enter Poland for an inspection visit only, last Wednesday. While he was in Cracow, he said in a cable to headquarters, he allocated a large shipment of medicine and clothing, which had arrived at the Red Cross warehouse in Cracow. Precisely to whom the allocations were made was not clear in his cable, but the Red Cross here believed it went to Polish and Jewish relief organizations.

The Red Cross announced that a shipment of tons of medicines and drugs and a large quantity of clothing, shipped to Italy aboard the U.S.S. Manhattan for transshipment to Polend, had been delayed and had not yet reached Cracow. The first delay came when the Manhattan was halted by the British blockade control at Gibraltar. Later there was further delay as a result of the halting of rail traffic by severe weather conditions.

When the Manhattan shipment reaches Cracow, Nicholson will be allowed by the Nazis to return for another brief visit to that city, it was said. Nicholson was the first American Red Cross representative allowed to enter Poland since the German occupation.

Meanwhile, Rep. Rudolph G. Tenerowicz (Dem., Mich.) urging adoption of his bill providing a Federal grant for relief in Poland, told the House today that unless adequate assistance is provided, "millions who now cling to life by the scantiest of threads will have died before the Summer sun looks down again on Poland."

WEIZMANN CONFERS WITH BRANDEIS; MEETING THEIR FIRST IN 21 YEARS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- For the first time in 21 years retired Supreme Court Justice Louis D. Brandeis and Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the World Zionist Organization, met yesterday, it was disclosed today. Dr. Solomon Goldman, president of the Zionist Organization of America, was also present.

Justice Brandeis, who was active in organizing the Zionist movement in this country, seemed cheered by the report Dr. Weizmann brought with him concerning the situation in Palestine, Dr. Goldman said. The 83-year-old jurist was delighted to hear that Palestine was daily receiving and absorbing refugees from the European war zone.

Both Justice Brandeis and Dr. Weizmann were convinced at the close of the conversation that "Palestine held out the largest if not the only hope" for solution of the Jewish problem, Dr. Goldman reported. Both were convinced that at the conclusion of the war the civilized nations would arrange to make Palestine a home and haven for the Jews.

Herzog Flies to London For Parleys

JERUSALEM, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog today left for London by airplane for consultations on important national problems.

Arab, Jewish Reporters Jointly Interview Huberman

TEL AVIV, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Bronislaw Huberman, the violinist, interviewed for the first time by Arab and Jewich newspapermen jointly, said today: "I hope that my music will assist an Arab-Jewish rapprochement." Huberman gave the interview after giving a performance with the Palestine Symphony Orchestra, of which he is the founder.

B'NAI B'RITH ASSIGNS \$2,500 TO YOUTH ALIYAH; BACKS ANTI-NAZI BOYCOTT

TAMPA, Fla., Feb. 6. (JTA) -- The executive committee of the B'nai B'rith, concluding its 96th annual meeting here last night, appropriated \$2,500 for the Youth Altyah movement, bringing to \$17,210 the total contributed since 1933 by the Jewish fraternal organization and its junior affiliate, Aleph Zadik Aleph.

The committee also reaffirmed support of and participation in the anti-Nazi boycott. It voted to create a women's department to coordinate the activities of the 55,000 members in the organization's women's and girls' auxiliaries, and established a national scouting committee to make boy scout work an integral part of the B'nai B'rith program.

BRITISH REFUGEE BODY OPENS DRIVE FOR L400,000

LONDON, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- The Central Council for Jewish Refugees today launched an appeal for L400,000 to cover the year's budget for refugee maintenance in England and Palestine. It was announced that L120,000 had already been subscribe

NEW CZECHOSLOVAKIA WILL KILL NAZI LAWS, CZECH LEADER PLEDGES

PARIS, Feb. 6. (JTA) — Firm belief in the fall of Hitlerism and the restoration of a free, democratic Czechoslovakia was expressed here today by Monseigneur Jan Sramek, 69-year-old vice-president of the Czechoslovak National Committee. The churchman, who was a member of the Prague Cabinet for 18 years, said in an interview with this correspondent that the reborn Czechoslovakia would wipe off the book: all anti-Jewish laws as well as all measures taken by the Nazis against the Czech population.

NEW ENGLAND 'FRONT' LEADER ORDERED TO VACATE HOTEL OFFICE

BOSTON, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Francis B. Moran, organizer and leader of the Christian Front in New England, has been asked to vacate his quarters at the Copley Square Hotel, it was revealed today. The notice was given after the arrest of 17 Christian Front members in New York and Moran asked for a few days until he found new quarters. The hotel manager, Philip C. Young, said he had not been gware of the nature of Moran's activities when the quarters had been rented to him.

TAGLICHT, FORMER VIENNA CHIEF RABBI, CRITICALLY ILL IN LONDON

LONDON, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Dr. Israel Taglicht, 78-year-old former chief rabbi of Vienna, was lying in Hampstead Newend Hospital in critical condition today after receiving serious injuries in a fall down a flight of stairs in Hampstead. In 1938,

when the Germans occupied Austria, Rabbi Taglicht was compelled to walk through the streets of Vienna with a placard reading: "I am a Jew." Later he was imprisoned in a concentration camp. He and his wife arrived in England a few months ago as refugees.

JEWISH SOVIET OFFICIAL WINS IN TILT WITH NAZI IN PRAGUE

PARIS, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- French newspapers today reported the following incident which occurred in Prague:

A German officer who entered a restaurant was annoyed to see a Jewish-appearing patron smiling sardonically at him. He called the waiter and ordered: "This man is a Jew. He must be thrown cut." The waiter replied that he had already told the gentleman to leave, but he had refused to go.

The officer thereupon telephoned to the Gestapo, who sent agents to the restaurant to inspect the man's documents. After examining his papers the Gestapo officials saluted him respectfully and turned to the German officer, advising him to leave without creating a scene. "This gentleman may be a Jew, but he is the Soviet press attache." the Gestapo agents informed the German.

'NON-ARYAN' SCIENTISTS MUST BE LABELLED 'JEW' IN NAZI STUDENT DISSERTATIONS

PARIS, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Le Midj reported today that the German Minister of Education had issued an order requiring students, when referring in their dissertations to "non-Aryan" scientists, to precede the name with the word "Jew."

In preparing bibliographies, the students must include two separate indexesone listing "Aryan" names and the other listing "non-Aryans" quoted in the clasertations. "We are certain," the Paris newspaper commented, "that as far as medical dissertations are concerned, the ghetto index will not only be far larger, but will carry more glorious names than the pure 'Aryan' index."

BELGIUM ARMY TURNS DOWN 8,321 ALIEN VOLUNTEERS

BRUSSELS, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- The Belgian War Ministry has had to reject for the time being a collective offer by 8,321 Jewish aliens to serve in the army, it was announced today during a debate in Parliament on the national defense budget. The offer was submitted to the War Ministry through central Jewish organizations.

37 REFUGEES ARRIVE IN SHANGHAI; HAVE INTERNATIONAL ZONE PERMITS

SHANCHAI, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Thirty-seven Jewish refugees with special permits to reside in the International Settlement arrived here today on the steamship Convey Verde. The refugees are mostly Czechoslovakians and Austrians who had resided in Italy and also some from Germany.

PRESIDENT CONANT OF HARVARD TO GET WAR VETERANS' PEACE AWARD

CLEVELAND, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- The Jewish War Veterans will hold a mid-year national conference, with the keynote "Americanism and Peace," at the Hotel Hollander from Feb. 10 to 12. An award for promotion of peace will be made to President James B. Conant of Harvard University, presentation of which will take place later in New York. About one thousand delegates will attend. Speakers will include Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver and Edgar Burman, commander of the J.W.V.