

VOL. VI. NO. 162.

Sunday, February 18, 1940.

WARSAW JENS SEEN FACING EXTINCTION UNLESS HELP COMES SOON; SADISM UNABATED

COPENHAGEN, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- Harried by disease, hunger, Nazi sadism and plunder Warsaw's entire Jewish population of more than 400,000 was reliably reported today to be facing extinction within a comparatively short time.

Unless help arrives soon, annihilation of the entire Jewish community of the former Polish capital is a matter of months. This was the conviction expressed in an eyewitness report of the latest developments in the Nazi-held city, received here through a trustworthy source.

According to the eyewitness account, all sources of income have been closed to Jews and those not actually dying of starvation and disease are using up their last savings.

The Jewish Community organization is continuing to supply 500 Jewish workers daily for compulsory removal of debris and other public works. Nevertheless, Nazi street hunts for Jews still continue. No Jew who leaves his home is sure of returning. Humiliations and tortures continue to be inflicted upon the impressed Jewish workers who are forced to dance, sing, undress and belabor each other.

Plundering of Jewish homes is unabated. Any German is free to enter a Jewish home and take whatever strikes his fancy. German soldiers, however, have been forbidden to enter private homes or restaurants and cafes with the exception of the Cafes Bristol and Europa, which are barred to Jews and Poles. So-called legal robbery of Jewish house on the pretext of arms searches is also continuing, although on a somewhat reduced scale

Polish and Jewish schools are still closed to classes and are being used as children's canteens. Many Jewish streets continue to be cordoned off with barbed wire, ostensibly to keep troops from entering and contracting typhus, which is still widespread.

The property of the five former Warsaw Jewish dailies has been confiscated and all their equipment has been removed to the Reich. The trucks of the Haint, however, are still seen in the streets with their Yiddish inscriptions intact.

Many Warsaw Jews have been heavily fined for failure to wear the ghetto armlets decreed by the Nazi authorities. Jewish shops still open are forced to display special signs with the Mogen David on a blue background.

OUSTED STETTIN JEWS ASK ROOSEVELT AID, GENEVA PAPER REPORTS

GENEVA, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- The Neue Zuercher Zeitung reported from Berlin today that the 900 Stettin Jews deported this week to the Lublin "reservation" in Nazi Poland have sent a message to President Roosevelt pleading for American visas to save them from "certain death." The message reportedly was sent through an intermediary.

Nazi party leaders and the police, the dispatch said, are preparing for similar deportation of Jews from northern Germany and Koenigsberg, East Prussia.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- White House and State Department spokesmen said today they had no knowledge of the reported request by the Stettin Jews for American visas.

DIES BODY TO ACT NEXT WEEK ON COUGHLIN PROBE; MAJORITY SEEN OPPOSED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- The Dies committee will hold a special meeting next week to vote on whether to summon Charles E. Coughlin, the "radio priest," as a witness.

It appeared certain that a majority of the committee would vote against summoning Coughlin on the grounds that the only effect would be to provide him with a new and vociferous sounding board. Chairman Dies himself holds this view and other members also said they did not approve of calling Coughlin.

Rep. Noah Mason said that while he did not agree with Coughlin on public matters, still it did not appear that he was directly connected with matters within the scope of the committee's investigation. Rep. John Dempsey said he opposed calling Coughlin because he did not want to allow the committee to be used as a sounding board for the preaching of class, racial or religious hatred.

ROOSEVELT, IN BROTHERHOOD WEEK MESSAGE, CALLS ON CITIZENS TO SHUN PREJUDICE

NEW YORK, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- A message from President Roosevelt urging rededication to brotherhood and unity against prejudice and intolerance was made public today by the National Conference of Christians and Jews on the eve of the opening on Sunday of the seventh annual Brotherhood Week, which will be observed in more than 1,000 communities through church services, interfaith rallies, school exercises, radio programs, dinners and other events.

"With gratitude to God for the liberties we enjoy and with a full measure of respect for each other's faith, let us gather together in our churches, synagogues, schools, public halls and homes during this week to celebrate our brotherhood under God as citizens of our beloved land," the President's statement said.

"Let us here resolve that in a time of world division and pain this nation shall be rededicated to the principles that all men are brothers; that religious prejudice and group intolerance may not here destroy that unity in freedom which is the strength of our national character."

Proclamations and statements in support of Brotherhood Week have also been issued by governors of a number of States, Senators and heads of principal religious educational, fraternal and labor organizations, according to Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, director of the N.C.C.J. At community meetings during the week a ten-point goodwill resolution will be adopted calling for efforts to understand, respect and defend the rights of other groups. The theme of this year's observance is "The Present Crisis in Human Relations."

In a Brotherhood Week proclemation made public today, 275 Protestant clergymen and social service and interdenominational officials in New York called on American citizens to join the Christian churches in standing "implacably against the sin of racial hatred in any of its forms."

COLUMBUS, 0.,Feb. 16. (JTA) -- Rabbi Samuel M. Gup of Temple Israel has been invited to occupy the pulpit of the First Presbyterian Church this Sunday morning, in connection with the opening of Brotherhood Week. He will not only preach the sermon but conduct the entire service, leading the congregation in the prayer and ritual.

PLEASED AT DOMINICAN CONTRACT, PRESIDENT INFORMS REFUGEE PROJECT LEADER

NEW YORK, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- President Roosevelt's gratification with the contract for settlement of refugees in the Dominican Republic was revealed yesterday by James N. Rosenberg, president of the Dominican Republic Settlement Association, reporting on his activities in Ciudad Trujillo to a meeting at Town Hall presided over by James G. MacDonald, chairman of the President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees.

Rosenberg read the following message from Secretary of State Cordell Hull forwarded to him through the American Legation in Ciudad Trujillo: "The President has received your telegram and is highly gratified to learn of the conclusion of your arrangement with the Dominican Government looking toward the settlement of refugees. The success of the venture will augur for the gradual and progressive solution of this great humanitarian problem."

Rosenberg declared in his address: "There is at stake the whole fabric of the refugee problem, the whole future policy of the western world toward this world tragedy. Many of these countries need man power such as ours did a hundred years ago. Today they fear to accept refugees. It is for us to wipe away these fears. We must and will prove that the refugees will become rich assets and fine citizens of the Dominican Republic. If we succeed here a real hope exists that the doors of the western world will open further."

Other speakers were Robert T. Pell, of the State Department; Paul van Zeeland, executive president of the Coordinating Foundation, and George L. Warren, executive secretary of the President's Advisory Committee, who read messages from Chairman Lord Winterton, Vice-Chairman Myron C. Taylor and Director Sir Herbert Emerson of the Interpovernmental Refugee Committee.

A meeting of the Settlement Association's board of directors prior to the Town Hall gathering ratified the contract, which now must be approved by the Dominican Congress meeting on Feb. 20, and added Stephen V.C. Morris, secretary of the Intergovernmental Committee, to the board.

URGES STRONG ACTION AGAINST ANTI-JEWISH PROPAGANDA IN ENGLAND

LONDON, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- A warning against the danger of overlooking anti-Jewish propaganda in England is sounded by the Jewish Chronicle in an editorial which stresses the fact that the "Nazis show themselves plainly and increasingly conscious of the proven value to themselves of this foreign anti-Jewish propaganda."

The editorial points out that the "output of Nazi talk and trickery designed to create hatred is large" and that the Jews, who from the start have been the readiest of all targets, must react vigorously to this "insidious form of war against the Allies.

In defending themselves against these attacks, the Chronicle asserts, the Jews will not only be protecting themselves but "defending the home front against the organized Nazi campaign to disrupt it at its most susceptible point." The editorial concludes by emphasizing that combatting of the menace will require the best organization and coordination of effort the community can command. "Jewish defense," it asserts, "is no longer an amateur's fight. It must become a highly skilled science if it is to cope with the very great resources, persistence and scientific ability of the Nazi enemy."

Several issues of the Chronicle have been banned from circulation in Switzerland because they contained articles considered contrary to Federal measures for the maintenance of neutrality.

REVISIONISTS CONFER WITH RUMANIAN OFFICIALS IN BUCHAREST

BUCHAREST, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- Various aspects of Jewish problems were discussed today at a conference of Foreign Minister Grigoire Gafencu with Zionist Revisionist leaders Elijah ben Horin and M. Costin. Also present at the conference was R. Irimescu, Rumanian Minister to Washington. Ben Horin, who is a member of the New Zionist Organization's world executive in London, will sail for New York shortly to join the delegation headed by Vladimir Jabotinsky, N.Z.O. president, which is planning a campaign in the United States and South America.

RALPH BEAUMONT NAMED SECRETARY OF BRITISH PRO-ARAB GROUP

LONDON, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- Capt. Ralph Beaumont, Conservative M.P., has been elected secretary of the Parliamentary Arab Committee which exists to champion the Arab cause in Palestine. He succeeds the late Anthony Crossley.

VANDENBERG HITS INTOLERANCE BUT OPPOSES EASING ENTRY CURBS

NEW YORK, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- In an article in the current issue of the American Jewish Chronicle, Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg of Michigan, expresses horror at the campaign of intolerance aimed at Jews but opposes any relaxation of immigration laws in favor of refugees.