

# NEWS

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## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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### NAZIS BACK DOWN ON RELIEF; PERMIT U.S. RED CROSS SUPERVISION IN POLAND

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- The American Red Cross today received from German Charge d'Affaires Hans Thomsen a letter confirming conclusion of a supplementary agreement which will permit Red Cross representatives to enter the "Gouvernement-General" of Poland long enough to supervise distribution of relief supplies.

At the same time, it was learned that the German Government had made a new proposal to the Berlin representative of the American Commission for Polish Relief, Inc., which, like the Red Cross, has been holding out for a supplementary agreement that would insure American supervision of relief distribution, without which the Allied blockade has refused to let supplies through to Poland.

The new Red Cross agreement applies only to the "Gouvernement-General," which does not include those areas of Poland which have been formally annexed to the Reich. In addition, it provides for free entry of Americans to oversee distribution, but not for permanent residence by Americans. Text of the Thomsen letter, confirming details of the supplementary agreement which was reached yesterday in Berlin, was to be made public as soon as permission was obtained from the German Embassy here.

Discussing the supplementary agreement with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today, Norman H. Davis, Red Cross chairman, said: "I would not permit the distribution of supplies from the Red Cross warehouse in Cracow until the supplementary agreement was reached."

Davis said that James T. Nicholson, Red Cross representative in Berlin, had received permission to proceed to Cracow with as many assistants as was necessary to supervise distribution of six carloads of supplies now in the Red Cross warehouse and eight carloads en route to Cracow from Genoa, Italy.

Under the supplementary agreement, Davis said, supplies would be distributed directly through the Polish Red Cross or, in areas where the Polish Red Cross does not operate, by a local committee comprising five Poles, a German and a Jew. He added that wherever the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee was still operating, supplies for the Jews would be allocated to this organization.

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Under the new arrangement, the German Government agrees that American relief supplies will be used exclusively for the civilian population and will "at no time be at the disposal of or claimed by the German authorities." The German Government also agrees, according to the German Embassy letter, to aid in transporting the supplies to the Red Cross warehouse.

The letter covering the supplementary agreement does not mention the Jews specifically, but the original agreement contained a German guarantee that relief would be on a non-sectarian basis.

The Polish Embassy here suggested that the Germans had granted the new concessions to the Red Cross because the British blockade authorities had refused to permit supplies to go through to Poland without adequate guarantees that distribution would be administered by Americans.

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Polish Jews Get Yellow Ration Cards

TRIESTE, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- Yellow ration cards have been introduced for Jews in Poland, according to reliable reports reaching here today.

Cracow Jews have long been receiving smaller rations than the rest of the population. Moreover, Jews are barred from shopping in all but a few shops specially reserved for them.

In Cracow, the Jews receive only one quarter of a pound of bread daily compared with half a pound for non-Jews. Nazis frequently raid Jewish homes, confiscating even the smallest food reserves, including bits of soap, flour, butter and sugar.

Among new anti-Jewish measures taken in Cracow is one evicting Jews from all new buildings. Jews in that city are still being subjected to sadistic treatment, of which the following is an example: A group of Nazi army officers, after dining in a Jewish restaurant, refused to pay the bill, forced the owner to undress and to dance naked in the snow-covered street.

START ON REFUGEE PROJECT NEAR AS DOMINICAN CONGRESS RATIFIES PACT

CIUDAD TRUJILLO, Dominican Republic, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- Officials of the Dominican Republic Settlement Association, following congressional ratification of the association's contract with the Government for colonization of refugees expected ultimately to number 100,000, today made preparations to receive the first 500 refugee families for settlement on the 24,000-acre Sosua tract.

The first group of settlers will be received as soon as the formalities of their selection, assembling and transportation can be arranged, it was stated by Dr. Joseph Rosen, vice-president of the D.R.S.A., and his associate, Dr. Frederick Pearlstein. Formal transfer of the Sosua tract, which was contributed by Generalissimo Rafael L. Trujillo, former President of the Republic, will take place within a few days.

The contract, which was signed here on Jan. 30, was unanimously ratified by both Houses of Congress yesterday at a special session. Congress also voted laws giving free entry to settlers, their goods and equipment and exempting the association from taxation.

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American Ship May Be Chartered For Refugees

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- The Dominican Republic Settlement Association aided by the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees and the State Department, is seeking to make arrangements with a Government agency, presumably the Shipping Board, to charter an American ship to transport the first group of refugee settlers from an Italian port to the Dominican Republic, it was learned today.

Dominican Minister Andres Pastoriza made public a cablegram from his Government reporting action of the Congress and stating that the "Dominican people enthusiastically await the beginning of the settlement."

NAZI DECREES BLOCK CZECH JEWS' BANK ACCOUNTS, TIGHTEN TRADE CONTROL

PARIS, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- Baron Konstantin von Neurath, Reich Protector for Bohemia-Moravia, has issued decrees blocking all Jewish bank and credit holdings and placing Jewish commercial and agricultural enterprises under Government control, it was learned today.

The decree regarding Jews' finances, issued with the approval of the Finance Minister, is published in Baron von Neurath's official gazette and Der Neue Tag, official Nazi organ in Prague, copies of which have just reached here. The decree provides:

(1) From date of publication of the decree, no payments of money may be made to Jews, Jewish firms or organizations. All such payments must be deposited in blocked accounts in banks designated for this purpose by the Finance Ministry.

(2) The foregoing measure does not apply to Jewish enterprises directed by "Aryan" managements appointed by the Reich Protector.

(3) Each Jew, no matter how many blocked accounts he may have--whether checking, savings or other kinds of accounts--may draw for himself and his family no more than 1,500 kronen weekly, "until the appearance of stricter regulations."

(4) Jews are forbidden to rent safes without special permission of the Finance Minister.

(5) All banks and credit institutions are ordered to ascertain which if any of their safe deposit boxes are held by Jews after March 15 and submit a list of these holders to the Finance Ministry.

(6) No Jew may withdraw anything from his safety deposit box without permission of the Finance Ministry.

(7) No Jew may transfer any of his valuable papers such as stocks, bonds and mortgages.

(8) Rent due to the Jews and any sums due for leasing Jewish property must not be paid to the Jews but deposited in their blocked accounts in special banks.

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The measures to restrict Jews in the economic field are also published in Der Neue Tag. All of them have already gone into effect. They are as follows:

Jews and Jewish enterprises are forbidden to acquire real estate or to rent real estate; Jews and Jewish firms are forbidden to participate in economic enterprises and in shareholding corporations; Jews are prohibited from acquiring commercial enterprises from others or opening new enterprises; Jews holding agricultural land must report it to the authorities; the authorities are entitled to appoint "trustees" to manage Jewish holdings or commercial firms.

Meanwhile, Economics Dictator Herman Goering's Essener National Zeitung reports that during the last six months the Nazis have "liquidated," in Berlin alone, approximately 2,500 Jewish artisan shops and that "the process of liquidation is being continued." Artisanhip represents virtually the only field in which Jews in the Reich are still permitted to engage.

#### 500 Ousted Czech Jews May Go to Slovakia

NEW YORK, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- The New York Times reported today from Prague that the German authorities had made arrangements with the Joint Distribution Committee for the transfer to Slovakia of about 500 Jews who in November were sent from the Protectorate to Nisko, Poland. The J.D.C. in New York said it had no information about the reported development.

The Times report said the J.D.C. was understood to be paying for the Jews' transportation to Slovakia and their maintenance until such time as they could be resettled. It was believed they would remain in Slovakia until arrangements were made for their emigration.

The Times also reported that the German authorities had forced the Prague Jewish Community to dismiss all its employees and not hire new ones.

#### REICH JEWS URGED TO SPEED CONTRIBUTIONS TO CENTRAL BODY

PARIS, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- The Reichsvereinigung der Juden in Deutschland, central Jewish organization in Germany, has issued an appeal to Jews to make their contributions for maintenance of Jewish institutions immediately, "since this is of extraordinary importance for the upkeep of Jewish life."

The appeal is published in the Juedisches Nachrichtenblatt, the only paper which Jews are permitted to publish in the Reich. It sets forth the contributions expected from Jews in 1940. There are two kinds of contributions--the "ordinary contribution," based on income and property owned by a Jew, and the "extraordinary contribution," collected from Jews emigrating from the Reich.

For 1940, Jews are asked to make an "ordinary contribution" of one-quarter of one per cent of property valued at 20,000 marks and one-half of one per cent on property from 30,000 to 50,000 marks, with a gradual increase in the successively higher brackets. The "extraordinary contribution" is set at 10 per cent on property valued at 20,000 marks, 20 per cent on property up to 100,000 marks and 40 per cent on property worth up to 250,000 marks.

Both forms of contribution are compulsory, and apparently the funds realized represent the sole basis for continuing Jewish social and religious activities in

FRANCE GRANTS CITIZENSHIP TO CANCER SPECIALIST EXILED FROM REICH

PARIS, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- The French Government today granted citizenship to Dr. Eduard Jacobs, German Jewish refugee physician, who is collaborating in a treatment for cancer termed by French medical specialists as the most effective yet developed.

Dr. Jacobs, who worked with Dr. Ferdinand Blumenthal in a Government laboratory in Berlin on cancer research for many years, was discharged when the Nazis came to power in 1933 and both were obliged to leave Germany. Dr. Blumenthal is now in Estonia, while Dr. Jacobs found refuge in France.

Despite many handicaps, Dr. Jacobs continued his experimentation in France, and is believed by many to be on the road to an effective treatment for cancer. Working without adequate funds, he reached the point where he was convinced he could report his findings to the French Academy and other French medical experts.

Several weeks ago Dr. Jacobs mentioned his experiments to a leading French cancer specialist, who became interested in his work and brought it to the attention of the French medical authorities, with the result that the Government set up a special laboratory for him. Careful observation by the leading French specialists has led to the belief that Dr. Jacobs has discovered the most startling treatment of cancer yet found.

An official announcement regarding Dr. Jacobs' treatment is expected to be made by French medical professors shortly.

ALIENS BILL HIT AT SENATE HEARING AS BLOW AT BILL OF RIGHTS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- The Dempsey bill which would exclude or deport all aliens who believe in, advise or advocate "the making of any changes in the American form of government" was labelled a dictatorial measure which would undermine the Bill of Rights by witnesses appearing before a Senate immigration subcommittee yesterday.

The bill, introduced by Rep. John J. Dempsey of New Mexico, a member of the Dies Committee, was passed by the House without debate or roll call. The American Committee for the Protection of Foreign Born charges that it was passed on the false basis that it was non-controversial and holds that it is a disguised attack on the democratic rights of American citizens and organizations.

Presiding at the hearing was Senator Hughes. An interested spectator was Senator Robert Reynolds, of North Carolina, who is not a member of the subcommittee. Appearing to defend his bill was Rep. Dempsey.

The bill "penalized a man's thoughts and itself would effect a disastrous change in the American form of government," Reuben Oppenheim, Baltimore attorney representing the American Civil Liberties Union, told the subcommittee. Oppenheim

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pointed out that the guarantees of the Bill of Rights affect all individuals alike, whether citizens or aliens. He said that the Dempsey bill was so vague that aliens might be deported for beliefs as inoffensive as favoring the Ludlow Amendment to the Constitution, which advocates a change in the form of government by allowing the people to vote on a declaration of war.

Under the stiff cross-examination of Senator Charles O. Andrews of Florida, Oppenheim pointed out that had the bill been in existence before 1865 an alien could have been deported for favoring in his own mind the abolition of slavery. Oppenheim charged that it would give employees of the Immigration Service "inquisitorial powers" to determine what was in a man's mind, and that it would force the Secretary of Labor to ascertain the political convictions of 3,600,000 aliens now in this country."

At this point, Dempsey stormed that quota regulations were now being disregarded. Aliens, he said, "are coming in by leaps and bounds. The quotas mean nothing."

The bill was also attacked by Cloyd Lapoete, of the New York Bar Association, who said it was too vague and uncertain in its terms "to avoid oppressing the people it affects." Deportation, Lapoete said, in these times may mean imprisonment or death abroad and should not be undertaken lightly.

Isadore Hershfield, of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, also spoke against the bill.

#### Applicants For U.S. Entry Double in Year

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- The number of immigrants seeking entry into the United States has more than doubled in the last fiscal year, the State Department revealed yesterday. On June 30, 1939, the number of aliens registered at consular offices as prospective immigrants was 657,353, representing a tremendous backlog which could not be exhausted in years under present quotas. In 1938 the applicants totalled 317,606.

Of the present number, 309,782 are chargeable to the German quota and nearly all of these are Jews. Since the German quota is 27,370 annually, it would take eleven years for all these to secure entrance under the quota even if no more applied for immigration.

During the fiscal year ending June 30, only 58,855 quota and 25,813 non-quota visas were issued by consuls abroad, the Department revealed. This is a gain of only 7,000 over the last year, despite the tremendous increase of those seeking entrance, and it is far below the 258,348 visas issued in 1930.

Annual immigration quotas for all countries totals 155,774, so only 38 per cent of the quota for all countries was filled. This was in large measure explained by the fact that only 3,604 persons sought admission from Great Britain although Britain has a quota of 65,721.

Quotas for the following countries were fully issued during the 1939 fiscal year: Albania, Australia, Bulgaria, China, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, Greece, Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Palestine, Poland, Rumania, Syria, Turkey, Yugoslavia and the Philippine Islands.

Only five per cent of the British quota was filled, eight per cent of the Irish quota of 17,855, 33 per cent of the French and 75 per cent of the Italian. In quotas, nationality is determined entirely by birth.

#### PALESTINE INCLUDED IN 10-YEAR BRITISH PLAN TO DEVELOP COLONIES

LONDON, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- A ten-year plan for colonial development in which Palestine and other mandated territories will share and derive full benefits has been announced here in a White Paper.

The paper discloses that a scheme will be submitted to Parliament soon to increase the colonial development fund from £1,000,000 to £5,000,000 annually plus £500,000 annually for colonial scientific research. According to the paper, the funds will be used not only for capital development as previously, but also for maintenance of social services.

A clause in the paper states specifically that all territories of Great Britain under the mandatory system will be included in the plan. It was authoritatively stated that "Palestine will be able to share fully in the benefits of this policy." In official quarters, queries whether imperial preference in the United Kingdom markets would be granted Palestine in accordance with the scheme for development of the colonies' welfare received the reply that it had been ruled that Palestine, as a mandated territory, could not be included in the imperial preference system.

#### \$65,000,000 INVESTED IN PALESTINE INDUSTRY; 61 NEW ENTERPRISES STARTED IN 1939

JERUSALEM, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- Capital invested in Palestine industry totals \$65,000,000, it was revealed today by Arie Shanks, president of the Union of Palestine Industrialists, and S. Tishby, director of the Jewish Agency's Department of Commerce and Industry.

In an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Shanks and Tishby disclosed also that 39 new industrial enterprises had been established during the past five months. Many of the extra-quota immigrants, they said, were among the founders of the new establishments. During 1939, sixty-one new industrial enterprises were founded and 21 old concerns opened new branches, the two men stated. Other developments cited in the interview were:

Seventy new products which formerly had to be imported are now being produced by Palestine industry. The French military forces in Syria recently became one of the chief customers for Palestine products, placing orders totalling \$500,000. The British Army also has placed important orders with Palestine manufacturers.

Approximately one-third of the capital investment in industry here is tied up in the building field. Less than one-quarter, or about \$15,000,000, is invested in two of the biggest industrial enterprises, namely, the Palestine Electric Corporation and the Palestine Potash Company.

American investments in local industry total about \$1,000,000. Some 30,000 persons are employed in industrial concerns but, Shanks and Tishby assert, this is only the beginning since there are strong indications of industrial expansion during this critical period.

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The textile industry, particularly the manufacture of woollens, is developing rapidly. Heavy industry is also making headway. New steel mills are being erected in Haifa and are expected to be the largest in the entire Near East.

The steel works, which will have an initial capital of \$100,000, will produce a type of steel hitherto manufactured only in Sweden. Steel of this type brings about \$5,000 a ton in the market, while the iron ore used for its production costs only about \$25 a ton. Owners of the mills are convinced that there will be no difficulty in obtaining raw material.

#### B'NAI B'RITH JUNIORS SEND MESSAGE OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO FINNISH YOUTH

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- A scroll containing a message to the youth of Finland encouraging them "to stand fast and firm so that the great ideals of democracy may continue to live" was presented to Finnish Minister Hjalmar T. Procope today by a delegation from the Aleph Zadik Aleph, B'nai B'rith's youth organization, at the Finnish Legation. Presentation was made by Julius Bisno, executive director of the A.Z.A., and Maurice Bisgyer, one of the resident members of the supreme advisory council of A.Z.A.

#### MRS. ROOSEVELT HEADS YOUTH ALIYAH ADVISORY BODY

NEW YORK, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt has consented to head a special advisory committee for the Youth Aliyah movement represented in this country by Hadassah, it was announced today by Hadassah President Mrs. David de Sola Pool.

#### VIENNESE REFUGEE TROUPE SCORES WITH NEW MUSICAL HERE

NEW YORK, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- "Reunion in New York," a two-act revue staged by the refugee American Viennese Group which was formerly known as the Kleinkunstbuehne of Vienna, opened last night at the Little Theater and was received with praise by dramatic critics.

Brooks Atkinson in the N.Y. Times pointed out that the refugees were "rapidly adapting themselves to the new conditions of their new country." He said that "the English spoken by the performers had improved remarkably" and that "they have also become sufficiently acclimatized to play for American audiences with a genuine understanding of theatre spirit here."

#### LATE PARIS NEWS

##### J.D.C. Denies Report of Refugee Transfer

PARIS, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- European headquarters of the Joint Distribution Committee today denied a report published in New York (See page 4) that it had made arrangements with the German authorities for transfer to Slovakia of about 500 Jews who in November were sent from the Protectorate to Nisko, Poland. The organization said several hundred refugees from the Protectorate were now in Slovakia, maintained by local Jewish relief institutions supported by the Joint Distribution Committee, but declared that no arrangement existed with the Reich authorities regarding transfer to Slovakia of Jews who had been expelled to Nisko.