

# NEWS

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by the

## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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### WELLES TO GET POLES' VIEW ON RELIEF, PERSECUTION IN CONQUERED AREAS

PARIS, March 8. (JTA) -- Polish Premier Wladislaw Sikorski and Foreign Minister August Zaleski will raise the questions of relief in Nazi-occupied Poland and persecution of Poles and Jews, among other issues, in conversations with Undersecretary of State Sumner Welles on Saturday, it was learned today.

The Polish statesmen will seek American intervention to break the deadlock which has prevented large-scale American relief from reaching the German-occupied area because the Nazis have refused to permit complete American supervision of its distribution.

They will also discuss with President Roosevelt's envoy the question of Nazi terrorism in Poland, including mass executions of Poles and Jews and expulsions into central Poland and the Lublin Jewish "reservation."

Questioned by this correspondent, Welles, who reached Paris yesterday morning, would say no more than that he was seeing the Polish leaders on Saturday. He also declined to reply to the question of whether he had discussed Polish relief with Chancellor Adolf Hitler or other Nazi leaders while in Berlin.

The exiled Polish Government at Angers is taking an increasingly serious view of the forced movements of populations in Nazi Poland, as indicated by a speech of Premier Sikorski to the provisional Polish Parliament Wednesday night. "The entire Jewish population--even the Jews residing in Germany, Austria and the Protectorate--may all be transported by the Nazis into Polish territory lying on the San or Bug rivers," he said.

Today the Polish Government's information service reported that the population of Warsaw was beginning to feel the effect of hunger and that "catastrophic famine" was spreading in the Warsaw district as the last food reserves were being exhausted. Jewish relief organizations received information that the number of Jews in Warsaw requiring feeding by the Jewish community and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee had risen to 150,000 from 50,000 a month ago.

Expulsion of Jews from Lodz is continuing, this information said, and two ghettos have been established by the Nazi authorities for non-Germans remaining in Lodz--the northern section for Jews and the southern quarter for Poles. The central area is reserved for Germans.

According to another report from Lodz, the road from that city to Warsaw is crowded with migrating Jewish families seeking to reach the former capital by foot and in horse-drawn wagons. The Lodz rabbinate has granted permission for the wanderers to travel on the Sabbath.

The Jews undergo a strict search by German soldiers on reaching the border between the area of Poland which has been incorporated in the Reich and the "Government-General," which consists of the Warsaw district. They therefore arrive in Warsaw without money and clothing and add to the burden of the Warsaw Coordinated Jewish Relief Committee, which includes the Warsaw Jewish Community, the American J.D.C., the ORT and other Jewish relief groups.

The Lodz Jews are easily recognized when they arrive in Warsaw since they still wear the yellow badge ordered for Jews in Lodz, in contrast to the blue-white armlets with six-pointed stars which Jews in the Warsaw area must wear.

German newspapers reaching Paris express satisfaction with the speed of Jewish expulsion from Lodz. "The expulsion of Jews from Lodz is making good progress, and the expelled Jews are being replaced by Germans repatriated from the Baltic and Wolhynia areas," states the Deutsche Bergwerks Zeitung, industrial organ of Field Marshal Hermann Goering.

Other Nazi newspapers also dwell on the expulsions, commenting on the city's changed appearance and different composition of the population.

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House Body Named to Seek Nazi Pledges on Relief

WASHINGTON, March 8. (JTA) -- A subcommittee of five to ascertain what assurances the Nazi Government will give that American food relief to Poland will be unmolested was appointed today by Chairman Sol Bloom of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Members of the subcommittee are Representatives Kee, Henning, Shanley, Fish and A.D. Eaton.

JEWISH LEADERS WARNED TO HALT DEMONSTRATIONS IN PALESTINE

TEL AVIV, March 8. (JTA) -- The authorities today served warning on Jewish leaders that the patience of the Government will be exhausted if demonstrations against the Palestine land act continue. The leaders, who were called to the headquarters of the District Officer to receive the warning, heard it in silence.

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6 Jewish M.P.'s Voted For Land Act; Press Reaction Mixed

LONDON, March 8. (JTA) -- A checkup on the Palestine land act vote in the House of Commons on Wednesday showed today that of the Jewish members six supported the Government and seven voted for the Laborite motion of censure.

Voting with the Government were L.H. Gluckstein, T.C. Levy, D.L. Lipson, Sir Isidore Salmon, Marcus Samuel, and H.G. Strauss. Leslie Hore-Belisha, former War Secretary, was among those absent at the time of the vote.

British newspapers have accorded the Commons debate a mixed reception, with The Times leading those applauding the Government victory and the News-Chronicle those deploring it.

"The debate showed clearly," The Times said, "that the Opposition had no other plausible alternative to the course defined by (Colonial Secretary Malcolm) MacDonald. Whether the regulations do or do not violate the Mandate is still a matter to be argued at Geneva. In any case, the Mandate will have to be revised before long." Concluding, The Times said there was no other alternative but to go forward towards a Federal Constitution for Palestine.

The Daily Telegraph voiced approval of MacDonald's speech defending the land sale restrictions, declaring that if the accelerated land purchasing by the Jews had been allowed to continue for the duration of the war, any hope of a permanent reconciliation between Arabs and Jews would have been prevented. The Daily Mail said MacDonald had shown wisdom and courage in tackling the land problem and "to run away from our decision now would be fatal to our prestige in the Near East."

The News-Chronicle condemned the Government's pursuance of a policy without proper regard to the views of the League. "There is no justification for using the League machinery when it suits us," the paper said, "as in the case of Finland, and sidestepping it when it does not suit us, as in the case of Palestine." The Daily Sketch writer Candidus expressed the opinion that there was no cure for the problem until the Jews had a nation of their own.

Provincial newspapers were similarly divided in their reaction to the debate. The influential Birmingham Post said the regulations could be justified only if they ensured that wartime Palestine would remain peaceful and loyal to the British Empire. A Palestinian Palestine having proved impossible, the paper said, "we are leaning under pressure to an Arab not a Jewish Palestine."

The Liverpool Post declared that MacDonald's speech, for all its cleverness, supplied no convincing reason why the Government should act at this particular moment in such a manner. The Yorkshire Post, organ of Dominions Secretary Anthony Eden, said MacDonald's speech had removed doubts that he had played the role of a statesman in a most difficult position. The Sheffield Telegraph declared that both the Arabs and Jews had their interests safeguarded by the ordinance. The Yorkshire Observer commented that MacDonald had justified issuance of the regulations, reminded the Jews of their debt to Britain and said the way was open to a more mutual recognition of common interests when the Arabs felt they were not being "evicted."

#### NAZIS REPORTED SEEKING RETURN OF REFUGEES FOR REICH LABOR PROJECTS

PARIS, March 8. (JTA) -- French newspapers reported today that Germany has demanded from Lithuania the return of all military and civilian refugees from Poland who escaped to Lithuania. The Nazis said the refugees were needed for public works, the reports said.

A special Lithuanian envoy was reported to have left Kaunas for Berlin in connection with the demand. (Previous Kaunas dispatches reported the arrival in the Lithuanian capital of a German commission to discuss repatriation of 3,000 to 5,000 interned Poles and refugees.)

EDWIN MARKHAM, MOVED BY NAZI PERSECUTION OF JEWS, WROTE "CRY FOR BROTHERHOOD"

NEW YORK, March 8. (JTA) -- The death last night of Edwin Markham, at the age of 87, recalled today that one of the famous poet's strongest poems was an outcry against anti-Jewish persecution by the Nazi Government.

Written in 1934, a year after Adolf Hitler became Chancellor, and released by the American Jewish Committee, the poem described the racial heritage of the Jews, compared the oppression of old with that in Nazi Germany and called for "a protest that will shake the ruler's knee. . . till the happy hour when Justice shall uncliothe her arm of power." The poem was entitled: "A Cry for Brotherhood--A Protest Against Hitler's Persecution of the Jews."

Earlier, in 1930, stirred by the plight of the Jews in Eastern Europe and inspired by the Palestine upbuilding movement, he wrote a poem "Bread and Home," which he dedicated to the Allied Jewish Campaign of that year.

SCHOOL CHIEF VOICES CONCERN OVER RACIAL TENSION AMONG TEACHERS HERE

NEW YORK, March 8. (JTA) -- Superintendent of Schools Harold G. Campbell told 1,000 principals and supervisors at a conference on Wednesday that increased tension resulting from religious and racial differences among the 40,000 teachers in New York City's school system had tended to undermine the morale of the instructional staff and to reflect on the education of the students.

"The tenseness among teachers on religious and racial subjects that I have been hearing about is something that we cannot have in the public schools," Dr. Campbell said. "That unrest has its effect on the student body."

RUMANIAN SENATE RECEIVES SAFRAN AS ONLY JEWISH MEMBER

BUCHAREST, March 8. (JTA) -- Chief Rabbi Alexander Safran was inducted into the Senate today as representative of the Mosaic religious community. The Chief Rabbi is the only Jewish member of Parliament.

LONDON GROUP EARMARKS SUM TO BUY PALESTINE PASSAGE FOR WILNO REFUGEES

LONDON, March 8. (JTA) -- The Polish Relief Fund's executive committee, meeting under the chairmanship of Lord Moyne, has decided to allocate £1,650 to pay for passage of refugees from Wilno to Palestine. The action followed receipt of appeals from the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the Board of Deputies of British Jews.

BERNFELD, EX-CHIEF RABBI OF SERBIA, DEAD IN BERLIN

ZURICH, March 8. (JTA) -- Dr. Simon Israel Bernfeld, former chief rabbi of Serbia, has died in Berlin at the age of eighty, it was learned here. He was known as a writer on Jewish subjects.