

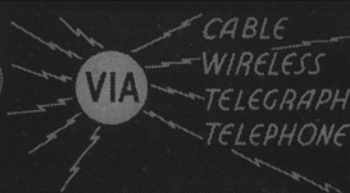
NEWS

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RUMANIAN SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS CITIZENSHIP REVISION LAW

BUCHAREST, April 12. (JTA) -- The Supreme Court today upheld the constitutionality of the Citizenship Revision Law of 1938, under which a total of 225,222 Jews have been deprived of Rumanian citizenship.

Rejecting the appeal of a Jew who had been denationalized under the law, the Court ruled that neither the 1938 measure nor any other Rumanian legislation contradicted the Constitutional guarantee of equality of rights.

The appellant had contended that the 1938 law, enacted in the short-lived anti-Semitic Goga regime and later confirmed by Royal Decree, was incompatible with Article 5 of the Constitution which stipulates that ethnical origin or religious belief must not be an impediment in obtaining civic and political rights in the re-united Rumania.

(The revision law was declared to violate the League-guaranteed minorities treaties and the issue was taken to Geneva. The Rumanian Government, however, refused to retreat from its position, holding that Jews were not covered by the 1919 treaty, and a Committee of Three was formed by the League Council to study the question, but no conclusive action was taken.

(Severe measures have been taken against denationalized Jews, who have been placed in the category of aliens, restricted in the right to work and practice professions. Recently they were subjected to a special tax.)

The newspaper Curentul reported today that appeals courts in Sibiu, Chisinau (Kishineff) and Cernauti have unanimously rejected actions brought by Rumanian Jews on the grounds that they had been deprived of their civic rights through the enforcement of anti-Jewish legislation enacted by the Goga regime.

Meanwhile, Chief Rabbi Senator Alexander Safran has introduced in the Senate a number of amendments to a bill providing that only holders of special authorization certificates may be admitted to medical practice.

The amendments, Dr. Safran said, were designed to prevent unjust application of the projected law, under which a Central Chamber of Doctors is to be set up.

One of the proposed amendments urged that no organ of the Medical Association be given the power to suspend or declare invalid authorizations unless a member had been definitely excluded from the profession. Dr. Safran also demanded that no suspension or exclusion should become effective unless it had been confirmed by the Supreme Court.

NAZIS BAR TRANSIT TO 22 REFUGEES SLATED FOR DOMINICAN PROJECT

WASHINGTON, April 12. (JTA) -- The German authorities have refused to allow transit across Germany for 22 German Jewish refugees in Sweden who have been chosen for settlement in the Dominican Republic, it was learned at the State Department today.

The outbreak of war in Scandinavia made it impossible for the refugees to leave Sweden by way of the Baltic Sea and State Department officials see no way of getting them to a neutral port.

Norse War Saves 8 From Deportation

WASHINGTON, April 12. (JTA) -- The ill wind of war in Scandinavia has blown good for eight Jewish refugees from Finland held at Ellis Island, whose scheduled deportation has been stayed by the outbreak of hostilities in northern Europe, it was revealed today.

The group arrived in New York on March 9 on the steamship Bergensfjord, having left the area of Finland now annexed to Russia. They were bound for Haiti, for which they had received visas in Europe. However, the Haitian consulate in New York refused to recognize the validity of the visas, whereupon the Labor Department was forced to order their deportation.

However, as a result of the outbreak of war in Scandinavia and the inclusion of the area in the zone forbidden to American shipping, the eight refugees are being allowed to remain in this country until homes can be found for them in Haiti or elsewhere, it was revealed today by Isidore Herschfield, Washington representative of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society.

Tension in Holland, Belgium

PARIS, April 12. (JTA) -- The Nazi invasion of Scandinavia has created nervousness among refugees from the Reich domiciled in Belgium and the Netherlands--who would be the first to suffer if the Germans invaded the low countries--and has halted the scheduled emigration of a group of Polish Jewish refugees from Lithuania, it was learned today.

According to the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, there are more than 20,000 Jewish refugees in the Netherlands and 22,000 in Belgium awaiting emigration.

The HIAS-ICA Emigration Association reported receiving a telegram from its Kaunas office which related that a group of Jewish refugees from Poland had been scheduled to leave Lithuania for Amsterdam via Scandinavia on the day the Nazis entered the peninsula. They were halted at the last minute when it was learned in Kaunas that communications between Scandinavia and Amsterdam had been cut off.

Britain Warned of Anti-Semites as 'Enemy Within Gate'

LONDON, April 12. (JTA) -- Citing the role of Danish and Norwegian Nazis in aiding the German invasion of Scandinavia, the Jewish Chronicle, in a leading article reflecting the sentiments of most Jewish circles, today warned Britain to beware of anti-Semites as "the enemy within the gate."

"Scratch an anti-Semite and you find a conscious or unconscious Hitler agent," the Jewish weekly declared. "That warning should be posted prominently in every homestead and every Government office directly concerned. We urge the authorities most earnestly to note and heed it.

"Beware of the enemy within the gate! Do not wait until the fatal day when he is in a position to open the gate! Against the enemy without we will prevail. Against the carelessly tolerated enemy within we may well prove powerless in the hour of decision."

The paper pointed to the measures taken by the Netherlands Government to safeguard the country against the dangers stemming from "the enemy inside."

HOUSE BODY AGAIN DEFERS ACTION ON \$15,000,000 POLISH RELIEF BILL

WASHINGTON, April 12. (JTA) -- The House Foreign Affairs Committee met again today to vote finally on the Kee resolution providing \$15,000,000 for direct relief to Poland, but decided to postpone their ballot until Tuesday because only six members, barely a quorum, attended.

The Committee heard a number of Congressmen passionately urge quick action because, they said, Poland has been stripped of all foodstuffs by the Nazis and starvation rides the land.

If the Committee favorably reports the resolution Tuesday, it will be as an authorization and will go directly to the floor of the House. It will not have to pass through the Appropriations Committee, where it might have been stalled.

Answering criticism that direct relief for Poland might shatter a precedent in U.S. foreign policy, Rep. John Dingell (Dem., Mich.) said he could cite a hundred precedents established by the U.S. to aid suffering peoples under all sorts of conditions. "The resolution," he said, "reflects the feeling of the majority of the House on both sides of the aisles and I believe will be approved by the whole House."

Chairman Sol Bloom (Dem., N.Y.) told the Committee that Jewish organizations in this country have contributed \$2,000,000 for Polish relief, which has been distributed impartially to Jews and non-Jews alike, most of whom fled Poland to neighboring countries.

"America has a definite and historic debt to Poland and the Polish people," said Rep. J. Harold Flannery (Dem., Va.). "If there is any light of civilization yet burning in Poland we ought to keep and nourish that flame."

Rep. John Lesinski (Dem., Mich.) told the Committee that the Nazis have stripped Poland not only of all food but that they have even taken the pots, iron pans, and household metal of the Poles and shipped them back to Germany.

Thomas Hennings, Jr. (Dem., Mo.) frequently voiced the objection that if the U.S. undertook to feed the Poles we might be called upon to feed many other nations. John Vorys (Rep., O.) wondered whether feeding the Poles might not furnish indirect aid to Germany since it would encourage the Germans again to loot the Poles of their Autumn harvest in the belief that America would feed them.

The six Congressmen attending took a test vote in executive session. It was understood the vote stood four to two for approving the resolution, but the members felt the whole Committee should vote on the question.

NAZIS INTENSIFY ARAB RADIO PROPAGANDA

PARIS, April 12. (JTA) -- German radio stations, especially the one at Zeesen, have intensified Arabic-language broadcasts, aimed at fomenting anti-British feeling in the Near East.

These broadcasts seek to represent the stationing of British troops in Palestine as a camouflaged attempt to give Palestine to the Jews. The recent ordinance restricting sale of land to Jews in Palestine is termed by the Nazis an effort to throw sand into the Arabs' eyes.

In one broadcast, the announcer cited an article published March 18 in "Mitteilungen ueber die Judenfrage" (Bulletin on the Jewish Question) in which it was charged that Dr. Chaim Weizmann, Zionist leader, had been informed in advance by the British Government of the land ordinance and had agreed to it.

"There is sufficient ground for expressing the suspicion that Dr. Weizmann was informed of the true purpose of this measure before the ordinance was promulgated and that he agreed to its issuance," the Nazi announcer said. "It is remarkable that Weizmann, particularly he, did not participate in the first Jewish protests. Only under pressure of American Jews did he, as was reported from Washington, permit himself to be influenced to issue a vague condemnation of the British measures."

Pan-Arab Aspirations Seen Declining Since War

NEW YORK, April 12. (JTA) -- Pan-Arabic ambitions have declined since the beginning of the war, declares Sonia Tomara in a Jerusalem dispatch to the New York Herald Tribune. The popularity of the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, who led the terrorist campaign in Palestine, has fallen, the correspondent said.

"It would be incorrect to say that either the Arabs or the Jews are satisfied with the present regime," the dispatch said. "In conversations I had with their leaders during my recent trip through Lebanon, Syria proper and Palestine, they all expressed their grievances about the French and British, sometimes in violent terms. But they admitted that these grievances would have to wait until the end of the war. They also agreed that if they had to choose rulers they would prefer France and Britain to Germany and Italy."

Group to See MacDonald on Land Act

LONDON, April 12. (JTA) -- Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald has agreed to receive a delegation from the Board of Deputies of British Jews, it was announced today. The Palestine land act will be discussed.

Prof. Selig Brodetzky, president of the Board, returned today from Paris where he had spent six days discussing Jewish problems, including the Polish question, with French Jewish leaders. He was accompanied by Leonard Stein and G. Brotman.

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Warns on Illegal Immigration

BUCHAREST, April 12. (JTA) -- The newspaper Curentul reported today that the British Consulate at Galatz has warned Jews not to undertake illegal immigration to Palestine.

The Consulate, the newspaper said, cited the fate of the Turkish steamer Sakarya, which was confiscated by the British authorities, its crew arrested and the more than 2,000 refugees it transported from Sulina to Palestine interned.

Asserting that the illegal immigrants were being detained pending repatriation the Consulate reportedly expressed the desire that "no other victims will fall into the hands of unscrupulous individuals who are promising them things that cannot materialize and who make them lose their last resources."

SEDITION DEFENDANT FAILS TO APPEAR IN COURT; BOND FORFEITED

NEW YORK, April 12. (JTA) -- U.S. marshals tonight launched a search for Claus Gunther Ernecke, one of the 17 defendants in the Brooklyn sedition trial, and measures were taken to prevent him from leaving the country. Ernecke is a German citizen. His disappearance was announced in court this morning by Judge Marcus Campbell, who ordered Ernecke's \$7,500 bail forfeited and issued a bench warrant for his arrest. Earlier, resumption of the trial had been postponed until Monday because of the continued illness of Denis A. Healy, prosecution star witness.

FLEXNER GIVES FIGURES ON PALESTINE SETTLEMENT COSTS

NEW YORK, April 12. (JTA) -- Bernard Flexner, board chairman of the Palestine Economic Corporation, stated today that the cost of settling a family in the Kfar Warburg colony was L902 (\$4,400 at the normal rate of exchange, \$5,200 at the present rate) and in the Beer Tuvia colony L847 (\$4,100, normal, \$5,000 present). He made public the figures in connection with the recent raising of the question of comparative settlement costs between Palestine and the Dominican Republic at \$1,000 per family, adding: "No intelligent comparison in the cost of settlement in Palestine as compared with any other country can possibly be made without a detailed breakdown of the figures, nor can any comparison be made unless the different circumstances prevailing in every country are fully and adequately described."