

# NEWS

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## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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### CURB ON BRITISH FASCISTS DEMANDED IN COMMONS

LONDON, April 25. (JTA) -- Opposition members in Commons today demanded stricter action to curb the activities of British Fascists as Home Secretary Sir John Anderson announced that the Government was considering measures against extreme political parties hindering the war effort.

The Home Secretary told Commons that the Government was closely watching the activities of a number of suspect groups and was "considering whether some strengthening of the defence regulations is desirable for the purpose of checking activities specifically directed towards impeding the national war effort."

Sir John stressed the Government's desire not to interfere with small minorities but pointed out: "There is however some risk that the liberty allowed by our traditional principles may be abused by extremists of whom some are anxious to destroy that liberty."

Laborite Herbert Morrison pointed out that "many slogans are written about the walls, especially at night time, in the working parts of town by the British Union of Fascists."

"The efforts of the police do not seem to have been most energetic on this point. Fines are ludicrously small. Is the Home Secretary aware that in the last fortnight in Tottenham over 1,000 such slogans have been stamped on public buildings and does he mean to tell me the police cannot find out who is doing it?"

Sir John defended the police and drew cheers when he said: "I am most anxious to do everything possible to stop this nuisance."

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### Fascist Leader Fined

LONDON, April 25. (JTA) -- A magistrate's court today fined John William Charnley, secretary of the Hull branch of the British Union of Fascists, £17 and costs, with the alternative of serving 41 days in prison, for painting "Perish Judaea" on a number of Jewish shops in Hull. Magistrate MacDonald declared Charnley was lucky to be tried by him and not by a high court judge.

### BEN GURION TO CONFER WITH WEIZMANN AS AGENCY HEAD PREPARES FOR U.S. TRIP

JERUSALEM, April 25. (JTA) -- David Ben Gurion, chairman of the Jewish Agency's Jerusalem executive, left for London by airplane today to meet Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Agency, before the latter's scheduled departure for the United States.

ARABS ASK PERMIT TO SELL LAND TO JEWS IN FORBIDDEN ZONE

LONDON, April 25. (JTA) -- Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald revealed in the House of Commons today that Palestine High Commissioner MacMichael has received four applications from Arab landowners to sell land in the prohibited areas to Jews.

In three of the cases, MacDonald said, the Arabs claimed the applications for registration of the sale had been lodged before publication of the new regulations restricting land transfers. All the applications, he said, were being examined.

Discussing the question of Palestine immigration, MacDonald declared in reply to a question that there were no special certificates for Jewish children wishing to enter Palestine outside of the periodic quotas.

MacDonald said that several thousand Jewish children had been admitted in recent times in various categories "as orphans, students or dependents of permanent residents or of immigrants, and I understand that a number of those who entered in this way have been assisted by charitable organizations." He added that no figures were available to show what proportion of the total number had received such assistance.

PALESTINE JEWS MARK 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF ANZACS' LANDING AT GALLIOLI

JERUSALEM, April 25. (JTA) -- Palestine Jews joined today in celebration of Anzac Day, marking the twenty-fifth anniversary of the arrival of the first two Anzac battalions at Gallipoli to fight the Germans and the Turks. A parade to Mt. Scopus was a feature of the day. Greetings were received from Australian Prime Minister Robert G. Menzies, Major-General Archibald P. Wavell, High Commissioner Sir Harold Alfred MacMichael and others.

WHITE HOUSE GETS PALESTINE PAINTING

WASHINGTON, April 25. (JTA) -- The Palestine artist Leo Paysack today presented one of his best-known works, "Rebirth of the Holy Land," to the White House as a gift to the President and Mrs. Roosevelt. The painting depicts the work of Jewish pioneers in Galilee.

RUMANIA REPORTED PLANNING BAN ON KOSHER SLAUGHTER

BUCHAREST, April 25. (JTA) -- The Rumanian Government, at the behest of the Orthodox Church, is considering taking action to prohibit Jewish ritual slaughter of animals, it was learned today.

The measure was scheduled to have been issued on the eve of Passover, which would have deprived Rumania's 800,000 Jews of kosher meat during the holiday, but action was postponed after urgent appeals from Rumanian rabbis. Jewish leaders are planning to make further appeals after the holiday in an effort to forestall application of the prohibition.

Minorities Minister Silviu Dragomir told the Chamber of Deputies, meanwhile, that equality of rights for all citizens was the "guiding principle" of Rumanian policy.

Replying to former Minister Petrovici, who asked for a full declaration on the Government's policy towards minorities, Dragomir asserted out that minorities had always enjoyed the fullest liberty in Rumania since "equality of rights for all citizens in the country was the guiding principle of Rumanian policy in this respect."

Dragomir added that, in view of this policy, it was "natural for the minorities to adopt an attitude of sincere loyalty and cooperation with the majority of the population and with the Government, and to identify themselves with the interests of the Rumanian State. This close collaboration and solidarity is particularly evident these days."

#### HIAS-ICA HELPED OVER 1,900 REFUGEES EMIGRATE IN FIRST QUARTER OF YEAR

PARIS, April 25. (JTA) -- More than 1,900 Jewish refugees in France, Belgium, the Netherlands and other countries of refuge were aided by the HIAS-ICA Emigration Association to emigrate to various overseas lands in the first three months of the year, a board of director's meeting was told today by managing directors Edouard Oungre and Dr. James Bernstein. (The J.D.C. contributed more than half of the HIAS-ICA transportation fund.)

The board was informed that HIAS-ICA had helped a total of 34,000 refugees to emigrate from Central Europe since the advent of Hitlerism in Germany.

#### WARSAW JEWS FLOGGED, KIN IN BELGIUM TOLD IN LETTERS FROM POLAND

BRUSSELS, April 25. (JTA) -- Flogging of Jews in Warsaw and conscription of young girls were reported today in letters received by Jews in Belgium from relatives who escaped from Nazi-occupied Poland.

On one day, it was said, 800 Jews were forced to parade through Warsaw's principal streets shouting: "We Jews wanted war." Jews were whipped indiscriminately and frequently Jews were forced to flog their coreligionists, it was reported.

Drafting of young Jewish girls has started, purportedly for compulsory labor services. Jews in Warsaw believe, however, that they will be sent to military brothels. Offices of the Jewish community are besieged every evening by despondent Jewish mothers vainly awaiting the return of their daughters.

The plight of the Jews has become so desperate, letters said, that Jewish leaders sought an interview with Dr. Hans Frank, German Governor General, but he refused to see them.

#### SYNAGOGUE ORNAMENTS USED BY NAZIS FOR WAR PURPOSES

AMSTERDAM, April 25. (JTA) -- Under the headline, "Star of David helps to beat England," the Ostdeutsche Beobachter, Nazi organ, reports that scrap metal collection for war purposes was started in Poznan, Poland, with the ceremony of taking down three huge Stars of David from the cupola of the now unused Great Synagogue.

The metal collectors, headed by storm troopers, uniformed Hitler Youth and a military band, marched up to the synagogue. The bases of the stars had already been partly cut through and ropes had been tied around them. After addresses by Nazi leaders, a signal was given and electric cutters cut through the stars, which came crashing down. They were then carried triumphantly through the city.

FRENCH JEWESS WINS FINNISH AWARD FOR AMBULANCE WORK

PARIS, April 25. (JTA) -- Miss Henriette Mendelsohn, who went to Finland as chief of the French ambulance section there, has been awarded the Cross of Liberty, Finland's highest military decoration, it was announced here today.

ILLEGAL SEIZURE CHARGED IN FRONTIST TRIAL; COUGHLIN BACKED CASSIDY, DEFENDANT ASSERTS

NEW YORK, April 25. (JTA) -- Defense counsel in the seditious conspiracy trial in Brooklyn Federal Court sought today to raise the issue of illegal seizure, following yesterday's session at which a statement of one of the defendants brought "radio priest" Charles E. Coughlin's name into the case for the first time.

Leo J. Healy, counsel for several of the 16 defendants, cross examining FBI Agent Arthur M. Thurston, attempted to show that arms confiscated when the defendants were arrested had been seized illegally. Today's session of the trial featured the playing of records of conversations of the defendants at the home of Dennis Healy, who joined the alleged conspirators as an informer for the Government.

At yesterday's session a 10-page statement by John A. Viebrock to FBI agents was read which said that John F. Cassidy, another defendant, "was the recognized national director of the Christian Front, having been so recognized by Father Charles E. Coughlin." The statement admitted that Viebrock and other defendants had stolen Government ammunition and explosives from armories; that they had manufactured bombs and made plans for bombing various places, and that some of the plotters had discussed setting up a temporary dictatorship with Major-General George Van Horn Moseley, U.S.A. retired, at its head.

GROUP HERE SEEKS \$50,000 TO AID JEWS OF ADEN, YEMEN

NEW YORK, April 25. (JTA) -- A reception was held tonight for Zachariah Gluska, president of the (Yemenite) United Jewish Community of Palestine, at Temple Emanu-El under the auspices of the American Committee for Relief and Resettlement of Yemenite Jews, which is seeking to raise \$50,000 for resettling Jews of Aden and Yemen in Palestine. Gluska is a citrus merchant and chairman of the Near East Credit Company.

Presiding at the reception was Mortimer J. Prop, chairman of the committee. Members of the executive committee include Rabbis David de Sola Pool, Samuel Golden-son, Milton Steinberg and Leo Jung, and Abraham Goldberg.

WILNO TO NAME STREET FOR I.L. PERETZ

WILNO, Lithuania, April 25. (JTA) -- The Mayor of Wilno has agreed to rename a street in honor of Isaac Leib Peretz, famous Jewish writer who died in 1915. The twentieth anniversary of Peretz's death is being observed by Jewish groups throughout the world.

JAMES WHITE HEADS WESTERN SECTION OF FUNDS BODY

SAN FRANCISCO, April 25. (JTA) -- James White of Salt Lake City was elected president of the Western States Region of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds at its annual conference, which closed on April 15. Other officers are Milton Baruch, Los Angeles, and S. Mason Ehrman, Portland, vice-presidents, and Leon Sloss, San Francisco, treasurer.

(Continued on reverse side)

SWASTIKA BANNER OVER SCHOOL STIRRE STUDENTS TO REVOLT

JERSEY SHORE, Pa., April 25. (JTA) -- Pupils of Jersey Shore High School refused to enter the building this morning when they found a swastika banner flying from the flag pole. As the janitor climbed up the pole to remove the swastika, the 800 students sang the "Star Spangled Banner." Principal I.V. Grugan then dismissed classes for the day. The banner was turned over to the police.

FRENCH LIBRARY PAYS \$1 FOR 'BROWN HOUSE' ANTI-SEMITIC BOOKS

PARIS, April 25. (JTA) -- The French National Library bought at auction the anti-Semitic library of the former Nazi "Brown House" here. The price was 50 francs, approximately one dollar.

ROME RACIAL EXHIBITION POSTPONED

ROME, April 25. (JTA) -- A racial exposition which was to have been opened Saturday in connection with celebration of Rome's anniversary has been postponed to July 14.

DUBNOW NOT TO VISIT U.S.; WILL SETTLE IN WILNO

WILNO, Lithuania, April 25. (JTA) -- Prof. Simeon Dubnow, famous Polish Jewish historian who has been living in Riga, Latvia, has decided against coming to the United States. He had been invited to visit America by the Jewish National Workers' Alliance. Prof. Dubnow, it was stated, will settle in Wilno, where he will contribute to activities of the Yiddish Scientific Institute.

PROF. SAMUEL KLEIN, SCIENTIST, DEAD IN PALESTINE AT 54

JERUSALEM, April 25. (JTA) -- Prof. Samuel Klein, noted scientist and author, has died here at the age of 54. He had held the chair of Palestine geographical research at the Hebrew University since 1928, and was the author of a number of books on the subject.

of the Joint Distribution Committee have had to be so greatly amplified in many directions, the need for man-power in our overseas work is greater than ever. Possessing, as he does, an intimate knowledge of the many problems which our organization is called upon to face, Dr. Schwartz will be an invaluable aide. His varied background in social service, and the esteem in which he is held in many fields of endeavor, are the best evidences of his suitability for the important position of vice-chairman of the European Executive Council."

Leavitt comes to the J.D.C. from the Palestine Economic Corporation, of which he has been vice-president and secretary since 1933. Commenting on his appointment, Hyman said: "Before his association with the Palestine Economic Corporation, Mr. Leavitt was for some time connected with the J.D.C. in an executive capacity. We consider ourselves fortunate to have secured the services of a man who is so familiar with our problems and has so complete an understanding of the numerous phases of our activities. Mr. Leavitt enjoys the confidence and good will of many of our officers and active co-workers, and knows the American as well as the European scene thoroughly."

Dr. Schwartz has long been an active figure in Jewish community life. He is a former president of the National Conference of Jewish Social Welfare, which he also served for two years as vice-president. Prior to his secretaryship of the J.D.C., to which post he was elected last year, he was for six years Executive Director of the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities. A son of the late Rabbi Abraham N. Schwartz of Baltimore, Dr. Schwartz received his Ph.D. at Yale University in 1927. He held a Sterling Research Fellowship at Yale from 1926 to 1928 and taught at the American University in Cairo, Egypt, in 1928 and 1929.

Leavitt has been in Jewish social work since 1923, having been supervisor of the self-support department of the Jewish Social Service Association from that date until 1929. He then acted as assistant to the secretary of the J.D.C. for four years, leaving in 1933 to become secretary and later vice-president of the Palestine Economic Corporation. A chemical engineer by training, Leavitt is a graduate of Cornell University.

#### Troper, Sailing Today, Lauded by J.D.C. Leaders

NEW YORK, April 26. (JTA) -- A resolution of the Joint Distribution Committee's executive committee praising European Chairman Morris C. Troper's "invaluable services to scores of thousands of oppressed and suffering human beings" was communicated today to Troper on the eve of his departure for Paris on the Italian liner Conte di Savoia tomorrow to resume his work.

The resolution praised Mr. Troper's "keen grasp" of the relief problems, his "lucid interpretation," the "soundness of his policies" and "his wisdom in dealing with overseas organizations and governments." The resolution was conveyed to Troper in a telegram signed by Paul Baerwald, chairman; Edward M.M. Warburg, co-chairman, and James N. Rosenberg, chairman of the executive committee.

#### BRITISH WRITER HITS FASCISTS FOR ANTI-JEWISH PROPAGANDA

LONDON, April 26. (JTA) -- British Fascists were accused by Hannen Swaffer in his Daily Herald Column today of seeking to weaken national morale with their "nonsense" that the war was of Jewish origin. "It is no more the fault of the Jews," he said, "than it is the fault of the Eskimos."

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NAZI ORGAN PRAISES JEWISH RELIEF WORK IN POLAND

AMSTERDAM, April 26. (JTA) -- The Warschauer Zeitung, official Nazi newspaper in Warsaw, in an article on social welfare activities in German-occupied Poland, states that "the work of Polish Jewish relief organizations is to be mentioned here with appreciation."

Estimating Warsaw's present Jewish population at 400,000, the Nazi organ describes the activities of Jewish relief committees working under the supervision of the city president, stating that 63 soup kitchens distribute 62,000 meals daily and hostels provide private lodgings for 30,000 Jews who came from the provinces or whose homes in Warsaw were destroyed during the war. Jewish committees also distributed 15,000 articles of clothing between November and January.

The Artisans' Chamber in Warsaw, ordering registration of all independent artisans, announced that artisans must prove that neither they nor their parents ever belonged to the Jewish faith, in order to be permitted to register.

STATE DEPARTMENT REPORTS ON FUNDS SPENT FOR RELIEF

WASHINGTON, April 26. (JTA) -- The State Department has issued a tabulation of funds collected for relief in belligerent countries and for refugees from these countries from Sept. 6, 1939, through March, 1940. Among the organizations listed and the funds they spent for relief are:

American Committee for Christian Refugees, \$8,537; American Friends Service Committee, \$17,620; American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, \$1,959,713 (up to January only); Central Committee Knesseth Israel, \$8,337; Commission for Polish Relief, \$83,534; Federation of Polish Jews in America, \$1,832; Hadassah, \$422,318; United Charity Institutions of Jerusalem, \$10,689.

BRITISH HONDURAS GIVES TERMS FOR REFUGEE SETTLEMENT

NEW YORK, April 26. (JTA) -- The administration of British Honduras has given generous terms for the establishment of the refugee industrial project to be founded by Kalman Weisz with the financing of the Refugee Economic Corporation, the REC announced today.

The terms, contained in a letter of A. Wolffsohn, acting Colonial Secretary in Honduras, to Weisz on April 8, include duty-free importation of machinery, tools and equipment; virtual exemption from land taxation, complete waiver of the \$1,500 immigrant entry deposit, assurance that settlers may become naturalized and a stipulation that those who leave the settlement will be deported.

The settlement will be situated on a 1,500-acre tract in the west-central part of the country, in the Cayo district. Construction of housing will be completed within three months, at which time the colony will be ready to receive a substantial number of the expected 500 settlers.

#### POLISH DAILY SEES HOPE FOR SOLUTION OF JEWISH PROBLEM

CHICAGO, April 26. (JTA) -- The local Polish daily, Dziennik Zwiazkowy, in an editorial, expressed the hope for "understanding and a solution of the Jewish problem." It said this could be brought about if "the Jews, who demand a change of attitude on the part of the Poles, will themselves undergo such changes as Poles have long since asked of them."

"Mutual concessions, patience and tolerance may lead to friendly cooperation and conviviality," the editorial concluded.

#### TWO STREETS IN BELGRADE NAMED AFTER JEWS

BELGRADE (JTA) -- The Belgrade Municipality has decided to rename two streets in the Yugoslav capital after Jews who performed valuable services for their country.

One of the streets was named after Chaim Davoco, the late Serbian Jewish writer, and the other after the brothers Amar, who were killed in action during the last war. A small hill in the vicinity of Belgrade has also been named after the Jewish brothers Amar.

Three streets in Belgrade already bear Jewish names: Moses Street, Israel Street and Jew Street.

#### FRONTISTS TALKED OF SHOOTING CONGRESSMEN, FBI AGENT TESTIFIES

NEW YORK, April 26. (JTA) -- Two of the principal defendants in the Christian Front seditious conspiracy trial once discussed the advisability of "recommending the shooting of Congressmen from a platform," FBI Agent Roy H. Barnard testified today on the basis of a conversation he listened to by detectaphone. The defendants were identified as John F. Cassidy and William Gerald Bishop.

A statement by William Henry Bushnell Jr., youngest of the defendants, was read to the court by FBI Agent Walter J. Higgins, who had arrested him. The 18-year-old defendant said he had joined the Christian Front and "since then I have come to believe the Government of the United States is controlled by the Jewish race."

On Bushnell's person when he was arrested, Higgins testified, was a pencilled sketch of the floor plan of the Daily Worker, Communist newspaper, and also the floor plan of the Morning Freiheit, Yiddish Communist publication in the same building. Other witnesses have testified to hearing the defendants discuss plans for bombing the Daily Worker, but this was the first mention of the Freiheit.

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THE JTA NEWS WILL NOT APPEAR MONDAY, PASSOVER

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