

# NEWS

from all over the world

VIA

CABLE  
WIRELESS  
TELEGRAPH  
TELEPHONE

by the

## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. VII. NO. 21.

Tuesday, April 30, 1940.

### SENATE BILL WOULD BAR RACE, RELIGIOUS INCITEMENT FROM MAILS

WASHINGTON, April 29. (JTA) -- An "anti-fifth column" bill that would bar the mails to matter tending to incite religious and racial hatreds was introduced today by Senator W. Warren Barbour (Rep., N.J.) and was referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee. In submitting the measure, Senator Barbour warned of forces "at work in the United States which threaten our internal security" and cited the betrayal of the Norwegian people to the Nazis.

"While the spirit of tolerance lives," Senator Barbour said, "America lives. When it dies, America dies. Like the freedom of which it is a part, it cannot be attacked from without, but only from within--eaten away by vermin who work in darkness and live by destruction."

The Senator said he had been "appalled" to find that material of an inflammatory nature had found its way "even into the Congressional Record." The reference obviously was aimed at Rep. Jacob Thorkelson (Rep., Mont.), many of whose anti-Semitic statements have been carried in the Record as "extension of remarks."

The bill was framed as an amendment to Section 211 of the Criminal Code, providing that: "The term 'indecent,' within the intendment of this section, shall include matter of a character tending to incite arson, murder or assassination or riot and also forgeries or matter of a character fraudulent or scurrilous, tending to incite hate against any religious sect or creed or race."

Introducing the bill, Senator Barbour said: "For many months now we have witnessed a constant procession of events and seen much evidence which permit no other conclusion than that forces are at work in the United States which threaten our internal security. These forces attack our institutions, our standards, and groups of our population. At times they attack all religion, at other times particular faiths.

"Regardless of origin or purpose, these movements have as their evil effect the rousing of fear, hatred and distrust among our people. They are intended to set citizen group against citizen group, religious faith against religious faith, and to weaken our solidarity as a nation. They fan flames which, unless checked, could in time consume us all. Some of these activities appear to spring from a purpose to divide and rule. Others as clearly are a natural growth of man's inhumanity to man, the barvest of the seeds of intolerance.

(Continued on reverse side)

"I have been appalled to find material of this character finding its way even into the Congressional Record. The pages of the Record abundantly support what I say. They have contained forgeries such as the spurious letter signed by 'Colonel Edward M. House,' attacks on individuals which if uttered elsewhere would have been punishable under the libel laws, and material which, if not of foreign and hostile origin, had all the earmarks of having been inspired and prepared by enemies of our own country. Much of it is so plainly unworthy of credence as to be dismissed with contempt by any person of intelligence. Placed in the hands of those who are unable or unwilling to subject it to analysis, however, it becomes inflammatory and dangerous. It could lead to betrayal of our own country by some American Vidkun Quisling, subjecting our own people to the fate of those who were sacrificed by this betrayer of the Norwegian people.

"In my opinion the time has come to put the sponsors of these poisonous, vicious and unscrupulous attacks on notice that they may not henceforward pursue their activities with impunity, so far as they involve the use of the mails. I see no reason why we should close the mails to other indecencies, and to matter tending to incite to murder and arson, while allowing matter to be mailed which certainly incites mass hatreds and could lead to mass murder and arson.

"Those who are guilty of these activities have never heard the voice of America, or they are this country's enemies. If there is one thing which sets Americans apart from less favored peoples of the world, it is their heritage of freedom. Tolerance is a part of that freedom. Though we have in our population all of the bloods of the world, and the faiths of the world are our faiths, we have learned to live together in peace and understanding, and on the foundations of freedom and tolerance have built the soundest social structure the world has seen.

"While the spirit of tolerance lives, America lives. When it dies, America dies. Like the freedom of which it is a part, it cannot be attacked from without, but only from within--eaten away by vermin who work in darkness and live by destruction. It is in recognition of this danger that I have prepared this bill. It is intended to deal with a condition which, if ignored, could become a threat to all that America means."

#### 5-DAY POGROM STAGED IN WARSAW WITH POLICE LOOKING ON; ENDED BY JEWS' RESISTANCE

PARIS, April 29. (JTA) -- Details of a Nazi-inspired pogrom that started on Easter Sunday and raged for five full days in the Jewish quarters of Warsaw were received here today.

The excesses, in which Polish Nationalist youths were the assailants, were carried on in full view of the Nazi-controlled police. They ended only when Jewish truckmen and porters organized a defense against the attacks. However, the Jews who had shown resistance were arrested.

The youthful Poles, reportedly members of the anti-Semitic National Radical party, shouted "Heil Hitler!" as they stoned Jewish shops, invaded and looted stores and attacked Jewish passersby with knives and iron bars.

Meanwhile, Nazi motion picture operators trained their cameras on the scenes. They filmed particularly incidents where uniformed German soldiers posed as if they were picking up wounded Jews. As in previous cases, the films will be used for propaganda purposes abroad to illustrate Nazi contentions that the Poles are attacking the Jews while the Nazis are defending them.

No reliable estimates of the number of casualties are available. It is reliably reported, however, that it is no longer safe for Jews to appear on the streets of Warsaw.

The Polish-language Nazi newspaper Nowy Kurier Warszawski is helping stimulate anti-Semitism among the Polish population by daily publishing letters purportedly signed by Poles urging a campaign of terror to rid the city of Jews.

The Nazis in Warsaw, it was learned, are forcing Jewish labor conscripts to sing, as they are marched to work, the following refrain: "Marshal Smigly-Rydz (former Polish army chief) did not give us Jews anything, but Hitler has put us to work."

- - -

Bund Urges Polish-Jewish Unity

PARIS, April 29. (JTA) -- Reviving the underground tactics it used during tzarist days, the Bund, Polish Jewish Socialist party, has issued a May 1 proclamation in Nazi-occupied Poland calling for united resistance of Jews and Poles against the German forces of occupation, it was reported here today.

The secretly-circulated statement condemns growing manifestations of anti-Semitism in Poland and calls on the population to "resist the Nazi attempts to replace the hatred of Hitlerism which burns in the hearts of the Polish masses by hatred of the Jews."

Warning that anti-Semitism among the Polish masses will play into the hands of the Nazis and lead to the Poles' destruction, the proclamation declares that Poles and Jews must fight unitedly against the Nazi forces of occupation as their common enemy.

Reiterating the belief in a resurrected Poland, the statements sets forth a three-point program of Jewish demands in the restored State: (1) Recognition of full political, social and economic equality of the Jews; (2) Granting of cultural autonomy to the Jews; (3) Uprooting of anti-Semitic propaganda.

The proclamation states that the carrying out of this program will bring permanent brotherhood and cooperation. It counsels Polish Jews against "Zionist slogans" of emigration from Poland, proclaiming its own slogan of "For a free Poland against reaction." The statement condemns Soviet Russia as co-responsible for the present war by assisting in the invasion of Poland.

"The temporary destruction of the Polish State has not killed the faith of the Jewish masses in the Poland of tomorrow," the declaration asserted. "It has, however, placed them in a plight which surpasses all that is known in the long tragic history of the Jewish people.

(Continued on reverse side)

"Hitler's invaders treat the Jewish masses as powerless slaves. Unequalled barbarism and lawlessness are the only 'law' which is applied to Polish Jewry. Deprived of all possibilities for work, the Jewish population is delivered by the Nazi occupation to starvation, poverty and destruction. Thrown to the mercy of the brown beasts, they are at all times, even in their own homes, humiliated, violated and tortured with long-forgotten barbaric and medieval methods which the Nazis dragged out of the garbage cans of history."

Advising the Jews against despair and emigration, the statement says that the Jewish masses in Poland, under the Bund's leadership, will know how to defend themselves against domestic anti-Semites and against foreign anti-Semitic invaders.

"Poland is our country," it says. "To Poland our strength belongs. In Poland we expect our rights as citizens, and herein is our future." It condemns the Lublin Jewish "reservation" as "the lowest form of brown banditry" and concludes with an expression of belief that Poland will regain its full freedom.

- - -

Nazi Press Claims Jews Faring Well in Lublin

PARIS, April 29. (JTA) -- The Nazi press has started a campaign intended to show that the conditions of Jews in the Lublin "reservation" are better than in other parts of Nazi-occupied Poland.

Der Angriff declares that while in other Polish towns Jews are used for street-cleaning and similar public duties, the Jews in Lublin work in artisan shops established for them by the local Nazi leader Globotschnik.

The National Socialist Correspondence, official Nazi Party news service, states that "the Jews prove to be good workers." The Warschauer Zeitung, Nazi paper in Warsaw, in an article entitled "Lublin Revives Through German Efforts," quotes Mayor Saueremann as reporting that the food problem, hitherto acute, "can now be considered satisfactory."

In contradiction to these reports, the German Social Democratic Press Service in Paris has issued a report stating that letters from Austrian Jews exiled to Lublin reveal that they have no clothing, food or even money to pay customs charges if food is sent to them.

The same report states that Danzig Jews, who after the Nazi occupation of the Free City fled to West Prussia, have now been sent to the Lublin "reservation."

In addition, the news service reports that 21,143 Jewish business firms in Austria have been closed by the Nazis, that all hospitals, schools and asylums owned by the Jewish community in south-eastern Germany have been confiscated by the Nazis and their inmates evicted.

- - -

Synagogue Turned Into Swimming Pool

PARIS, April 29. (JTA) -- The German newspaper Ostdeutscher Beobachter reports that a synagogue in Poznan, Nazi Poland, is being converted into a swimming pool by the Nazi authorities. Three Stars of David recently were taken from the cupola of the synagogue for conversion into war materials. According to the newspaper, storm troopers who took the ornaments down had to be restrained from completely destroying the synagogue.

- - -

Jewish Socialist to Be Added to Polish Council

PARIS, April 29. (JTA) -- The Polish Government-in-exile has invited Arthur Siegelbaum, leader of the Bund (Polish Jewish Socialist party), who has succeeded in escaping from the German-occupied territory, to join the Polish National Council at Angers. He will be the second Jewish member of the council. It is believed he will join the Polish Socialists rather than Dr. Ignacy Schwarzbard, the other Jewish member of the council.

PLAN FOR SETTLING 500 REFUGEES IN BRITISH GUIANA TO BE READY SOON

LONDON, April 29. (JTA) -- A scheme for settlement of refugees in British Guiana is expected to be ready in two months, it was disclosed today by Roland Robinson, Member of Parliament and chairman of the largest gold-producing company in Guiana, after an informal conference with Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald.

The plan is to be sponsored by the Coordinating Foundation for Refugees, whose president, ex-Premier Paul van Zeeland of Belgium, is now in New York. The colonization will start with 500 picked pioneers, both in agricultural and industrial spheres, Robinson said, adding that he had found much influential support for the scheme when he visited America last December.

Guatemala Reported Protesting Honduras Scheme

PARIS, April 29. (JTA) -- French newspapers reported today that the Guatemalan Government has protested against the project for colonizing German refugees in British Honduras.

Australia Bars Entry of Refugees

MELBOURNE, April 29. (JTA) -- The Australian Government will not consider fresh applications for landing permits on behalf of German and Austrian subjects, the Jewish Welfare Society stated today. Visas will not be granted to holders of landing permits obtained prior to the outbreak of the war if the nominees are now in enemy-controlled territory. Visas will not be granted to Germans and Austrians of military age, between 18 and 45.

Kimberley Plan Gets Support

SYDNEY, April 29. (JTA) -- A statement supporting the plan of the Freeland League for Jewish Territorial Colonization for settlement of refugees in the Kimberleys has been issued to the press by a group of 55 prominent citizens.

"If Australia is to lay claim to being a democratic and humane nation, she cannot neglect her duties towards victims of oppression in Europe," the statement says. "These refugees have committed no crime. It suited the brutal aims of the same men who have attacked the British Commonwealth to attack these helpless people.

"To offer them, under proper safeguards, a home in Australia would raise our moral status throughout the world. The request of the Freeland League for permission

(Continued on reverse side)

to establish a refugee settlement is a test of our Christianity, our democracy, our humanity. We urge the citizens of Australia and the Commonwealth Government to give these people the right to work alongside us in the noble task of rebuilding the country."

Signers of the statement include B. Stevens, former Premier of New South Wales; A. Heats, former Agent-General for New South Wales in London, and Sir Philip Rogers, Lord Mayor of Sydney.

#### NETHERLANDS SHIFTS INTERNED REFUGEES

AMSTERDAM, April 29. (JTA) -- The refugee camp located at Hook-of-Holland will be converted in the coming week into an internment camp and the refugees will be gradually transferred to the Westerbrook camp at Drente, which is on the German frontier, and to Sluis in Zeeland-Flanders. Most of the refugees now in the Hook camp are German Jews who entered the country illegally.

#### CAMPAIGN AGAINST "FIFTH COLUMN" MAPPED IN BRITAIN

LONDON, April 29. (JTA) -- A determined campaign to crush "fifth column" activities in Britain was foreshadowed by Home Secretary Sir John Anderson's statement in Commons that action was being considered against extremist groups hindering the war effort.

It is believed that action will be taken in the nearest future against leaders of groups whose followers have been responsible for the chalking of walls with anti-Government slogans. In this Sir Oswald Mosley's Fascists have been the worst offenders, disfiguring thousands of walls with indelible stamps blaming Jews for the war.

Scotland Yard special branch officers have made a complete collection of all literature issued by pro-German anti-war organizations for submission to the Home Office.

The campaign against such groups was given new impetus by the discovery in Brighton of widely-distributed mimeographed leaflets assailing the Jews and urging readers to listen to "Loch Lomond," a short-wave transmitter describing itself as a new British station, but which is actually in Germany. The leaflets, signed "Brighton Workers Defense League," were left in mail boxes in workers' districts.

Two men connected with Mosley's British Union were bound over in Thames Court today in the sum of £50 on charges of writing the words "Jew war" on the wall of a power plant office. The two defendants were identified as Henry Hudge, 37, and Henry William Eaton, 34, both of Stepney. They were followed from the office of the Fascist Union by a policeman who arrested them when they defaced the wall. They were charged with causing wilful damage. They used waterproof crayons which could not be washed off.

The accused were ordered by the court to find sureties of £25 each or else go to jail for six weeks.

It is "contemptible" to try to link the "fifth column" discussion with the refugees in England, a columnist in the Evening Star declared today.

WORLD SHOULD WEAR YELLOW BADGE OF SHAME, SENATOR KING TELLS 'THIRD SEDER'

NEW YORK, April 29. (JTA) -- Not the Polish Jews, but the civilization which permitted the resurgence of hatred should wear a yellow badge of shame, Senator William H. King of Utah declared last night before two audiences at the Hotels Commodore and Astor, totaling some 5,000 persons, who attended the "Third Seder" of the National Labor Committee for Palestine.

The seder, admission to which required each person to raise \$20, grossed about \$100,000 for labor projects in Palestine, it was announced by Secretary Isaac Hamlin. The dinner was one of a number of such affairs held throughout the country.

Declaring that America faced the challenge of fighting off a Nazi "propaganda war" which had been brought to "our own front door," Senator King asserted: "Throughout the past seven years we have witnessed a ruthless but carefully calculated campaign to dismember small countries through the use of racial and religious prejudices as the Trojan horse. The Jewish people in Germany and other parts of Europe were unhappily cast in the role of the first victims."

In Nazi-occupied Poland, the Senator said, "all Jews are compelled to wear an armband or a yellow badge on their clothing as a mark of degradation and shame. But as a Christian I cannot help but feel that not the Jews but the civilization which has permitted the resurgence of medievalism and brute hatred in our day should wear that yellow badge. The Jews in Poland are wearing the yellow badge for every enlightened man and woman who has failed to cry out against the heinous injustice which has brought an innocent people to the verge of extermination."

Referring to the Palestine land restrictions, he said: "I cannot understand how, at a time when Palestine must be prepared to provide a home for tens of thousands of Jews from Central and Eastern Europe, any government can promulgate laws that would in any way interfere with this urgent activity."

Other speakers were Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Joseph Schlossberg, Morris Feinstone, Israel Mereminski, Louis Lipsky, Chaim Greenberg, David Pinski, Louis Segal, Baruch Zuckerman and Alexander Kahn.

REPORTED JEWISH GROCERS BARRED FROM SELLING SUGAR IN HUNGARY

BUDAPEST, April 29. (JTA) -- Jews are being excluded from the lists of grocers permitted to supply sugar under the new rationing system, it was revealed today by the liberal newspaper Esti Kurir. Announcing that the Mayor of Szeged had ordered that only Gentile grocers henceforth fill sugar ration tickets, the newspaper indicated that other Hungarian cities were taking similar steps.

The ruin of the Jewish grocery trade is foreseen in this action, since customers who previously patronized Jewish stores will be forced to go to the non-Jewish shops for sugar and will be obliged to purchase other supplies there.

Rationing of sugar was inaugurated a fortnight ago throughout Hungary. In Budapest, fats have also been placed on the rations list.

(Continued on reverse side)

THORKELSON LINKED TO 'FRONT' GROUP IN DEFENDANT'S STATEMENT

NEW YORK, April 29. (JTA) -- A sworn statement by one of the 16 defendants in the seditious conspiracy case was read in court today which quoted William Gerald Bishop, alleged leader of the Christian Front plot as saying that Rep. Jacob Thorkelson (Rep. Montana) was "an Action Committee man." Thorkelson has made several anti-Semitic speeches in an out of the House.

The statement, made by Defendant Macklin Boettger, was read in court By FBI Agent Peter J. Wacks. It said: "Bishop at one time stated that he would personally like to put every Jew underground."

"At one time Bishop stated that the members of the Action Committee, because of their being an integral part of the U.S. Army, would necessarily assist the army in quelling any Communist revolution; that after quelling the Communist revolution they would put Action Committee men in Congress and the Senate.

"He claims that Congressman Thorkelson is already an Action Committee man whom he stumped for in Montana, and he also claims a personal friendship with Senator Reynolds, and also claims he knows Senator Vandenberg very intimately, and that he is on intimate terms with Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana."

"MERRY WIDOW" COMPOSER FLEES AUSTRIA; LIBRETTIST DIES IN POVERTY

LONDON, April 29. (JTA) -- Franz Lehar, composer of Hitler's favorite operetta, "The Merry Widow," has disappeared from Vienna after a brawl with Nazis and is believed to have smuggled himself and his Jewish-born wife out of Germany, seeking to reach Budapest, it was reported here today. Lehar had a dispute some days ago with local Nazis who marched into his castle at Nussdorf-on-the-Danube, the reports said.

PARIS, April 29. (JTA) -- Victor Leon, famous Austrian Jewish actor and librettist, who wrote books for Richard Strauss, Franz Lehar and other composers, has died in poverty at the age of 82, his relatives here have been advised. Leon's property was confiscated soon after the German entry into Austria in March, 1938, on the ground that he was Jewish. He was born Victor Leon Hirschfeld, son of Dr. Heinrich Hirschfeld, rabbi and philosopher.

ABRAHAM FRUMKIN, AUTHOR AND JOURNALIST, DIES AT 67

NEW YORK, April 29. (JTA) -- Abraham Frumkin, Yiddish author and journalist, who was a leader of the anarchist movement in his youth, died today at the age of 67 after a long illness. He was being taken from his home in Seagate to a hospital when he died. Funeral services will be held May 1.

He was born in Jerusalem, where he received his early education. In 1896 he went to Europe, working for anarchist publications in London and Paris. Between 1899 and 1904 he lived in New York and later returned to the United States to settle. In addition to his journalistic activities, he published a biography of Baal Shem-Tov and Yiddish translations of works by Chekov, Gorki, Ibsen, Knut Hamsen, Hauptmann, Oscar Wilde, Israel Zangwill and others.

STERNBACH, BUCHAREST JEWISH LEADER, DEAD AT 66

BUCHAREST, April 29. (JTA) -- The Jewish population today mourned the death of Isidor Sternbach, president of the Bucharest Jewish Community, who died suddenly.