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ITALY'S ENTRY IN WAR WILL CLOSE LAST ESCAPE ROAD FOR REFUGEES, WASHINGTON FEARS

WASHINGTON, May 15. (JTA)-- The work of rescuing German refugees from Europe is virtually at a standstill as a result of the spread of the war, but the State Department is attempting to bring some order out of the chaotic state into which emigration plans have been thrown.

Government officials fear that the last avenue of escape for refugees will be cut off within a few days by the expected entry of Italy into the war. There may be some chance, they said, of bringing refugees out through Portugal, but this is contingent upon Spain's neutrality, and even about this officials are not over-optimistic.

Ex-Premier Paul van Zeeland of Belgium, president of the Coordinating Foundation for Refugees, conferred with President Roosevelt today. As he left the White House he said he had come only to bid farewell to the President. "I am going back to enlist in the Army and fight for Belgium," van Zeeland said.

He said he was not resigning his Coordinating Foundation post, but explained that he could not resume his duties until his active army service was over. He will leave on the Pan-American Clipper plane on Friday.

BRITAIN TO ADMIT GERMAN REFUGEES FROM HOLLAND PENDING INVESTIGATION

LONDON, May 15, (JTA) -- Emigres from Germany living in the Netherlands who succeed in boarding refugee transports to England will be admitted in the ordinary way, subject to subsequent investigation to weed out possible Nazi agents, it was authoritatively learned today.

There is no special discrimination against any class of refugees from Holland. While no definite figures are available, the authorities report that few German refugees are among the groups already arrived. It is expected that transports now en route will contain more.

Police are keeping a special watch for enemy aliens among arriving Dutch and Belgian refugees, it was reported. While there is no discrimination as to admission, there will be a subsequent investigation to ensure that Nazi agents and "fifth columnists" are not entering in the guise of refugees.

There is no information here as to how matters are handled in Dutch ports, such as admission of passengers to the ships. Refugee agencies are still without information as to the fate of the German Jewish refugees who had been held in Dutch and Belgian internment camps before the German invasion, and also regarding the uninterred refugees.

Jews Fleeing Amsterdam; Refugees Besiege Consulates

NEW YORK, May 15. (JTA)-- Amsterdam Jews are fleeing to the Dutch coast and German refugees are besieging foreign consulates trying to arrange transportation, the New York Herald Tribune reported today in an Amsterdam dispatch from its correspondent, Beach Conger. The dispatch said:

"Whole families in the Jewish section started to leave for the coast, hoping they might possibly find a ship for England. But there were so many of these refugees that the Mayor of near-by IJmuiden stated on the radio that the town, being a naval base, was a dangerous spot, that there were no ships going to England and that all fleeing persons would be turned back.

Another indication was the fact that without warning to Belgian or French subjects, the staffs of the French and Belgian Consulates left suddenly either last night or this morning and asked the American Consulate General to take over their interests. All day long these three offices were besieged not only by Belgian, French and British but also by German refugees, both Jewish and "Aryan," asking for help in getting out of the country."

Famous Amsterdam Jewish Community Falls into Nazi Hands

NEW YORK, May 15. (JTA)-- Announcement of the German occupation of Amsterdam today brings under Nazi control a Jewish community of more than 70,000 (according to 1938 figures), swollen by influx of several thousand German refugees--a community whose history dates back to the 14th century and is brightened with such names as Baruch Spinoza and Cardozo.

For centuries Amsterdam Jewry represented one of the most influential Jewish communities in Europe. The Jewish quarter bringing together both the Sephardic and Ashkenazic elements, contains historic synagogues and other Jewish landmarks.

The first Sephardic community was founded at the beginning of the 17th century by Portuguese Maranos, with Josef Pardo appointed first Haham of the community in 1608. The Sephardim brought great wealth to Amsterdam and played an important role in developing the trade of the young Dutch Republic. The middle of the 17th century, with the persecution of Jews in Poland, brought an influx of Ashkenazic Jews into Amsterdam. They, too, by dint of great industry developed great influence. By the end of the 18th century they outnumbered the Sephardim.

The Jewish community of Amsterdam had been virtually autonomous for centuries. Emancipation of the Jews came in 1796, and since that time Amsterdam Jewry had taken an active part in the city's civic affairs.

In recent years Amsterdam had been a center of refugee relief activities. Prof. David Cohen was head of the Jewish Refugee Relief Committee and Miss van Tijn was executive director.

FRANCE INTERNS REICH REFUGEES; WOMEN INCLUDED IN ROUND-UP

PARIS, May 15. (JTA)-- France today followed Britain's lead in interning German and Austrian refugees as a precaution against "fifth column" activities. The French action went further than the British by including women.

Eight thousand Jewish male refugees reported to the military authorities yesterday for internment and approximately the same number of women report today, under an order issued after a conference between Premier Paul Reynaud and General Pierre Hering, military governor of Paris.

It was chiefly Jewish refugees who were affected by the new measure, since non-refugee Germans had been interned immediately after the outbreak of the war and held as enemy aliens. Among those who reported for internment were many who had been previously interned and released after investigation had left no ground to suspect that they were friendly to Germany.

The men, between the ages of 17 and 55, gathered at Buffalo Stadium in suburban Montrouge, permitted to take along 30 kilograms of luggage and food provisions for two days. They will be transported to the interior. The women report in the same manner at the Paris Velodrome. It will be the first time that female refugees are interned. Mothers are exempt from the internment order.

The French press sought to console the refugees by declaring that innocent persons always had to suffer when precautionary measures were taken. Le Petit Parisien pleaded for humane treatment of the refugees while in the camps and added that the refugees were benefiting from the internment because they might be exposed to unjustified reprisal in the event of a pronounced "fifth column" scare. The rightist Action Francaise, however, demanded revision of naturalizations granted to emigrants from Germany since 1936.

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British to Set Up Internment Camp on Isle of Man

LONDON, May 15, (JTA) -- The 3,000 "enemy aliens," most of them Jews, who were rounded up in British coastal districts on Sunday as a precaution against possible "fifth column" activities, have been turned over to the military authorities pending transportation to special camps, it was learned today.

The Isle of Man has been selected as the internment center, newspapers reported. The internees will be guarded by members of the Home Defense Corps. They will be separated from those previously interned under the defense regulations on suspicion of Nazi sympathies.

Immediate internment of all German and Austrian aliens on the west coast was demanded by Roland Robinson, Member of Parliament, who stated: "I can't understand why the east coast roundup of Germans and Austrians last Sunday is not applied by the Government also to the west coast."

Among the Germans detained in Sunday's roundup are a number of prominent anti-Nazis, including Willi Folsner, former Berlin pastor who was recently ordained as a Church of England curate; Pastor Hildebrandt, a friend of Pastor Martin Niemöller, German opposition Protestant; Dr. Daube, a Cambridge lecturer; Dr. Hersch, a fellow of Trinity College, and Dr. Meyer, a lecturer for the Workers' Educational Association.

A number of "holiday workers" from London were also arrested in Brighton when they asked the police if they were allowed to return to London. The press pointed out that those who returned to London without inquiring of the police had escaped arrest.

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Fascists Barred from Anti-Parachutist Force

LONDON, May 15. (JTA)-- Military quarters reported today that special precautions were being taken in connection with recruitment of new local defense volunteers to prevent inclusion of "fifth columnists" and Fascist sympathizers. The force is being organized to combat parachutists who might be assisted by Nazi supporters in the event of an attempted enemy invasion.

Rigorous inquiries will be made regarding each volunteer before he is enrolled and given arms. It is hoped that the force will be recruited mainly from the ranks of the British Legion. Fascist sympathizers are described as "fifth columnists" and as such will certainly not be given arms.

Last night's announcement of the formation of the new volunteer force aroused fears that members of Fascist groups in England would be instructed by their leaders to join the force and secure arms to be in a position to occupy key positions. It is recalled that the Fascists, after the outbreak of the war, made strong efforts to place their adherents in the war reserve police and Air Raid Precautions units.

It is pointed out that local defense volunteers will be organized mainly in small towns and villages, where everybody knows everybody else and the police are in a position to judge whether the prospective volunteer is undesirable.

BRITISH LABORITES BACK JEWISH HOMELAND; REFUGEE RESOLUTION GOES TO EXECUTIVE

BOURNEMOUTH, England, May 15. (JTA)-- The Labor Party conference today adopted by an overwhelming majority, only a handful voting against, a resolution offered by the Poale-Zion organization supporting the policy of establishing a Jewish homeland in Palestine.

The convention referred to the executive committee for sympathetic consideration a resolution demanding that "the Government grant rights of temporary asylum to all refugees from political and racial oppression and that the Government in cooperation with the governments of other democratic countries, should plan a permanent settlement of refugees."

Prof. Harold J. Laski received the largest vote for membership in the executive committee. Emanuel Shinwell, Labor Member of Parliament, was also elected to the executive.

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Partial text of the Palestine resolution follows: "After the war the world will be confronted by a mass migration of Jews on an unprecedented scale from eastern and central Europe.

"This conference declares that in order to remove the root cause of Jewish suffering and to ensure the existence and free development of the Jewish people international assistance should be given for the continued growth of the Jewish national home by immigration and settlement. The Jewish people should be able to make the most of the economic capacity of the country (Palestine) to absorb them.

"This conference reaffirms its traditional support of the reestablishment of the Jewish national home in Palestine and the conference stresses the special obligation incumbent upon the British Government under the Balfour Declaration and the mandate and reiterates the conviction that this policy provides the basis for increasing cooperation between the Jews and Arabs in Palestine.

"This conference therefore reaffirms the resolution on Palestine adopted by the Southport Conference (last year) which stated that 'the White Paper, by imposing a minority status on the Jews, ...violated the solemn pledges contained in the Balfour Declaration and the mandate...and supports the stand taken by the Parliamentary Labor Party in the debate of March 6, 1940...This conference requests the Parliamentary Labor Party to continue this policy...

"The conference further declares that no real peace settlement is possible without repairing the wrongs done to the Jewish people. The new order after the war must ensure for the Jews, along with other minorities, effective safeguards for their civil, political and economic equality...and this conference declares that the Jewish people should be adequately represented when the peace conference comes to consider the problems affecting them."

"WORLD HISTORY" PUBLISHED HERE "EXPLAINS" WAR SITUATION

NEW YORK, May 15. (JTA)-- A newly-published six-volume edition of the "Illustrated World History," edited by Sir John Hammerton and Dr. Harry Elmer Barnes and prominently advertised for sale at a low price, was revealed on examination today to contain sections apparently calculated to gloss over Germany's actions and alienate American sympathy for the Allies. The set is published by William Wise & Co., a long-established and reputable firm.

The last section of the chronological history, added to cover events up to March, 1940, stresses Franco-British "oppression" of Germany as the fundamental cause of the war, warns the United States against seeing the war as one of right against wrong, declares that Hitler has no aims against the world, terms Polish mobilization the immediate cause of the invasion of Poland, without specific mention of German mobilization; omits mentioning bombing of civilians and refugees in Poland and touches only lightly on unsavory aspects of Hitler's rise to power, failing completely to mention such subjects as the Reichstag fire, Nazi terrorism against political opponents, concentration camps, conflicts with religious groups, book-burning, repression of intellectual life, Nazi pogroms, expulsion of the Jews and the refugee problem. References to Nazi anti-Semitism are few and indirect.