

NEWS

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NAZIS REPORTED INTERNING REFUGEES IN HOLLAND, SEIZING PROPERTY

LONDON, May 20. (JTA).--Zurich dispatches said today that the first order issued by Arthur Seyss-Inquart, Reich Commissioner for Holland, provides that refugees who went to Holland from Germany after 1933 will be sent to concentration camps. Their property will be confiscated and, after ten days in camp, they will be sent to Nazi Poland.

A large refugee transport, believed to be the last that escaped from Amsterdam before the Nazi occupation, arrived at a British western port today. It is believed, however, that other parties might still be en route to England in fishing boats and trawlers.

Mrs. de Groot, of the Amsterdam Jewish Refugee Committee, and other Jewish refugees were among the party that arrived at the western port.

Jewish organizations attempting to identify 70 children among another refugee transport described them as refugee children from central Europe who had settled in Holland.

JEWISH LEADERS INTERVENE WITH ITALY TO OBTAIN TRANSIT FOR DOMINGO-BOUND REFUGEES

PARIS, May 20. (JTA).--Confirmation that Italy is refusing transit to German Jews seeking to emigrate to other countries was received here today by the Joint Distribution Committee.

Among those affected are 105 persons selected by the J.D.C. from Germany, Austria and Switzerland for emigration to the Dominican Republic. (A total of 500 refugees were scheduled to sail from Genoa May 24 aboard the Italian steamship Neptuna to become the nucleus of the Sosua settlement project in the Dominican Republic.)

Morris C. Troper, European director of the J.D.C., who selected the prospective Dominican settlers, sent a special representative to study refugee emigration possibilities and to negotiate with the Italian Line in an effort to secure transit for the emigrants. At the same time, James N. Rosenberg of New York, president of the Dominican Republic Settlement Association, was urged by cable to intervene with the Italian ambassador in Washington.

This correspondent (Boris Smolar) has just returned from Italy, where he found that measures had been taken which made it difficult even for holders of American passports, if they were Jews, to enter the country. The action is apparently connected with Rome's desire to have as few alien Jews as possible in the country and indicates that should Italy become involved in the war, all alien Jews would be deported while native Jews would be put under special supervision.

When I arrived at the Italian border at Domodossola, the only American passenger on the train, uniformed Fascist gendarmes said that my American passport was not sufficient and that I must state my religion, even to be admitted temporarily. This despite the fact that Italian stamps on my passport showed I had visited the country dozens of times during the past few years.

I stated that I am Jewish. The gendarmes then demanded to see my steamship tickets for the United States, assuming that I was one of the Americans leaving for home. The officials seemed embarrassed when I informed them that I was not entering Italy in order to sail for the United States. They then detained my passport and after consultation with a higher official returned it to me.

Other passengers on the train who stated they were Jewish, no matter what their nationality, were similarly examined, while those who gave their religion as Protestant or Catholic had their passports stamped in the train without any formalities.

Among the questions I had to answer while the train was held were: whom did I intend to meet in Italy? How long would I remain? Which cities would I visit? Where would I reside? By which border would I leave? My answers to these questions were taken down in writing.

The gendarmes were especially interested in ascertaining whether I had visas for countries adjoining Italy. Since my passport carried visas for Switzerland, France and Yugoslavia, thus ensuring that I would be admitted to those countries anytime I had to leave Italy, the gendarmes finally permitted me to enter Italy.

Other Jewish passengers on the train--not Americans--were taken off and were told they would be sent back on the next train, without being permitted to cross Italy.

Later I learned that a prominent American Jew, the European director of an important American relief organization, was similarly questioned about his religion when he tried to enter Italy and was taken into a special room for examination, although he is a native American and the holder of an American passport.

In Trieste and Milan I found the Jews in great panic as a result of the intensified drive against alien Jews and pro-war demonstrations of young Fascist groups.

BLACKOUT PREPARATIONS EXTENDED IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, May 20. (JTA).--District commissioners in the Jerusalem, Nazareth and other districts are carrying out preparations for blackouts in the event of an emergency. The coastal cities of Tel Aviv, Jaffa and Haifa have already started nightly blackouts.

The Arab newspaper Ad Difaa reports that the Palestine Government is chartering ships for emergency importation of food.

BRITISH SYNAGOGUES TO HOLD INTERCESSION SERVICES THIS WEEKEND

LONDON, May 20. (JTA).--In accordance with the king's wishes, Chief Rabbi Joseph H. Hertz today ordered recitation of a special prayer of intercession Sunday morning in all synagogues. Where it is impossible to hold intercession services Sunday, Dr. Hertz asked that they be held Saturday morning.

Petticoat Lane, Whitechapel's famed Sunday market, will be closed Sunday, the day of national prayer, according to a decision reached at a meeting of shopkeepers and stallholders.

BRITAIN CHECKS UP ON WOMEN ALIENS

LONDON, May 20. (JTA).--A special committee of the Home Office today began reviewing the position of 3,500 German and Austrian women in England belonging to the group that has been at liberty but under certain restrictions.

MIZRACHI VOTES \$100,000 FOR HERZOG COLONY, URGES FREE ENTRY

BALTIMORE, May 20. (JTA).--The 23rd annual convention of the Mizrahi Organization of America, after appealing to the British Government to open Palestine's doors to free immigration, today voted to raise \$100,000 for immediate establishment of a colony bearing the name of Dr. Isaac Herzog, Chief Rabbi of Palestine.

The project was endorsed by Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the Jewish National Fund, who said at a session tonight: "If the war should spread to the Mediterranean countries, the 500,000 Jews of Palestine will be ready to defend Palestine with their lives. They belong to the battle line fighting for the very life of democracy."

Other speakers today were Dr. Pinchas Churgin, Ephraim Caplan, Rabbi Abraham Epstein, Chicago; Rabbi I.M. Kowalsky, New York; Eliezer Lerner, New York, and Rabbi D.D. Burack, New York.

A manifesto adopted by the 500 delegates at the Hotel Southern addressed to American Jewry, "at the most critical period in the life of our people," declared that "the democratic nations are fighting for right and justice and the deliverance of the small, brutally conquered nations."

The immigration resolution pledged "every moral and material support for enlargement of immigration opportunities in Palestine, which has proved itself not only the foremost refugee haven but also a great pillar of hope for the future of Israel."

The convention sent a telegram of "warmest felicitation" to President Roosevelt, lauding his "humanitarian leadership." The meeting closes Tuesday with elections.

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British J.N.F. Parley Protests Land Curb

LONDON, May 20. (JTA).--Unshaken faith in the Jewish National Home was expressed in a resolution adopted yesterday at a conference of the Jewish National Fund. The conference protested the Palestine land regulations and welcomed a proposal to hold a Jewish National Fund week from June 16 to 25.

ITALY REJECTS APPEAL TO PERMIT TRANSIT FOR DOMINGO-BOUND REFUGEES

(See earlier Paris dispatch on Page 1.)

WASHINGTON, May 20. (JTA).--The Italian Government today rejected the appeal of Telesforo R. Calderon, Dominican Minister in Rome, to permit transit for 500 refugees scheduled to sail May 24 from Genoa on the Italian steamship Neptuna for the Dominican Republic, the State Department disclosed.

William Phillips, American Ambassador in Rome, has been instructed by the State Department to back Calderon with all his power.

Calderon had gone to the Italian Foreign Office and protested vigorously against the ban on transit of German Jews. "These people are necessary to my country," the Dominican Minister was quoted as saying. "They had been given permission to enter my country. We were expecting them and we see no reason for the Italian Government refusing to allow them to sail."

PERIL TO "DEMOCRACY LIES HERE, WALLACE TELLS IVRIAH

NEW YORK, May. 20 (JTA).--Secretary of Argiculture Henry A. Wallace declared today that "in the long run the real peril to democracy may lie within our own nation, within our own groups, within our own hearts." He addressed the Spring donor's luncheon of Ivriah, women's division of the Jewish Education Association, at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria.

"It is quite possible that 10 or 20 years hence the totalitarian states as we know them will be completely demolished and democracy will be even more threatened," Secretary Wallace said. Other speakers were Rabbi David de Sola Pool and Mrs. Gabriel Hamburger, president of Ivriah. About 1,500 persons attended the luncheon.

Commenting on the luncheon in her syndicated column, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt praised "the worthiness of the cause" of Jewish education.

MEAD URGES WAR ON INTOLERANCE AS MEASURE OF DEFENSE

WOODMERE, L.I., May 20. (JTA).--Senator James M. Mead tonight urged a "war against intolerance and bigotry" to preserve the Tolerance which "constitutes the strongest arm of defense for our beloved democracy."

In a speech prepared for delivery before the local B'nai B'rith lodge, Senator Mead said. "To be very frank about it, I am convinced that this republic can never survive the modern-day attacks on representative government if its people are divided on things which make for peace and order and tolerance."

(Continued on reverse side.)

JEWS IN PROTECTORATE MUST PAY FEE WHEN EVICTED FROM HOMES

LONDON, May 20. (JTA)--Nazi officials in the Bohemia-Moravia Protectorate have found a new way to extort money from Jews, according to a letter from an escaped Czech, published by the magazine Central European Observer.

When Jews are forced to give up their homes, the letter reveals, they are now compelled to pay a "fee" of 1,000 crowns for cleaning, called "Entjudung" (dejudaization). The letter also states that all Jews must observe an 8 p.m. curfew and are being forced to emigrate, with not even the aged spared.

The Czechs, according to the writer, are in an only slightly better position. He quotes a saying currently popular in the Protectorate, "between the Jews and the Czechs there is only one day's difference," which means that restrictions imposed on the Jews today will be imposed on the Czechs tomorrow.

REICH EXTENDS COURT JURISDICTION TO ANTI-NAZIS EVERYWHERE

ZURICH, May 20. (JTA)--A decree extending jurisdiction of German courts and empowering them to try "crimes against the Reich" no matter where or by whom committed has been issued in Berlin by the Reich Defense Council, it was reported here today.

The decree, which is retroactive, means that any foreigner anywhere who has committed any act which the Nazis choose to regard as a crime against the Reich will be subject to trial before a German court as soon as he can be apprehended.

OUSTED JEWISH DOCTORS IN HUNGARY BUSY TENDING WOUNDED

LONDON, May 20. (JTA)--A Budapest dispatch to the News-Chronicle said today that Jewish doctors who had been forbidden to practice in Austria were now working day and night tending trainloads of wounded arriving daily, according to neutral observers returning from Vienna.

GEORGES MANDEL LANDED IN LONDON

LONDON, May 20. (JTA)--Commenting on the reconstruction of the French Cabinet the Daily Telegraph refers to Interior Minister Georges Mandel as "one of the most vigorous administrative forces in French politics today."

"At the ministry (colonial) which he now leaves," the Telegraph continues, "Mandel brought a vast increase in the economic productivity of the colonies. At 54 this ex-secretary of Clemenceau has already gone far and may well go farther."

MRS. JACOBS RETURNING TO U.S.

JERUSALEM, May 20. (JTA)--Mrs. Rose Jacobs, the only American Zionist leader to visit Palestine since the war broke out, sailed for the United States today after a stay of two months here during which she surveyed health conditions under the auspices of Hadassah.

BULLETIN

JERUSALEM, May 20. (JTA)--Prayers for an Allied victory were held by Jews throughout Palestine today. The chief rabbis delivered sermons. Thousands lit candles at the Wailing Wall and at the sacred tombs.