

NEWS

from all over the world

VIA

CABLE
WIRELESS
TELEGRAPH
TELEPHONE

by the

JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. VII. NO. 45

Tuesday, May 28, 1940.

BRITAIN INTERNS 3,500 WOMEN. TWO-THIRDS OF THEM REFUGEES

LONDON, May 27. (JTA). -- Some 3,500 women aliens, two-thirds of them refugees from Nazi persecution, will be interned on the Isle of Man, it was announced today by Home Secretary Sir John Anderson.

The women, aged 16 to 60, are in the group B of aliens, or those who have been at liberty under certain restrictions. They will be permitted to take their children with them if they desire. Round-up of the women began early this morning.

Sir Norman Angell, head of the refugee survey of the Royal Institute of International Affairs, criticized internment of refugees in a letter to The Times, declaring that "by indiscriminate and prolonged internment of those naturally our allies we may be blunting, if not destroying, the instrument which at the appropriate moment might be of the utmost military and political value."

At the same time, Wenzel Jacksche, president of the Sudeten German Social Democrats, in a letter to the Manchester Guardian, protested against the describing of refugees as "enemy aliens," declaring there was not the slightest proof that political refugees took part in "fifth column" activities in Norway, Denmark, Holland and Belgium.

Polish Refugees from Lowlands Registered in France

PARIS, May 27. (JTA).--- The Polish Government-in-exile today started registration of all war refugees from Belgium and The Netherlands who hold Polish passports.

Interior Minister Georges Mandel paid a week-end visit to an isolation center for refugees at the Buffalo Stadium in suburban Montrouge. Many of the refugees housed there are being shipped to interior points where they are assigned to various public works and to field projects. The food and treatment accorded the refugees, it was ascertained, is giving them no cause for complaint.

Arrest of French Anti-Semitic Leaders Demanded

PARIS, May 27. (JTA).--- Arrest of French anti-Semitic leaders as potential "fifth columnists" was demanded today by French newspapers, which pointed to England's example in seizing Sir Oswald Mosley, leader of the British Union of Fascists.

"We too have our Mosleys," L'Oeuvre declared, "and their Trojan Horse is anti-Semitism."

Paris-Soir charged that the anti-Semites were preparing the ground for the "fifth column" by publishing "anti-Semitic publications inspired by the Stuermer" and by distributing pamphlets "containing translations of slogans by (Alfred) Rosenberg and (Joseph) Goebbels."

- - -

ALIEN CONTROL BILL SENT TO SENATE FLOOR; QUICK PASSAGE SEEN

WASHINGTON, May 27.(JTA).-- The Senate Judiciary Committee today unanimously reported that "anti-fifth column bill" which requires the fingerprinting and registration of aliens and provides strict penalties for the spreading of un-American propaganda among the nation's armed forces.

The bill was amended to stipulate that aliens should be fingerprinted before entrance into the U.S. All aliens now in the country would be forced to leave their fingerprints at their nearest postoffice within four months. All aliens who have not yet been admitted to citizenship are included under the terms of the act.

Senator Tom Connally, (Dem., Tex.), announcing he would call the bill up on the Senate floor this week, predicted its immediate passage.

An organization built on the lines of the German-American Bund, intended to recruit war veterans, is the object of Rep. Martin Dies investigation in Buffalo, N.Y., his office said today. Dies left Washington for Buffalo this morning.

- - -

Roosevelt Warns of Effort to Spread Discord

WASHINGTON, May 27. (JTA) -- President Roosevelt warned last night of the "undiluted poison" of racial and political discord spread by the Fifth Column to create paralysis and panic.

In a broadcast fireside chat on the defense program, the President asserted that campaigns of group hatred were not making headway in America and asserted that "our moral and mental defenses must be raised as never before against those who would cast a smokescreen across our vision."

The President explained: "The method is simple. First, discord. A group-not too large- a group that may be sectional or racial or political-is encouraged to exploit their prejudices through false slogans and emotional appeals. The aim of those who deliberately egg on these groups is to create confusion of counsel, public indecision, political paralysis and eventually a state of panic."

- - -

U.S. Will Tolerate No Fifth Column, Ickes Asserts

CLEVELAND, May 27. (JTA)-- Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes asserted last night that America will tolerate no fifth column, even if it "misuse the word 'Christian' as part of its name" or is "led by a man in priestly garb or in his country's uniform." He addressed a banquet at the Hotel Statler marking the 90th anniversary of The Temple.

Secretary Ickes asserted that "as the sine Qua non of national unity, we must put a stop to all subversive activities anywhere. America will tolerate no fifth column. While we recognize that the present threat is Nazi-Fascism, we care not whether the fifth column be Nazi or Fascist or Communist."

"It will not avail it to misues the word 'Christian' as part of its name," he continued, "or even to be led by a man in priestly garb or in his country's uniform. America cannot spare even an inch of its precious soil to be trod by the traitorous feet of those who, in vileness, would Quisling her."

"But," he asserted, "it is vitally important that we should keep our heads while searching the dark places for the reptiles that would poison our liberties, for perhaps the most fiendish of Nazi tricks is the planting, among thousands of innocent victims of Nazi terror, of a few vile spies who bring unjust suspicion and distrust upon all refugees in the lands that give them shelter."

Secretary Ickes warned against "the mistake of believing that every citizen of foreign birth is any less an American than some of us who can trace ancestors back for two or three hundred years."

"From this day forward," the Secretary said, "except for well-established cause, there should, so far as our political life is concerned, be among us neither Catholic nor Protestant, neither foreigner nor native-born, neither white nor black, neither Jew nor Gentile, but only Americans, loving our common country to the point of being willing to die for it--believers and sharers in a common destiny, artisans of a common civilization--the effective and necessary tools of whose artisanship are the civil and religious liberties guaranteed to us by our Constitution."

PRAYERS HELD FOR ALLIED VICTORY

PARIS, May 27. (JTA).--Synagogues throughout France were crowded with Jews yesterday participating in special services for an Allied victory. Similar services were held in homes and synagogues Saturday.

JERUSALEM, May 27. (JTA).-- Chief Rabbis Herzog and Uziel yesterday cabled the following message to King George: "May He in whose hands rest the destinies of men grant strength and victory to all engaged in the valiant struggle for the preservation of human civilization and the re-establishment of mercy in international relations."

Similar messages were dispatched to Queen Wilhelmina, exiled ruler of The Netherlands, King Leopold of the Belgians and the French and Polish governments.

SINGAPORE, May 27.(JTA).-- A German-Jewish refugee played the organ at a synagogue here yesterday as Singapore Jews joined British subjects and sympathizers in the national day of prayer for an Allied victory.

ALUMNI GROUP FORMED TO AID SOCIAL WORK SCHOOL

PITTSBURGH, May 27. (JTA).-- Alumni of the Graduate School for Jewish Social Work, attending the National Conference for Jewish Social Welfare, formed a steering committee to enlist support for the school. The action followed pleas for maintenance of a Jewish "civil service" voiced by Morris D. Waldman, secretary of the American Jewish Committee, and Dr. Maurice J. Karpf, head of the school.

The committee is headed by Philip Houtz, New York, and was organized at a special meeting called at the conference. The twenty graduates present donated \$2,000 to the school and pledged like sums for the next two years, Houtz announced. "It is our hope that the action we took will stimulate and inspire similar contributions from others, both lay and professional, who share our views on the school and its importance," he said.

The plight of the Jewish social worker in seeking training for his work was likened to the plight of the Jewish medical student of today in a statement issued by the newly-formed committee. The statement read:

"Discontinuance of the services of the Graduate School for Jewish Social Work would be a tragic loss to the Jewish community and cause irreparable damage to the whole structure of Jewish social service. It would, before long, affect the standards of our agencies and the morale of our communities. It would introduce in the field of social work hardships, similar to those suffered by the potential Jewish student in the medical and other fields. There could be no hope for the Jewish civil service that Mr. Waldman advocated last night and which he regards as a factor of prime importance at this time when Jewry everywhere is waging a defensive war against the ruthless assaults on our civil and economic positions, on our very right to physical existence."

A resolution was adopted at the general conference extending "greetings and admiration to those philanthropic institutions and to the social workers and communal leaders on their rolls who, in the face of almost insuperable difficulties, continue to serve the physical and spiritual needs of the Jewish communities in the areas dominated by the Nazi hordes. This conference expresses its sympathies to those living in Europe under present trying conditions and hopes for their speedy release from the horrors of Nazism today."

JABOTINSKY URGES CREATION OF "WORLD JEWISH COMMITTEE"

NEW YORK, May 27.(JTA)-- Creation of a united Jewish front through establishment of a World Jewish committee for the defense of Jewish interests in the eastern hemisphere has been proposed by Vladimir Jabotinsky, president of the New Zionist Organization, it was learned today.

The proposal was made, it was understood, in messages to Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, David Ben Gurion and Pinchas Rutenberg of Palestine, and to former Justice Louis D. Brandeis, Paul Baerwald, Abraham Cahan, Prof. Louis Finkelstein, Dr. Solomon Goldman, Henry Monsky, Rabbi David de Sola Pool and Dr. Stephen S. Wise. Mr. Jabotinsky is now in this country on a visit.

GRUEN NAMED ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER OF AMERICAN HEBREW

NEW YORK, May 27.(JTA) -- Appointment of Dr. Oskar Gruen, founder and editor for 23 years of the Juedische Presszentrale of Zurich, as associate publisher and editor of The American Hebrew was announced today. He has written many books and articles on minority problems, attended the Paris peace conference of 1919 as an expert on minority rights and participated in the Evian conference as a delegate. He came to the United States in the Fall of 1938 and founded the New York Zurich Press Agency.

FRIEDER RESIGNS AS HEAD OF MANILA REFUGEE COMMITTEE

NEW YORK, May 27. (JTA) -- Alex Frieder, resigning as president of the Jewish Refugee Committee of Manila to return to his home in Cincinnati, reports in a letter to the J.T.A. that "we have enabled several hundred European refugees to come" to the Philippines.

Frieder said that work had been found for two-thirds of the emigres, while the unemployed were housed in five community houses, with an average of 30 to a house. A policy of individual treatment is used with the refugees. Frieder, who has been in Manila since November, 1938, will be replaced by his brother Herbert S. Frieder.

UNITED JEWISH ORGANIZATION PLANNED IN RUMANIA

BUCHAREST, May 27.(JTA).--- Creation of a united Rumanian Jewish organization on a religious basis was decided upon today at a congress of Jewish leaders from all parts of the country. The congress was presided over by Dr. Wilhelm Filderman, president of the Union of Rumanian Jews, and speakers included Chief Rabbi Alexander Safran.

EFFORT TO BETTER REICH-SOVIET CULTURAL RELATIONS REPORTED SNAGGED

BERNE, May 27.(JTA) -- The Evangelical Press Service reports that efforts to improve cultural relations between Germany and Russia have not worked out satisfactorily.

The Soviet refuses to admit Der Steurmer, Julius Streicher's Jew-baiting paper, until the Reich lifts its ban on Komintern, Soviet publication, the report said. Similarly, it was said that Moscow would allow entry of Das Schwarze Korps, Gestapo organ, only if the Reich admitted Bolsheviki, Communist Party newspaper, and would permit sale of publications of Alfred Rosenberg, Nazi theorist, only on condition that Germany would open its door to Bezbozhnik, organ of the Soviet League of Militant Godless.

MEDICAL STUDENTS WARNED TO RETURN FROM SCOTLAND. SWITZERLAND

WASHINGTON, May 27.(JTA).--- American medical students in Scotland and Switzerland, many of whom are Jewish, have been warned to leave Europe as swiftly as possible, it was learned today. Arrangements have been made to evacuate the students in Scotch Schools through Ireland, while those in Switzerland will leave through France or Italy, whichever route is feasible.

JEWS OUSTED FROM CITY HOUSES IN PRAGUE

PARIS, May 27. (JTA).--- The Nazi authorities in Prague have ordered the ejection of all Jews from municipal dwellings "in order to make room for 'Aryans'," it was reported today in Czech official circles here on the basis of information received from the protectorate.

DOBROWEN FEARED CAUGHT IN NORWAY BY INVASION

TEL AVIV, May 27. (JTA).--- Concern was expressed here today over the whereabouts of Issay Dobrowen, famous German-Jewish conductor, who was in Norway at the time of the Nazi invasion. Dobrowen, was scheduled to conduct the first few concerts of the Palestine Symphony Orchestra. An immigration certificate for him and his family was dispatched to his Norwegian residence shortly before the invasion but arrived too late.

WORK ON ANTIQUITIES MUSEUM STARTS IN JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, May 27. (JTA).--- Construction of the Museum of Jewish Antiquities has been started on a site opposite the Hebrew University at Mt. Scopus. The museum, a two-story building that will cost £10,000, is the gift of Morris Kootcher, of Southwest Africa. It will be completed in seven months.