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FRANCE DISENFRANCHISES 60,000 ALGERIAN JEWS, REVOKING CREMIEUX LAW

VICHY, France, Oct. 8. (JIA) -- More than 60,000 Algerian Jews lost their French citizenship today when the Petain Government published a decree abrogating the Cremieux Law of 1870, which conferred wholesale naturalization on the Jews of France's North African possession.

Informed Jewish circles said the action was the heaviest blow to the French Jews in recent history. It removes from the body of French Jewry one-fourth of its most talented and loyal members, these circles said.

The 60,000 Jews in most cases had inherited French citizenship from their grand parents. Fifteen thousand of them live in metropolitan France. All have suddenly been relegated to the position of second-class citizens, like the Algerian Arabs.

As a consequence of the decree, published in the Journal Officiel, Jewish lawyers of Algerian origin lose their barristers' rights, although they include many prominent attorneys; physicians lose the right to practice medicine; university professors, among whom is the famous economist, Prof. William Qualid, will lose their chairs unless they are considered especially meritorious.

Henceforth every Algerian Jew desiring to remain in metropolitan France must apply for a permit, like any foreigner or protected subject. Algerian Jews may apply for citizenship only as individuals.

Exemption from the decree is provided for Jews who served in the 1914-1918 and 1939-1940 wars and obtained the Legion of Honor, the Military Medal or the War Cross.

The Cremieux Law was issued on Oct. 24, 1870, by French Minister of Justice Isaac Adolphe Cremieux, ending the autonomy of the Jewish population of Algeria which then numbered 38,000, and granting them French citizenship instead. Issuance of the law followed a long struggle and it was considered as the emancipation proclamation of the Algerian Jews. Cremieux, one of the outstanding French Jews of the 19th Century, was a famous fighter for Jewish rights and founder of the Alliance Israelite Universelle.

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BULGARIA ISSUES SWEEPING CURBS ON JEWS; BANS 'SECRET' LODGES

ZURICH, Oct. 8. (JTA) -- The Bulgarian Cabinet has adopted a sweeping law barring Jews from Government, municipal and army service and limiting them in professions according to their population ratio, the German wireless reported from Sofia today, pointing out that the decree "for the first time introduces anti-Jewish measures on a large scale in Bulgaria."

The anti-Jewish curbs were part of a bill "for protection of the nation" which was passed yesterday, the German report said, and which also bans organizations, lodges and clubs "of an international and secret character" and provides for measures against "disintegrating anti-State propaganda."

Interior Minister Gabrovsky was quoted as commenting on the measure, in a press statement, that the Bulgarian nation had preserved the purity of its race to a high degree such as few peoples in Europe could claim for themselves and that the new bill therefore coincided with "the aims of the State and the people."

The report aroused speculation among observers here, who pointed out that such a measure would indicate an intensification of German influence in Bulgaria and a corresponding weakening of Soviet influence.

The anti-Jewish section of the bill, according to the German-wireless, determines who is a "Jew" and who a "semi-Jew," stipulates that persons of Jewish descent may not hold posts in communal or State services, may not enter the army and are barred from owning land. Their admission to the free professions will be limited to a figure corresponding to the proportion of Jews in the population.

Persons of Jewish descent are prohibited from working as authors and journalists or in the film and theatrical businesses. Their expulsion from these fields will be carried out "within a given period of time." Persons of Jewish descent may not employ Bulgarian servants. Violations of these regulations will be severely punished, according to the German report.

RUMANIA OUSTS JEWISH ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

BUCHAREST, Oct. 8. (JTA) -- Premier Ion Antonescu today signed a decree requiring Jews who entered Rumania illegally in the last five years to leave the country within two months, on pain of internment in special concentration camps now being constructed. The internees or the Jewish community would be obliged to defray the cost of internment.

COORDINATED AID FOR JEWISH BOMBING VICTIMS PLANNED IN BRITAIN

LONDON, Oct. 8. (JTA) -- With Jewish districts in London suburbs hit in last night's raids, a representative body was established today under the auspices of the Board of Deputies of British Jews to coordinate the work of coping with Jewish problems raised by the German bombings.

The new body will handle immediate relief for the homeless, advisory bureaus on welfare of children, religious welfare in the reception areas, relations between Jews and non-Jews and particularly the problem of adequate shelters.

Addressing today's conference, Prof. Selig Brodetsky, president of the Board, emphasized that while the question of immediate relief would be taken up immediately, the long-term problems arising from the situation would not be overlooked.

10,000 JEWISH REFUGEES IN SERIOUS PLIGHT IN PORTUGAL, DIJOUR REPORTS

NEW YORK, Oct. 8. (JTA) -- There are now more than 10,000 Jewish refugees in Portugal, last European emigration outlet, and the number is steadily increasing, according to Elie Dijour, general secretary of the HIAS-ICA Emigration Association, who arrived here last Friday on the American Export liner Excalibur.

Dijour evacuated Paris on June 10, just before the German occupation, proceeded to Bordeaux and from there to Lisbon, reaching the Portuguese capital on June 24. He spent three months in Lisbon, where the HIAS-ICA has set up its principal European headquarters, before sailing for New York.

During these three months, Dijour said in an interview, the HIAS-ICA aided about 1,500 persons to emigrate overseas, but this number was more than offset by the 200 to 300 refugees weekly arriving in Portugal. These refugees are equipped only with Portuguese transit visas and the Government is exerting pressure on them to emigrate, but most of them are unable to leave.

Their plight is so tragic, the HIAS-ICA secretary declared, that half of the refugees suffer from nervous disorders and some have gone insane. They spend all day making the rounds of consulates in the hope of obtaining visas. Some consular officials have become so affected that they have issued unauthorized visas, thus only adding to the plight of emigres receiving such papers.

There are many individual tragedies. One Antwerp Jew, unable to obtain a visa, committed suicide by leaping from a window. An Austrian refugee went insane when he reached the Spanish-Portuguese frontier, dying in a hospital a few weeks later. His father, a well known Vienna attorney aged 60, reached Portugal two weeks afterward to find his son dead.

When the new Berlin to Lisbon air service was opened, the first 12 passengers included 10 Jews. Although they had paid their fare, the Jews received no food during the voyage because the German employees would not serve Jews.

According to Dijour, the Nazis ordered the 2,000 Jews in Luxembourg to leave by Oct. 1 or they would be expelled to the French frontier. Dr. Nussbaum, head of the Luxembourg Jewish Community, visited Lisbon seeking emigration possibilities, but found it was impossible to accommodate so large a group. Dijour said he did not know what had happened to the Luxembourg Jews after the emigration deadline.

2 JEWS INTERNED ABROAD LOSE IN PLEA TO U.S. COURT

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8. (JTA) -- Federal courts cannot compel the Secretary of State to expedite passports to persons claiming American citizenship, even when they are held in concentration camps abroad, Justice Bolitha Laws of the Federal Court here ruled yesterday.

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The ruling came as a result of a suit filed by Mrs. Fanny Rubinowicz, a prisoner at Leszno, Poland, and her sister, Mrs. Wera Giegerich, now in a concentration camp at Gars, France. Both claimed to have been born in this country, but have lived abroad in Russia and other countries since 1897. Their attorney announced he would carry the case to the Court of Appeals, pointing out the State Department had their passport applications "under advisement" for several months.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DISCUSSED IN CONTEMPORARY JEWISH REVIEW

NEW YORK, Oct. 8. (JTA) -- Religious instruction in the public schools and its relation to basic democratic assumptions in order to avoid sectarian conflicts is the subject of an article by F. Ernest Johnson, executive secretary of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, in the current issue of the Contemporary Jewish Record. He asserts the democratic principle of separation of church and state is inevitable because of "the fragmentation of American religious life."

Other articles include "In Nazi Warsaw," an eyewitness account of devastation and persecution of Poles by the Nazis by Abraham Weiss, former dean of the Judaistic Institute of Warsaw; "Anti-Semitism and the Law in Pre-Nazi Germany," by Ambrose Doskow and Sidney B. Jacoby, who describe the uses of the criminal and civil laws of Germany as an instrument for the prosecution of anti-Semitic propagandists; "Jews in the U.S.S.R.," an account of the social, economic and religious disintegration of the Jews under the Communist dictatorship by Jacob Iestchinsky; and "Communist Propaganda for Jews," by Alexander S. Kohanski.

NEW SYNAGOGUE QUARTERLY ISSUED

NEW YORK, Oct. 8. (JTA) -- The first issue of the new quarterly Synagogue Center, devoted to synagogue administrative problems, was published today by the United Synagogue of America.