

# NEWS

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## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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### CENSUS OF JEWS IN PETAIN FRANCE EXPECTED SOON

VICHY, Oct. 20. (JTA) -- A general census of Jews probably will be the first practical measure undertaken by the French Government following promulgation of the Jewish Statute last week, it was learned reliably today. (A census of Jews in occupied France has already been taken.)

There has been little comment in the press on the statute except for publication of the explanatory statement issued by the official Havas News Agency with some slight variations.

The newspapers *Le Jour* and *Le Journal* accuse former premier Leon Blum as the "true author of the Jewish Statute." They give fantastic figures regarding the number of Jews in France, claiming there are now 600,000 in the country. *Le Journal* states that Jews numbered 100,000 before the "big invasion of 1936-1939."

While exact figures are not available, competent sources indicate that the number of Jews in European France never exceeded 400,000, foreigners and refugees included.

Meanwhile, the Jewish population is stunned by the severity of the new restrictions and panic reigns among foreign Jews, who fear wholesale transfer to special concentration camps.

### French Plea for Serum Invented by Jew Draws Ironical Comment

LONDON, Oct. 20. (JTA) -- The BBC French-language broadcast commented today on the fact that the Lyon radio announcement of France's new anti-Jewish legislation was followed immediately with an appeal of the Beau Soleil sanitarium near Nice for Weinberg serum, which is used to combat gangrene. The BBC announcer asked whether Weinberg's racial origin was investigated before the serum was used.

### Statute 'Dictated in Nazi Germany'

NEW YORK, Oct. 20. (JTA) -- The Jewish Statute issued by the Vichy Government "can only have been dictated in Nazi Germany or devised by Frenchmen who seek to curry favor with their conquerors," the New York Times said in an editorial yesterday deploring the action. The Times said the search for a scapegoat "is as old as defeat itself" and is "tragic and senseless" at all times.

(Continued on reverse side)

VICHY DENIES NAZI REPORTS OF ANTI-JEWISH RIOTING IN ALGIERS

VICHY, Oct. 20. (JTA) -- The French Government Information Service today issued to this correspondent a categorical denial of German radio reports that anti-Jewish rioting had occurred in French Morocco and Algeria. The German radio news is "baseless" as complete calm reigns in French North Africa, the statement said.

NEW CURBS ON DUTCH JEWS REPORTED

LONDON, Oct. 20. (JTA) -- New legislation forbidding employment of Jewish civil servants and teachers in Holland have gone into effect, Dutch circles here reported today. The restrictions also apply to Gentiles married to Jews. All Dutch employers are ordered to submit lists of their Jewish employees.

ALL JEWISH BODIES, EXCEPT LOCAL UNITS, ABOLISHED BY SLOVAKIA; ORPHANS EJECTED

BUDAPEST, Oct. 20. (JTA) -- Since the establishment of a special Jewish agency in Slovakia on Sept. 26 all Jewish organizations except local Kultusgemeinden have been abolished, it was learned here today in an interview with a reliable traveler returning from Bratislava.

Among the organizations which have been liquidated is the Jewish orphans' home at Bratislava, the traveler said. Last week the authorities ejected the Jewish orphans, who must now be cared for privately. The building was converted into a home for Gentile apprentices. For the time being the Jewish community is receiving a nominal sum as rental for the premises, the informant said.

There also has been talk of expropriating the Jewish soup kitchen at Bratislava but thus far it has been permitted to continue operations, serving hundreds of needy daily. The traveler recalled that the soup kitchen was still required to furnish room and board for 100 woman domestics who lost their jobs last month when the Government regulation forbidding Jewish households to employ maids under 40 went into effect.

Describing the new Jewish agency my informant said that everyone legally defined as a Jew was automatically a member of the new organization, which is headed by Dr. Heinrich Schwartz and a committee of ten. As in Germany Jews are defined as all persons with more than one Jewish grandparent and all persons married to Jews. All dissolved Jewish organizations have been transferred to the new central agency.

Law No. 234 under which the organization was established, he said, defines as Jewish "all organizations more than half of whose members are Jews" or organizations not necessarily Jewish but "which concern themselves with Jewish problems." Presumably, if the Red Cross set up local offices at Bratislava for refugee relief it, too, would be considered Jewish.

Among the new decrees affecting the Jews which appear every day in the official government journal, the informant said that the most far-reaching law was number 243 limiting the disposal of Jewish property. This law prohibits the sale of all items of personal property worth more than 500 crowns without a special permit from the finance minister. If the same of an article worth more than 500 crowns is permitted, a Jew is required to pay the Government 20 per cent of the sale price, it was said. All such payments are supposed to be placed in a special Jewish emigration fund based on the German model.

Report Jews Banned From Printing, Publishing Posts

ZURICH, Oct. 20. (JTA) -- All Jews in Yugoslavia have been excluded from printing, publishing and newspaper concerns and from bookstores in a new decree, the German wireless reported today. This action followed expulsion of Jews from motion picture, theater and broadcasting concerns, the wireless added. Jews will be expelled from all positions in Yugoslavia in which they can exert intellectual, artistic or cultural influence, the wireless stated.

BRITISH ZIONISTS CALL ON LONDON TO ACCEPT JEWISH ARMY; AIR RAIDS FAIL TO HALT PARLEY

LONDON, Oct. 20. (JTA) -- Five air raid warnings failed today to interrupt the annual conference of the British Zionist Federation which pledged full support for the war effort and called on the Government to accept an offer to raise a Jewish army under the British flag.

The conferees passed a resolution expressing the belief that a new order would emerge after a Jewish victory in which Jewish rights would be safeguarded and the Jewish nation re-established in Palestine.

Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, in a message read to the conferees predicted that the Jewish people in Palestine and throughout the world soon would be able to make a significant contribution to the allied war effort.

Dr. Weizmann announced he intended to go to the United States next month and offered to address a special session of the conference before his departure. The conference consequently will be resumed in about a fortnight when it is generally expected that Dr. Weizmann will announce the successful outcome of negotiations for the formation of a Jewish army.

"Now Palestine is rapidly becoming one of the main theaters of war," Dr. Weizmann's message said. "It has become abundantly clear that the Jewish community in Palestine, in common with the Jewish people throughout the world, may be able to make a significant contribution for ultimate victory of Britain and her allies."

He pointed out that the Zionists of Britain were "summoned once more to perform a unique role" and urged them "to be strong and of good courage."

Prof. Selig Brodetsky, member of the Jewish Agency Executive expressed regret that 13 months after war had started the Jews had not been given an opportunity to participate as allies in the war effort and said he hoped this would be righted in the near future.

LONDON JEWISH DISTRICTS AGAIN BOMBED; CASUALTIES BELIEVED SLIGHT

LONDON, Oct. 20. (JTA) -- Several Jewish districts in London were bombed last night. Although many houses were demolished casualties were believed to have been slight. In a recent raid two bombs fell in a disused London Jewish cemetery which was on one of the plots of land donated by Oliver Cromwell to the Marranos who fled to England from Spain to escape the Inquisition.

TROPER, RETURNING TO LISBON, SEES LACK OF FUNDS CHIEF OBSTACLE IN WAR RELIEF EFFORTS

NEW YORK, Oct. 20. (JTA) -- The next six months will see all of Europe in the grip of unprecedented hardship with Jews suffering most severely of all, it was declared today by Morris C. Troper, European Chairman of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee as he left from LaGuardia Field for Lisbon aboard the Dixie Clipper to resume active charge of the Committee's relief work abroad. Troper said he expected to go to Vichy, Marseille and Budapest to confer with Jewish leaders.

"The chief obstacle to bringing effective assistance to Jewish refugees and war victims," Troper said, "is the lack of adequate funds. We have available perhaps a third of the minimum needed for the remaining two and a half months of the year. With these sums, which can be spent immediately in full conformity with the regulations of the United States Treasury Department, we can not possibly meet all of the vast needs of European Jewry, but we shall continue our rescue work to the very limit of our resources.

"I am going to Europe with full knowledge of the frightful conditions existing there, and with the equally discouraging knowledge that we shall not be able to feed all the hungry or provide care for all the sick. But as long as any means remain to us, we shall continue to the best of our abilities to do all we can for the innocent men, women and children who are being decimated by war."

Troper explained that in the conduct of its program in areas under German control, the Joint Distribution Committee in no way aids the German economy or violates the British blockade. American dollars are never remitted to Germany proper or any land occupied by Germany, he said, but are made available in those territories through an authorized clearance arrangement, which keeps dollars outside of Germany, but makes local currency available to the Jewish welfare organizations within Germany.

"We in no way run counter to the British blockade because we do not ship clothing, food, or other supplies overseas," Troper said. "All our operations in Europe are conducted through locally constituted committees in the various countries. These committees secure their supplies in their own country. Their only lack at this time is funds with which to buy supplies. For these funds, they look to the Jews of the United States who contribute to the Joint Distribution Committee through the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees and Overseas Needs."

TIGHTER CONTROL OF ZIONIST YOUTH GROUPS PLANNED

NEW YORK, Oct. 20. (JTA) -- A check-rein will be applied to Zionist youth organizations which have been straying from the path of official Zionist policy by opposing aid to Great Britain in the war, Rabbi Samuel Blumenfield, new educational director of the Zionist Organization of America, declared today.

At a reception in his honor attended by 100 Jewish educators, Dr. Blumenfield said some Zionist young peoples' groups had gone astray because they had been neglected by adult Zionists, and that in the future his department would tighten supervision over them.

"There are cases where disciplinary action may be necessary," he said.