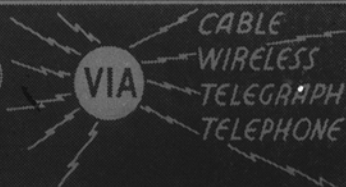


NEWS

from all over the world



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CHANUKAH FINDS 6,500 'MODERN MACCABEES' SERVING BRITISH FORCES; J.N.F. GETS TRACT NEAR MODIIN

JERUSALEM, Dec. 25. (JTA) -- This Chanukah, 2,100 years after the Maccabees drove the Greco-Syrian invaders from Palestine, 6,500 Jews are enrolled in the British forces in Palestine, prepared to assist in repelling any onslaught of the Axis powers.

The "modern Maccabees," as the Jewish recruits are widely known, are enrolled in the army and other fighting units, according to an announcement by Moshe Shertok, head of the Jewish Agency's political department, at a conference here. There is a Jewish officer staff of ten, including a captain.

Meanwhile, the Jewish National Fund announced receipt of a Chanukah gift of 3,400 dunams (about 700 acres) at Gezer, near Modiin, birthplace of the Maccabee family which led the fight of the Judeans against the invading forces of Antiochus Epiphanes. The site is located east of Lydda in central Palestine.

The gift was made by the Maccabean Land Company of London, in whose behalf the land was purchased by the late Herbert Bentwich, commander of the Order of Ancient Maccabaens. The J.N.F. plans to enlarge the tract, which is suitable for the growing of wheat.

As Palestine Jews celebrated Chanukah, divers were penetrating deeper into the hull of the refugee ship Patria, sunk in Haifa harbor on Nov. 25 by an explosion whose causes are still under investigation. Twenty more bodies were recovered, raising the known death toll to 94. Two of the corpses were identified as Oscar Meisel and Leo Klein.

A group of 40 Jewish youths arrived in Palestine from Sweden, traveling by way of Russia, Turkey and Sweden. They are the first of 270 in Baltic countries whose immigration is being sponsored by the Youth Aliyah.

Chanukah is being combined with continued celebrations of the 80th birthday of Miss Henrietta Szold, which occurred on Dec. 21. A plan to plant a forest in honor of Miss Szold was launched by several Jewish colonies neighboring Tel Aviv. The settlements also decided to name a number of their streets for Miss Szold.

The Habima theatrical troupe last night gave a special performance of the late Karl Cepek's play "Mother" in honor of Miss Szold. The performance was under the patronage

(Continued on reverse side)

of Jewish national institutions and was attended by members of the Jewish Agency and Jewish National Council executives and other prominent Palestinians. Habima's greetings to Miss Szold were read by Hannah Rovina, a member of the troupe.

Miss Szold, addressing Jewish leaders from all over the country at a celebration of her birthday in the Jewish Agency building, appealed for abandonment of party differences and uniting of all Jewish forces to withstand the hostile powers attacking the Jews.

The noted social worker, who was cheered by an audience which stood to listen when she rose to speak, told how she came to Zionism and recalled the teaching of her father, a rabbi, that Judaism was not a religion alone but a way of life. She said she could not imagine a Jewish life other than a life of work.

Shertok, reviewing 80 years of Jewish revival movements, said: "We in Palestine are divided into groups and parties, but all are united here in appreciation of Miss Szold." Other speakers were Isaac Ben-Zvi, chairman of the Vaad Leumi, and Dr. Judah L. Magnes, president of the Hebrew University.

PALESTINE RELEASES YOUTH SENTENCED IN 1938 ATTACK ON ARAB BUS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 25. (JTA) -- An echo of an internationally famous episode in the Arab-Jewish disorders of 1938 was heard in Palestine today with the release of a Jewish youth who had been sentenced for participating in an attack on an Arab bus.

The youth, Sholom Sorabin, was a friend of Shlomo Ben Joseph, 25-year-old Revisionist who was hanged at Acre prison on June 29, 1938, for the same attack. Sorabin, 18 at the time, was declared insane and committed to an institution.

ZIONISTS PROTEST DEPORTATION OF REFUGEES FROM PALESTINE

NEW YORK, Dec. 25. (JTA) -- An emergency meeting of Zionist organizations has adopted a resolution protesting against the deportation to a British colony of 1,700 refugees who arrived in Palestine on the S.S. Atlantic and calling on "all friends of Britain to join us in calling on the British Government to put a stop to a policy which is unjust, unnecessary and which strikes at the moral basis of Britain's war effort," the Emergency Committee for Zionist Affairs announced today.

The resolution said: "Such a course, if obstinately pursued by a Palestine administration blind to the wider implications of its acts and insensitive to the inevitable repercussions in this and other countries, can only work incalculable harm by furnishing a weapon for anti-British propaganda in the hands of forces eager to exploit every incident reflecting discredit upon Great Britain."

AGUDAH URGES AID FOR 200 STRANDED IN LITHUANIA

CINCINNATI, Dec. 25. (JTA) -- A call to rabbis, religious Jews throughout the country and Landsmanshaften to come to the rescue of 200 rabbis and yeshivah students stranded in Soviet-occupied Lithuania, although permitted by the Soviet authorities to emigrate, was issued here today by Rabbi Eliezer Silver, president of Agudath Israel, following receipt of a cable from the Jewish relief committee in Yokohama, Japan.

The cable said: "Transit visas through Japan are available, provided you deposit immediately in New York with a steamship company the fare for 200 rabbis and Yeshivah students. Otherwise the visas will be cancelled."

The call was issued by Rabbi Silver in behalf of a number of orthodox rabbis in America who compose the Emergency Committee for War-Torn Yeshivoh in Europe. It urges all interested groups and individuals to get into immediate contact with any of the yeshivah offices in the United States, or with the Emergency Rescue Committee in New York, known as the Vaad Haazolah.

180 Get U.S. Emergency Visas

LONDON, Dec. 25. (JTA) -- Addressing the Council of the British Agudath Israel, Secretary H.A. Goodman today expressed gratitude for the United States Government's interest in the fate of religious leaders in the Baltics and the granting of 180 emergency visas for spiritual leaders of the Lithuanian Jews. He expressed regret that they were unable to go to Palestine because the British Colonial Office had not shown the same sympathy.

100 LEADERS URGE TOLERANCE IN TREATMENT OF ALIENS

NEW YORK, Dec. 25. (JTA) -- One hundred leaders in all walks of life appealed today for reason and human understanding of the problems of the foreign born and urged reaffirmation of "those basic traditions of equality and hospitality as America's guide in dealing with non-citizens" in an open letter to President Roosevelt and Attorney General Robert H. Jackson, made public by the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born.

Signers of the letter include Prof. Roland H. Bainton, editor of the Journal of Religious Education; Prof. Franz Boas, honorary president of the American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom; Louis Bromfield, Van Wyck Brooks, Dr. Henry Seidel Canby, Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, Dean Christian Gauss of Princeton University, Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein, honorary president of the Rabbinical Council of America; Rev. Owen A. Knox, president of the National Federation on Constitutional Liberties; Lucius N. Littauer, Jack R. McMichael Jr., president of the American Youth Congress; Rabbi David de Sola Pool and Dr. Max Yergen, president of the National Negro Congress.

The letter urges that the President condemn publicly "the practice of employers who discriminate against non-citizens and citizens of alien parentage" and that the Attorney General "administer these (naturalization and deportation) laws in a manner that will avoid creating unnecessary hardship or prejudice for either individuals or families in this country."

NAZIS ORDER JOBLESS LUBLIN JEWS TO REPORT WEEKLY

ZURICH, Dec. 25. (JTA) -- A decree ordering unemployed Jews of Lublin to report weekly to the authorities on pain of being sent to a penal labor camp, has been published in the newspaper Goniec Krakowski, Nazi organ in Poland.

LUTHERAN CHURCH TO BE CONVERTED INTO SYNAGOGUE

NEW YORK, Dec. 25. (JTA) -- The old Church of St. Mark, where a German Evangelical Lutheran congregation has worshipped for 90 years, will become a synagogue and a social, athletic and cultural center for neighborhood Jewish youth on Jan. 2. The church was sold by its congregation to the Community Synagogue Center, Inc. The sale was the result of population shifts which steadily diminished the number of persons of German origin in the area.

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URUGUAY URGED TO OPEN DOORS TO IMMIGRANTS

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay (JTA-Airmail) -- "Uruguay is suffering great economic losses because our doors are closed to immigration," says an editorial in La Manana, semi-official Government organ and one of the most influential newspapers in the country.

The newspaper urges the Government to regularize the immigration problem in a manner which would permit the entry of useful and productive immigrants. "We do not need any traders, but we do need land workers and qualified laborers if we want to bring life into the wild and uncultivated areas of Uruguay," the editorial states.

EQUADOR TO ADMIT 17 STRANDED REFUGEES

QUITO, Ecuador (JTA-Airmail) -- A promise to admit into Ecuador 17 Jewish refugees stranded at Balboa and barred from entering Panama was given by Minister of Interior A. Aguilar Vasquez to a Jewish delegation headed by Benito Edelstein, secretary of the HIAS-ICA Emigration Association. He said that although the present immigration laws did not provide for the admission of refugee immigrants without funds, he would nevertheless investigate the case and would be ready to admit the detained refugees on special visas as temporary visitors.

TERMAN NOTES JEWISH "TRADITION OF ACHIEVEMENT"

LONDON, Dec. 12. (JTA-By Mail) -- The tradition of achievement among Jews is high, says The Lancet, quoting the presidential address of Prof. L. M. Terman to the Pacific division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Prof. Terman in 1922 selected a band of more than 1,500 unusually gifted children and 16 years later made a further scrutiny to discover how far their promise had borne fruit. He divided the subjects of his research in 1936 into three classes, A, B and C -- A being the most successful fourth, B the middle half, and C the least successful fourth. He found three times as many Jews in the A group as in the C.

JEWS EXEMPT FROM CAIRO ORDER SEIZING RADIOS OF ITALIANS, GERMANS

CAIRO, Dec. 14. (JTA-By Mail) -- The surrender of all wireless sets owned by German and Italian subjects within one week has been ordered by the military Governor here. Jews, however, are exempted from the order.