

NEWS

from all over the world



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FRANCE SCIENCE BODY VOTES TO CONTINUE AID TO JEWISH SCHOLARS; NEW BANS BY NAZIS

VICHY, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- An important scientific body in occupied France has voted to continue support to Jewish scholars, it was reported here today, as the Nazi authorities took further action to oust Jews from the fields of science, entertainment and commerce.

The Central Committee for Scientific Scholarships in France voted, 29 to 1, to maintain all scholarships held by Jews for the next year.

This action came as the German authorities forbade Jewish scholars to publish articles summarizing their research in scientific periodicals and books in occupied France. The periodical *Annales de Physique*, which was suspended for publishing articles signed by Jews, was authorized to resume on the condition that there be no Jewish collaborators.

Meanwhile, all cinema and stage actors in the occupied zone were ordered to prove their "Aryan" origin. Jewish and half-Jewish actors will be eliminated.

"Aryanization" of Jewish business enterprises was also begun in the occupied zone. "Aryan" supervisors were appointed for the more important Jewish enterprises.

NEED FOR WIDER EMIGRATION AID STRESSED AT LISBON PARLEY OF J.D.C. AIDES

LISBON, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- Reporting to Morris C. Troper, chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee's European Council, on the eve of his departure for the United States this week to confer with American Jewish leaders, Herbert J. Katzki, J.D.C. representative in Marseille, today described graphically the plight of the Jews in France and stressed the urgency of intensifying emigration possibilities and increasing relief activities.

Katzki, who will soon return to France, outlined relief requirements of internees in detention camps for foreigners and reported on the recent establishment of an international commission for refugee relief. He said the Vichy authorities were aiding emigration and planning the transfer of prospective emigrants to a special camp at Les Milles near Marseille.

After a recent inspection of the camps, the J.D.C. and the Quakers purchased and distributed several thousand blankets and articles of clothing.

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One of the most pathetic conditions described in Katzki's report is the presence of several hundred Jewish children in the camps with their interned parents. The J.D.C. made a grant to the OSE for care, feeding, medical aid and clothing for these children and is now seeking to arrange schooling and to place social workers in the camps.

The report described the problem of caring for refugees from Germany, from Nazi-occupied countries and from occupied France who are now in unoccupied France, unable to return home, and the Jews expelled from Alsace-Lorraine, who are still receiving some Government aid.

Assistance was given by the French Jewish relief committee for refugees, which is now operating in 15 cities, providing shelter, food, medical and financial aid, while special committees, also subventioned by the J.D.C., are aiding special classes of needy. With J.D.C. support, fully 1,200 children are being maintained.

The J.D.C. and the HIAS-ICA Emigration Association are making all possible efforts to promote emigration. Dr. Joseph Schwartz, vice-chairman of the J.D.C. European Council, flew to Marseille on Dec. 25.

122,000 JEWS EMIGRATED FROM AUSTRIA SINCE ANSCHLUSS

NEW YORK, Dec. 29. (JTA) — Vienna is rapidly becoming a city without Jews, as only some 48,000 Jews remain since Austria was incorporated into the Third Reich in 1938, Joseph C. Hyman, executive vice-chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee, disclosed today. A report received by the J.D.C. from the Israelitische Kultusgemeinde, central Austrian Jewish welfare organization, revealed that during the first year of the war more than 16,000 Jews had left Austria. Of the original Austrian Jewish population of 180,000, about 122,000 Jews have emigrated since Anschluss. Excess of deaths over births accounted for the remaining population shrinkage.

Of the Jews remaining in Vienna, nearly two-thirds are women and a little more than 3,000 are children under 18. More than 10,000 men and women are within the age limits suitable for emigration.

Analyzing the destinations of those already emigrated, the report showed that 28,000 went to the United States, about 8,000 to Palestine, more than 11,000 to Central and South American countries and more than 20,000 to other overseas lands. More than 54,000 Austrian refugees sought asylum in various countries throughout Europe, where large numbers of them still remain.

During August, 1940, the last month reported on, 30,600 needy Jews received cash support from the Kultusgemeinde, while soup kitchens served close to 400,000 meals. In the same month, 6,400 people were given medical aid, while an additional 500 were supplied with clothing and furniture. Nearly 3,300 children were cared for in orphanages, nurseries, boys' and girls' homes or through assistance to children still living with parents; 840 aged people and 741 invalids were cared for in institutions. Thousands of adults and children participated in vocational retraining courses supported by the Kultusgemeinde, including agricultural reorientation.

"The equivalent of \$588,000 was appropriated by the J.D.C. for the work of the Kultusgemeinde during the first twelve months of warfare," Hyman said. "None of this money was remitted to Austria in the form of American dollars, however."

OSCAR GRUENBERG, DEFENDER OF MENDEL BEILISS, DEAD AT 74 IN NICE

VICHY, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- Oscar Gruenberg, who gained international renown as chief of counsel in the famous Mendel Beiliss ritual murder trial in Kiev, has died in Nice, it was reported here today.

Gruenberg also represented such famous figures as Maxim Gorky, Milyukov and Leon Trotsky in political cases and represented Jewish interests before the Senate Tribunal on the Kishineff pogrom. While a resident of Latvia, where he moved after the Bolshevik revolution, he was a member of the Jewish Agency Council. He had been a member of the Senate in the Kerensky Government in 1917.

CONGRESS PARLEY HELLS PROJECT TO SEND 200 MOBILE KITCHENS TO ENGLAND

NEW YORK, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- A proposal that American Jewry rush material aid to the British people by a gift of 200 mobile kitchens for relief of air-raid sufferers was enthusiastically received at a conference on American Jewish aid to Britain under the auspices of the American Jewish Congress, today at the Hotel Astor.

The project, requiring the raising of \$400,000, at \$2,000 for each kitchen, was outlined to the conference by Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, chairman of the Congress. The importance of this help was underlined in addresses by Rabbi Maurice L. Perlzweig, of London, chairman of the British section of the World Jewish Congress, and by Frederick W. Gehle, chairman of the fund-raising division of the British War Relief Society.

Winthrop W. Aldrich, chairman of the British War Relief Society, has written to Dr. Wise that his organization will undertake to ship American Jewry's gifts to England, or to transfer funds there, if contributions take that form.

The conference recessed late in the afternoon to allow a committee to frame a resolution setting up the machinery for dispatching American Jewish donations to Britain. It was Dr. Wise's plan that this be done through affiliation of the Congress with the newly-formed Inter-Faith Committee for Aid to the Democracies. Dr. Henry A. Atkinson, secretary of the inter-faith committee, had written to Dr. Wise inviting the Congress to become the Jewish representative body in the committee.

In his address to the conference, Dr. Wise declared that "American Jewry ought to stand out in my effort for help to the fighting democracies" and should register its "unlimited support of Great Britain."

The conference adopted a resolution pledging fullest support to Great Britain whose victory, it declared, "will be the beginning of a new world order based on right and morality," and expressing hope that Britain's "pledges with respect to the Jewish National Homeland in Palestine may at long last be satisfied."

Another resolution recorded the determination of American Jewry to co-operate with President Roosevelt and all government agencies in the "total defense program" of the United States.

INTER-FAITH COMMITTEE FORMED FOR AID TO BRITAIN

NEW YORK, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- Leading Catholic, Jewish and Protestant clergymen and laymen have united to form an Interfaith Committee for Aid to the Democracies, which issued a declaration today urging the President to call a conference of democratic countries to
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take "joined together for the defense of our liberties and to set forth our common purpose to achieve a world in which free men can live."

Leading signers of the declaration include Dr. Israel Goldstein, Henry Morgenthau Sr. and Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

N.Z.O. OPENS 2-DAY CONVENTION HERE

NEW YORK, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- With delegates from the United States, Canada, Argentina and Mexico in attendance, the New Zionist Organization today opened a 2-day convention at Jewish Community Center. Prof. Benjamin Aknin, speaking for the presidency of the N.Z.O., reported on the political situation and the organization's future tasks. Rabbi Morris M. Rhee, president of the N.Z.O. of America presided.

NEW ORDINANCE PUT ON JEWS IN POLAND

WARSAW, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- Jews have been forbidden to enter non-Jewish businesses in the Jewish district or to walk on Lublin's principal street, according to the Litzmannstadt (Warsaw) Ghetto, Nazi organ in Poland.

IDEAS UNDER ALASKA COLONIZATION PLAN BE PUSHED AS DEFENSE AID

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- Pushing of the Alaska colonization plan to provide a "defense behind the defense" is urged by Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes in his annual report to President Roosevelt, made public today.

"The Department of Interior," the report said, "is supporting a bill (S-3577) which would make possible accelerated development and colonization of this sparsely settled territory. The plan, in effect, would provide 'a defense behind the defense' in the form of an active population to furnish needed supplies and services to the regular troops which would be stationed there. It is generally conceded that new activities and industries must be developed in Alaska if the territory's economy is to be built up and maintained."

BOMB WHICH DESTROYED SYNAGOGUE 2 HOURS AFTER SERVICES

WARSAW, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- Three hundred Sabbath worshippers escaped death Friday night when a high explosive bomb destroyed their synagogue last night two hours after the conclusion of the services.

ISSUANCE OF JEWISH HEBREW PAPER HAILED IN BRITAIN

WARSAW, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- Publication of Yalkut, monthly Hebrew supplement of the Zionist Review, has been enthusiastically welcomed in Hebraist and Zionist circles in Great Britain.

The publication, it is pointed out, is rekindling the hopes of a Hebrew revival in Europe at a moment when the Hebrew movement on the continent has been swept away by the Nazi tide. Yalkut is edited by Dr. Simon Rawidowicz, chairman of the Tarbut Association, who during the last war and under similarly difficult conditions published Hakevatat in collaboration with Tchernikowsky.

The first issue of Yalkut is devoted mainly to the 800th anniversary of Jehuda Halevi, famous Hebrew poet. An editorial stresses British Jewry's present increased responsibilities to Hebrew culture.