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ROOSEVELT STRESSES RELIGIOUS FREEDOM, HITS AXIS EFFORTS TO STIR DISCORD

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6. (JTA) -- World-wide freedom of religion was named today by President Roosevelt, in his address to Congress, as one of the "four essential human freedoms" to which the United States looked forward in the future. He spoke before a packed House chamber.

Discussing the four freedoms, the President said: "The second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way--everywhere in the world."

The President's address also left no doubt that his conception of an adequate peace included justice to minorities. "We know that enduring peace cannot be bought at the price of other peoples' freedom," he said.

Indications that a strong drive against Axis-sponsored and inspired organizations in this country would form an important point in America's defense program was seen in the President's warning against the Axis plan of "spreading poisonous propaganda and seeking to promote discord in nations still at peace" as part of its drive towards world domination.

"The first phase of the invasion of this hemisphere would not be the landing of regular troops," he said. "The necessary strategic point would be occupied by secret agents and their dupes, and great numbers of them are already here and in Latin America."

POLISH JEWISH REFUGEES REACHING PALESTINE FROM WILNO

JERUSALEM, Jan. 6. (JTA) -- The first 40 of a large number of Polish Jewish refugees coming here from Wilno, Lithuania, arrived in Palestine on Friday, and 210 more are expected this week. The first group, including the former presidents of the Warsaw and Cracow Zionist organizations, were met at Ras-el-Nakura by Eliehu Dobkin, head of the Jewish Agency's immigration department.

(The United Palestine Appeal has announced in New York that arrangements have been made for transportation of 995 refugees from Wilno to Palestine via Soviet Russia and the Far East.)

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VICHY REPORTED PLANNING ACTION AGAINST REFUGEES UNLESS U.S. TAKES THEM

NEW YORK, Jan. 6. (JTA) -- The Vichy Government, in a diplomatic note to Washington, has declared that unless the United States accepts the 200,000 to 300,000 German, Spanish and other refugees now in France, it would have to take "the appropriate steps," Edgar Ansel Mowrer, Chicago Daily News correspondent in Washington, reported today.

Mowrer said the French note implied that President Roosevelt a year ago offered to look after the refugees and that now, if anything happened to them, it would be due solely to the President's dallying. It was pointed out, however, in Washington that the President made no such promise, only stating that the U.S. would participate in international action for refugees.

ZOA PROTESTS PALESTINE ENTRY CURB; BACKS UPA DRIVE

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 6. (JTA) -- The administrative committee of the Zionist Organization of America yesterday approved the United Palestine Appeal \$12,000,000 drive and adopted a resolution voicing its "painful protest" against the Palestine Government's decision not to issue an immigration schedule for the six-month period ending April, 1941.

The resolution urged that "the policy of appeasement be ended with respect to Palestine as it is being ended in the foreign policy, as exemplified by the heroic struggle which Great Britain is now conducting."

Zionist leaders from various communities pledged maximum efforts to raise local quotas in the UPA drive. The 150 persons attending were addressed by David Ben Gurion and Dr. Nahum Goldmann, of the Jewish Agency Executive, the Rev. Maurice L. Perlzweig and Judge Louis E. Levinthal, who presided.

2 LODZ JEWS JAILED FOR LEAVING GHETTO WITHOUT PERMIT

ZURICH, Jan. 6. (ONA) -- Nazi authorities in Poland summarily sentenced two Jews to four and six months' imprisonment for emerging from the Lodz ghetto without permission, the Litsmannstaedter Zeitung, Nazi organ of Lodz, reports.

WAR CURTAILS CITRUS CANNING IN PALESTINE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6. (JTA) -- The effect of the war in the Mediterranean trade area has brought the growth of the Palestine citrus canning and by-products industry to a dead stop, the Agriculture Department reported today.

Sharp curtailment of commercial shipping in the Mediterranean has reduced exports drastically and considerable difficulty has been experienced in obtaining tin and other materials for the processing industry. Unofficial sources estimate that canning and by-product industries now account for about 10,000 tons of oranges and other citrus fruits. By-products are put up in bottles and jars, although some canning takes place.

Trade sources indicate existing plant facilities are not being utilized at a maximum and a considerable increase in production could be handled without plant expansion. It is considered unlikely, however, that the industry will be able to expand as long as hostilities continue. It is considered that the industry will be lucky to be able to hold up its present production rate.

Also affected adversely by the war is the considerably smaller vegetable processing industry, which is confined largely to olives, cucumbers, tomato juice and canned peas.

\$50,000 SOUGHT FOR YIDDISH SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTE

NEW YORK, Jan. 6. (JTA) -- A resolution to proclaim a \$50,000 campaign in the United States for the Yiddish Scientific Institute was adopted yesterday at the closing session of the 15th annual conference of the Institute in Hotel Piccadilly.

More than \$5,000 towards this campaign was raised at a banquet closing the conference. Another \$5,000 was announced as a contribution of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union towards the research work on Jewish labor unions in America to be undertaken by the Institute this year.

The conference which lasted three days, elected a board of directors of 50 members and an executive board of 19. The executive director is Dr. Max Weinreich, formerly of Wilno.

PRILUTZKI NAMED TO WILNO UNIVERSITY POST

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 6. (JTA) -- Noah Prilutzki has been appointed to the newly-created chair for Yiddish language at Wilno University, according to an announcement published in the sovietized Lithuanian Government organ, Tarybu Lietuva.

The surprising appointment of the non-Communist Prilutzki, who came to Lithuania as a refugee from Poland, is considered in Jewish circles here as an exceptional measure by the Soviet authorities in acknowledgement of his outstanding attainments in the field.

MEMORIAL FOR HOS HELD IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, Jan. 6. (JTA) -- A memorial service for Vice-Mayor Dov Hos of Tel Aviv, who was killed in an auto accident, was held yesterday in the Jewish Agency building with Isaac Gruenbaum, Isaac Ben-Zvi and Zalman Rubashov as speakers.

REFUGEE DIAMOND FACTORY OPENED IN LONDON

LONDON, Dec. 15. (JTA -By Mail) -- What is described as the first factory created in time of war for refugees only has been established in London. More than 50 skilled workers from Holland, Belgium and other countries are employed at the Woodbridge diamond-polishing factory in Central London. The factory hopes to handle 1,500,000 worth of stones a year, most of which will go to America as investments.

"All that stands in the way of this country's capturing virtually the entire diamond-polishing trade for at least the duration of the war is the absence of labor," says the Manchester Guardian. "A tremendous opportunity for this country appears to have been lost when the Germans overran Holland and Belgium. Some 60 per cent of the work people in the industry are Jews. About 8,000 fled to France, where at least 4,000 remain. Had they come here they could have been placed in almost immediate employment, and the new industry would have become a flourishing and extremely valuable growth."