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JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. VIII. No. 26.

Thursday, January 9, 1941.

IRON GUARDS SPEED SEIZURE OF JEWISH FIRMS; 90% LIQUIDATED

(Second of a series by a correspondent just returned to Budapest after a stay in Bucharest.)

BUDAPEST, Jan. 8. (JTA) -- "The Jews of Rumania will be allowed to live," Premier Ion Antonescu declared in an interview last September with the correspondent of the Italian newspaper La Stampa. Since then, the regime of which Antonescu is nominally the chief has made it impossible for Jews to make a living of any sort whatever.

All but an estimated ten per cent of the Jewish businessmen in Rumania have been forced to surrender their businesses to the Green Shirts or their friends. The remaining ten per cent, it is expected, will be liquidated within the next few weeks.

In Constanza, Rumania's main seaport, all Jews were ordered to appear at the Chamber of Commerce during Christmas week and sign documents turning over their stores and businesses to persons designated by the Iron Guard. When one Jew asked what would happen if he failed to comply, the Green Shirt director replied: "The Black Sea is big and silent."

Though it does not appear that Jews have been thrown into the Black Sea, it is definitely known that many have been beaten for attempting to hinder the liquidation, which by New Years was complete.

Meanwhile, all Jews of any means, whatever their occupation, have been forced, literally at pistol point, to "donate" their entire savings to the Legionary Aid--the welfare organization maintained by the Iron Guard for the benefit of workers and peasants willing to join the Green Shirts.

Poor Jews--hucksters, shoemakers, tailors and peasants--have been liquidated just as ruthlessly as businessmen. Naturally, their present situation is even worse since they have neither friends nor financial reserves to fall back upon.

Unable to earn enough to keep alive, these unfortunates have been flooding the centers maintained by the Jewish communities of Bucharest, Constanza, Galatz and other centers, waiting in long lines not only for food but for firewood in order to keep from freezing in the severe weather which has been aggravating all of Rumania's many social problems.

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An estimated 15,000 Jews in Bucharest alone face starvation. The overtaxed resources of the Jewish community there are insufficient to supply enough food to feed more than a part of the destitute applying for aid. And their number is increasing daily.

Nor, despite the enormous demands, has the community been able to furnish enough firewood to last two weeks. Blizzards which are raging through the country have thoroughly tied up all transport not already devoted to bringing in German troops.

Meanwhile, to add to their problems, Jews are not being forced to lodge from one to six German officers in their homes. By Sunday night every Jewish family in Bucharest had received a copy of the following notice from the Prefecture of Police: "Notice.... in conformance with Order 21, 124, January 3, 1941, of the General Staff.....John Doe, X Street, is hereby ordered to prepare immediately X rooms, herewith requisitioned, complete with beds and all necessary linens and furniture, for the lodging of German officers...."

Meanwhile, the headquarters of the Jewish community, all Jewish schools, synagogues and hospitals, as well as factories and warehouses not used by the Government for vital industries, have been requisitioned en masse to be converted into barracks for German soldiers.

As Jewish real estate in Bucharest can not furnish sufficient "Lebensraum" to house all the troops expected, the military command has already begun to requisition Christian schools, hospitals and public buildings in order to provide quarters for an estimated 50,000 Germans who will be garrisoned in Bucharest henceforth.

(Here an entire passage censored.)

The arrival of the Germans in Rumania accentuates the tremendous housing shortage arising from the influx of refugees from territories ceded to Hungary and Russia and from areas devastated by the earthquake, which rendered 200,000 persons homeless. Bucharest's normal population of 650,000 has already been increased, by the most conservative estimates, to 1,000,000.

VICHY OFFICIAL ATTENDS PRIVATE FUNERAL FOR BERGSON

GENEVA, Jan. 8. (JTA) -- Private funeral services, with a representative of the Vichy Government among the few persons present, were held yesterday for Prof. Henri Bergson, famous philosopher who died last Saturday at the age of 81, at Garchon near Paris, it was reported here today.

French Secretary of Public Instruction Jacques Chevalier, broadcasting over the Lyons radio, paid tribute to Prof. Bergson as "not only my guide, but my friend," and recalled how he had refused to accept exemption from the Vichy racial laws and resigned his post at the College de France.

Jews BARRED FROM MOVIES IN HOLLAND

LONDON, Jan. 8. (JTA) -- The Nazi authorities in Holland have issued an order prohibiting Jews henceforth from attending cinemas, it was reported here today. The Committee of the League of Cinemas charged that recent anti-German demonstrations by movie-goers "were caused mainly by Jews."

75% OF EMPLOYEES OF REFUGEES' FIRMS ARE AMERICANS, SURVEY SHOWS

NEW YORK, Jan. 8. (JTA) -- The National Refugee Service reported today that a sample survey of 303 business enterprises initiated by refugees in the United States shows that 2,000, or 75 per cent, of the 2,700 workers employed are Americans. In addition to giving employment to native labor, these refugee enterprises purchase American machinery and raw materials. They make available new products and services, many of which previously had to be imported.

The survey revealed that a total of 264 of the 303 firms had been established after 1937. Capital investment of from \$50,000 to \$200,000 was made in five of the enterprises, while 29 represented a total investment of between \$10,000 and \$50,000. Investments of \$10,000 or less were represented by 114 enterprises.

Annual production was \$10,000 or less in 22 enterprises, between \$10,000 and \$50,000 in 36 firms, and more than \$50,000 in 20. Four establishments reported annual production in excess of \$200,000.

9 BUND LEADERS FACE SENTENCE FOR SPREADING RACE HATRED

NEWTON, N.J., Jan. 8. (JTA) -- Automatically convicted of violating New Jersey's anti-racial agitation statutes by the action of Common Pleas Judge John C. Losey in holding the legislation constitutional, nine German-American Bund leaders will be sentenced on Jan. 31 and one will stand trial on "the merits of the facts." Maximum sentence is three years' imprisonment and \$5,000 fine.

The ten, including G. William Kunze, national "Fuehrer" of the Bund, were indicted last October for making or permitting speeches at Camp Nordland near here last Summer inciting hatred "against persons of the Jewish religion." Nine of the 10 admitted the charges, but filed demurrers contesting the constitutionality of the statutes. Thus they were automatically convicted when Judge Losey upheld the law.

It was the first test of New Jersey's statutes prohibiting racial and religious incitement. In his decision, handed down yesterday, Judge Losey stated: "A speech which in any way incites, consoles, promotes or advocates hatred, abuse, violence or hostility against persons by reason of race does not appear to be fair, just, right or reasonable and naturally tends to provoke or incite others to break the peace....It does not appear arbitrary or unreasonable for the Legislature to make it an offense. It appears to be a reasonable preventive measure."

An appeal will be taken from the decision, it was announced by John Winans, counsel for the Bund.

PALESTINE LABOR FILM SHOWN

NEW YORK, Jan. 8. (JTA) -- A four-reel, 16 millimeter film portraying the work of the Histadruth in Palestine was shown at a press preview today by the National Labor Committee for Palestine, under the title, "They Build and Defend." The film will be shown before Zionist groups throughout the country. David Ross, the radio announcer, contributed his services for the narration. The editing was done by Nachum Guttman and the music was recorded by the choral society of the League for Labor Palestine.

ROOSEVELT SOUGHT MODERATION OF NAZI ANTI-JEWISH DRIVE IN 1933. DODD'S DIARY REVEALS

NEW YORK, Jan. 8. (JTA) -- President Roosevelt stressed the necessity of seeking moderation of Nazi persecution of Jews when he sent the late William E. Dodd as Ambassador to Germany, it was revealed today with publication of the first portion of Dodd's diary in Liberty magazine. Prof. Dodd was Ambassador from 1933 to 1938.

The diary entry for June 16, 1933, quoted the President as telling Dodd: "The German authorities are treating the Jews shamefully and the Jews in this country are greatly excited. But this is also not a governmental affair. We can do nothing except for American citizens. We must protect them, and whatever we can do to moderate the general persecution by unofficial and personal influence ought to be done."

Several other entries contain Dodd's observations on the development of the anti-Jewish drive in the Reich, and on Sept. 12, 1933, the Ambassador wrote that "Hitler means to put all Jews out of responsible positions, even to expel them from the country."

POLISH AGUDATH ISRAEL SET UP IN ENGLAND

LONDON, Jan. 8. (JTA) -- Polish Agudists here have founded a Polish Agudath Israel organization, which announced that it would maintain closest contact with the exiled Polish Government and Jewish representative bodies.

ZIONIST ORDER BACKS UPA DRIVE

NEW YORK, Jan. 8. (JTA) -- The Order Sons of Zion today endorsed the decision of United Palestine Appeal leaders to launch an independent campaign for \$12,000,000. The decision was taken at a special meeting of the national executive.