

# NEWS

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## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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### NAZIS RAZE 100 SYNAGOGUES IN POLAND, TURN CEMETERIES INTO FARMS

LONDON, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Nearly 100 synagogues have been demolished in the annexed zone of German-occupied Poland, it was reported here today.

They include the 500-year-old synagogue at Grudzimidz and the old synagogue at Torun. The masonry was removed and metal fixtures were sent to German armament factories. In Poznan alone four synagogues were destroyed.

Jewish cemeteries throughout the district were razed and the land plowed to be used for food-growing.

Meanwhile, thirty-six tons of clothing have been turned over to the Polish Jewish Refugee Fund by the British authorities. The consignment was originally dispatched from the United States to Poland via Stettin and was seized by the blockade authorities to prevent its falling into German hands.

Part of the clothing will be issued to non-Jewish Polish refugees and another part will be distributed to Jewish air raid sufferers.

Polish Jewish refugees are presently employed in helping clear air-raid debris in London under arrangements made by the Polish Refugee Fund with the Labor Ministry. A number of refugees have also been placed in the diamond trade, in manufacture of clothing for the Government and others are being trained for employment in munitions works.

### JDC TO SPEND \$250,000 TO SEND MATZOS TO NAZI-HELD LANDS

NEW YORK, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- The Joint Distribution Committee intends to spend at least \$250,000 to provide matzos for Jews in German-occupied countries, for entry of which the Nazi authorities have given permission, it was revealed today by Morris C. Troper, JDC European director.

Troper, who arrived from Lisbon on Tuesday, described the Jewish situation and JDC relief activities in Europe at press conferences for the English and Yiddish press, one presided over by Vice-Chairman Jonah B. Wise and the other by Executive Vice-Chairman Joseph C. Hyman.

The matzos will be purchased in Yugoslavia and Hungary and, with the permission of the respective governments, shipped to Jewish relief communities in Poland and other

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Nazi-controlled areas, Troper said. In the course of the press conferences, he stated:

In unoccupied France, more than 50,000 refugees, about 35,000 of them Jewish, are held in 20 internment camps under the most trying conditions. There have been days in which 20 to 30 suicides have been recorded. Two thousand children are among the interned refugees. In the Gurs camp, where 15,000 Jews are held, there are 1,200 persons over 70 years of age, one of them 106 years old. Deaths from disease, privation and malnutrition reach the total of 400 monthly. There have been two typhoid epidemics.

Many of the people in these camps are the ones least likely to survive. Principally people who had never known privation before, they are the ones whose resistance, both moral and physical, is the lowest. There are also some 50,000 technically at liberty in the free zone, who are being helped by the J.D.C. so that they may escape being interned as well.

In occupied France, there are still some 50,000 Jews in Paris; 25,000 to 30,000 in other parts of occupied France. Their supplies and funds are gone. Nazi-sponsored anti-Semitic legislation makes it impossible for them to work. Soup kitchens, established by the J.D.C. serve one meal a day to 5,000 persons.

The Spanish border is tightly closed to all but the few holders of legitimate passports. The great traffic in spurious passports centering in Marseille is at an end. At least 2,000 refugees have been detained by the authorities and interned in camps.

In German-occupied Poland, anti-Semitic laws and the ghettoizing of the people have reduced the Jewish population to the verge of starvation. They cannot even trade between themselves as none has the money to buy. They are so poor that stories of people going to places where they can simply smell food cooking are frequent and authenticated. The J.D.C. is functioning through a network of 2,000 institutions of aid. There are 300 feeding stations, 900 medical and child care institutions, 150 monetary help agencies. In one way or another 600,000 are daily being helped; 300,000 fed, 150,000 given monetary aid, 40,000 given medical service, 40,000 children cared for.

Portugal has forbidden entrance to any without a legitimate visa for another country. When the first influx began, the authorities were more lenient, and 10,000 Jewish refugees came in a wave to a country that had but a 100 in May of 1940. Today 6,000 of the 10,000 are still in Portugal, harried by the rife rumor of German troops at the border. They are not permitted to work. There are no camps for them. For Portugal is not a refugee country and will not recognize anything of a permanent nature for these unwelcome guests. A J.D.C. soup kitchen is in operation. Day by day, more of them are reduced to relief as their limited funds are exhausted.

#### MRS. WARBURG SETS UP ADLER SCHOLARSHIP AT SEMINARY

NEW YORK, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Establishment of a Cyrus Adler Scholarship by Mrs. Felix M. Warburg was announced today by the Jewish Theological Seminary. Mrs. Warburg donated \$10,000, the income of which is to be awarded each year to the outstanding student of the graduating class of the Rabbinical Department, "who comes closest to the all-around human being that Cyrus Adler was." Mrs. Warburg made the gift on the 70th anniversary of the late Felix M. Warburg.

JEWISH CONGRESS GIVES FIRST FIELD KITCHEN TO BRITISH RELIEF SOCIETY

NEW YORK, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- The first of a fleet of 200 mobile field kitchens to be contributed for British civilian aid through the Jewish Section of the Interfaith Committee to Aid the Democracies was presented yesterday to Frederick W. Gehle, chairman of the Fund Raising Division of the British War Relief Society. The kitchen, which is to bear the name of the late Ambassador Lord Lothian, was presented by Dr. Maurice L. Perlzweig, chairman of the British Section of the World Jewish Congress at ceremonies at the offices of the American Jewish Congress.

The unit cost \$2,000 and can feed 500 persons at a time. The effort to secure this fleet was launched on Dec. 29 at a conference called by the American Jewish Congress. Last night a Continuations Committee, authorized by this conference, met at the Hotel Astor to plan a nation-wide effort to secure this fleet under the direction of the Jewish Section of the Interfaith Committee.

In accepting the presentation Gehle said: "It seems to me a singularly moving and significant thing that precisely those who have special reasons to know what it is to be the victims of persecution should have been the first to commemorate the spokesman of a great democracy...It will be a great pleasure for us to undertake the transportation of these kitchens and I can give you the assurance that they will play a part of inestimable value in meeting the needs of the population in the bombed areas of Great Britain."

Refugees in Australia Donate Ambulance

LONDON, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Jewish refugees in New South Wales have raised funds to equip an ambulance for the Australian forces, the Dominions Office announced today.

MAXA NORDAU ARRIVING HERE MONDAY

LISBON, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Maxa Nordau, daughter of the late Dr. Max Nordau, one of the early Zionist leaders, has sailed for New York on the United States liner Excambion for an American lecture tour. She is accompanied by her husband, Captain Gruenblatt, and her mother. (The Excambion is scheduled to reach New York on Monday.)

"RED RABBIS" TO PREACH LOYALTY TO SOVIET JEWS

LONDON, Jan. 3. (JTA-By Mail) --A school has been opened in Kamenets-Podolsk, in Soviet Russia, The Jewish Chronicle reports, for training "red rabbis," whose task will be to preach to the Jews in the new Soviet territories in Poland, the Baltic States, Bessarabia and Northern Bucovina, loyalty to the Soviet regime. They will endeavor, it is reported, to "harmonize" Soviet doctrines with the principles of the Jewish religion.

An effort is being made to recruit students for the new school among yeshiva students in the annexed territories, especially in Eastern Galicia.

NORWEGIAN PROFESSORS RESENT BANNING OF EINSTEIN'S WORKS

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 1 (JTA-By Mail) -- University professors in Norway are protesting strongly, the Svenska Dagbladet reports, against the banning of the works of Prof. Albert Einstein, declaring that the ban would make the continuance of scientific work in the country extremely difficult. Einstein's works have been banned as "emigrant literature."