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JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. VIII. NO. 54.

Tuesday, February 11, 1941.

POST OFFICE ASKS POWERS TO CURB FOREIGN PROPAGANDA

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The United States Government will never be able to curb the flood of pro-Nazi and un-American propaganda through the mails unless Congress gives the Post Office Department statutory authority to do so, Jesse M. Donaldson, Deputy First Assistant Postmaster General, admitted to the House Appropriations Committee today during hearings on the Post Office appropriation.

In response to a question by Rep. Louis Ludlow of Indiana regarding the truth of reports that the United States postal system has been carrying a large amount of propaganda mail, Donaldson said: "There is no doubt but that there is a considerable amount of matter going through the mails that is propaganda but there is no way which the Post Office Department could declare it unmaillable unless some statutes were so provided."

He added that the Department could make no accurate estimate as to the amount of propaganda mail of both domestic and foreign origin carried because the Department is forbidden under existing law to investigate the content of first-class mail for propaganda matter.

Committee members did not ask Donaldson for any specific legislative recommendations in this connection. However, two bills have already been introduced at this session, by Senator Alexander Wiley of Wisconsin and Rep. Samuel Dickstein of New York, both of which carry sufficient authority to curb seriously the tide of pro-Fascist propaganda, a large part of which is anti-Semitic.

The Dickstein bill would bar the mails to all matter inciting religious or racial hatred while Senator Wiley's measure would make a plain statement of the foreign origin of all such propaganda a requirement for admission to the mails.

While this Government takes great pains to insure the privacy of first-class mail coming from foreign countries these countries do not reciprocate on foreign mail originating here, other postal officials told the committee. It is recalled that recently Rep. Sol Bloom of New York warned that Nazi authorities were systematically plundering mail from this country addressed to refugees in occupied territory.

The cost to this Government of the distribution of foreign propaganda mail largely directed against the U.S. Form of Government and its institutions was the subject of a recent report by the Dies Committee, which also recommended legislative curbs.

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NAZIS ATTACK JEWISH ARMY PLAN; SCOFF AT JEWISH PEACE DEMANDS

ZURICH, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The Nazis today gave vent to their irritation over the plan for a Jewish army in a Berlin broadcast to the German army which attacked the leader of the New Zionist Organization, Abraham Abrahams, in connection with his recent statement to a group of parliamentarians in London. (See JTA News Feb. 9.)

"It is doubtful whether the speech of the Jew Abrahams was dictated by cunning or impertinence," the broadcast said. "The Jews of National Socialist Germany began their long voyage from Berlin to Vienna, thence to Prague, then to Warsaw and now to London.

"The activities of the Jews are well known to us, evidenced by the murders of Gustloff and vom Rath and the machinations of Mme. Lupescu. They are carrying on in the same way in Britain, the last outpost of Jewry in Europe, where Churchill and Abrahams reign."

Regarding the Jewish proposals at the ultimate peace conference, the broadcast said: "The Jew Abrahams may be sure that the Jewish demands at the peace conference will remain only a charming dream."

VICHY GIVES EXEMPTION TO 2 MORE JEWS

VICHY, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Two Government engineers with notable war records today were exempted from the provisions of the anti-Jewish law, making a total of seven exemptions thus far.

Those exempted today are Chief Mining Engineer Armand Mayer, who is an authority in this field, was twice wounded during the war, four times mentioned in dispatches and was decorated with the Legion of Honor during the first World War; and Mining Engineer Pierre Lion, an authority on copper research, who served as French representative to the Washington world conference on electric power, won the War Cross and Military Legion of Honor during the first World War and in 1939-1940 won the War Cross and was five times mentioned in dispatches.

TREATMENT OF INTERNEES IN CANADA TO BE RAISED IN COMMONS

LONDON, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Following publication in Jewish and non-Jewish newspapers of a number of accounts of returned internees about conditions in Canadian internment camps and treatment of refugees during transportation to Canada, Geoffrey Mander, Laborite, announced today he would raise the matter in Commons.

Discrimination Against Sabbath-Observers Denied

MONTREAL, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- An investigation has shown reports of discrimination against Jewish sabbath observers in Internment Camp B to be unfounded, Saul Hayes, executive director of the United Jewish Refugee and War Relief Agencies stated today.

Hayes said that "we have made an investigation into this case and have sent a rabbi to Camp B and can tell you that the complaints are unfounded and ought never to have been registered." The complaint was made to the Home Office in London by the Agudath Israel. (See JTA NEWS Jan. 26 and Jan. 29).

LORD MOYNE URGED TO REVISE PALESTINE POLICY

LONDON, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Commenting on Lord Moyne's appointment as Colonial Secretary, the Manchester Guardian today urged him to look critically at the Palestine policy and not to be afraid of differing with his predecessor and with the Palestine administration.

In particular, the paper said, Lord Moyne should discover who authorized the official statement that the refugees who reached Palestine on the S.S. Atlantic would not be allowed into the country, even after the war, and whether the Government ever sanctioned "that remarkable usurpation of the powers of Parliament and the people."

5 YIDDISH PAPERS AFFECTED BY BRAZILIAN BAN

SAO PAULO, Brazil, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Five Yiddish newspapers are among the foreign-language publications affected by the decree of President Getulio Vargas ordering such periodicals to change into the Portuguese language within six months. The reason for the decree, it was stated, is to hasten the assimilation of foreign-born groups. For the past year foreign-language publications have been obliged to publish Portuguese translations alongside all material in the foreign language.

29 REFUGEES REACH URUGUAY

MONTEVIDEO, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Twenty-nine refugees from German-occupied lands arrived here yesterday with legal visas aboard the Spanish ship Esperanza.

NEW ENGLAND PARLEY BACKS PROGRAM TO BRING 3,000,000 JEWS TO PALESTINE IN 20 YEARS

BOSTON, Feb. 10. (JTA) - A program to bring to Palestine at least three million Jewish refugees in the next 20 years, proposed by Israel Moses Sieff of London, was endorsed by 800 persons attending an Emergency Conference for Palestine held at the Hotel Statler to launch the regional campaign of the United Palestine Appeal.

New England Jews were asked to provide to the United Palestine Appeal at least fifty per cent of all funds raised locally for overseas and refugee needs. The conference urged Great Britain and Prime Minister Winston Churchill to remove the White Paper policy with its restriction on Jewish immigration and land purchase still being adhered to by the Palestine administration.

"The speedy development of Palestine to absorb the vast post-war migration which would take place regardless of who won the war" was urged by James G. McDonald, chairman of the President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees.

"Some optimists believe that when the war is over, the Jews of Poland will carry on life as before," stated McDonald. "It will be worse after the war, even if Hitler is defeated. Irrespective of the peace settlement to come, the problem of mass migration on a vast scale will have to be solved. It is now two years since President Roosevelt spoke of the necessity of resettling from fifteen to twenty million people at the end of the War. Some of us felt two years ago that this was an exaggeration, but we know now that his estimate is no exaggeration, even if the Allies win the War."

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Sieff, another speaker, declared that the "Jewish future is not in Europe today, but must be based upon the Jewish national home in Palestine. We have to place in Palestine right after this War at least three million Jews. We must create instruments with which to achieve this and must think in terms of hundreds of millions of dollars in order to achieve this program."

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Junior Hadassah Appeals to Churchill

NEW YORK, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Three hundred leaders of Junior Hadassah, attending a national activity conference in the Hotel New Yorker yesterday, expressed "profound regret" that "notwithstanding the British change of policy with the advent of Mr. Churchill as Prime Minister, the White Paper policy restricting Jewish immigration and land purchase by Jews in Palestine is still being adhered to by the Palestine Administration."

"We appeal to His Majesty's Government," the statement said, "to end this injustice to the Jewish people by opening the gates of Palestine to Jewish refugees, to whom Palestine is the only hope of salvation, and by removing the discriminatory regulations against Jews in the matter of land transfers, so that Jewish colonization may proceed unimpeded, as contemplated in the Mandate for Palestine."

The conference was called to devise methods of enlisting "all Jewish youth" of America in strengthening Palestine for its war emergency efforts and to plan ways of spreading a program of education on American domestic and foreign problems. Miss Ernestine Kirschner, secretary of Junior Hadassah, presided.

REVISIONISTS PLAN RESEARCH BUREAU ON POST-WAR PROBLEMS

NEW YORK, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The American Friends of a Jewish Palestine, has set up a research bureau to make available to the public findings concerning the problems of present and post-war Europe and the Jew, it was announced today. The organization will also issue two weekly bulletins, one in English and the other in Yiddish.

NAZIS TO MAKE BLOOD LIBEL FILM IN HUNGARY

LONDON, Jan. 24. (JTA-Airmail) -- The German UFA Film Company has, with the cooperation of the German Ministry of Propaganda, obtained the consent of the Hungarian Government to produce a "ritual murder" film based on the Tisza-Eszlar blood libel cases of 1882, when the Jews of the Hungarian village of that name were charged with the murder of a young servant girl, The Jewish Chronicle reports. The film will be used by the Nazis for anti-Jewish propaganda purposes.

The fact that the Tisza-Eszlar case against the Jews finally collapsed and that all the accused were acquitted is, of course, of no concern to the Nazis. The film will uphold the anti-Semitic blood-libel theory.

ORTHODOX JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDED IN PHILIPPINES

LONDON, Jan. 26. (JTA-Airmail) -- Establishment of the first orthodox Jewish community in the Philippine Islands has been achieved by the Agudath Israel youth group recently formed in Manila. A member of this group was sent to Shanghai to study shechita (kosher slaughter) there. The Agudist organization in New York furnished the necessary funds and religious requisites, the London Agudah announced.