

# NEWS

*from all over the world*

VIA

CABLE  
WIRELESS  
TELEGRAPH  
TELEPHONE

*by the*

## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. VIII. NO. 65.

Friday, February 21, 1941.

### SLOVAKIA PLANS REDISTRIBUTION OF 245,000 ACRES OF JEWISH LAND

ZURICH, Feb. 20. (JTA) -- Details of the scheme for redistribution of Jewish land and property in Slovakia have been announced by the Land Reform Office, the Bratislava radio announced today. A total of 47,000 Jews registered 98,000 hectares (245,000 acres), including 41,000 hectares of farm land, 46,000 hectares of wood land and 11,000 hectares of building sites.

This will be sold to small farmers at a rate one-third lower than the market price, the payments to be stretched out over a number of years. The payments will go into a Land Reform Fund from which the former Jewish owners will receive three per cent interest and one-half per cent amortization annually.

The organization principles of the compulsory Jewish organization in Slovakia, Judenzentrale, have been announced by the chairman of the Central Economic Office, according to Grenzboten, organ of the German minority in Slovakia. It will have the duties of (1) representing the Jews in dealings with the authorities, (2) training Jews for manual work, (3) organizing emigration and Jewish social welfare work.

### HUNGARIAN DECREE TO FORCE JEWS TO RETURN ALL SEVERANCE PAY OVER LEGAL MINIMUM

BUDAPEST, Feb. 20. (JTA) -- The Justice Ministry, it was revealed today, has prepared a decree requiring Jews discharged since May, 1938, when the first anti-Jewish law went into effect, to recompense their former employers for benefits received above the minimum severance pay provided by law.

The effect of the decree will be to deny the validity of private contracts guaranteeing Jews more than the legal minimum severance pay. For Gentiles such contracts can only be invalidated when a firm proves damage to its financial stability.

The decree, which will be published tomorrow or Monday, will set up a commission to enforce the return of benefits above the minimum and also of pensions for widows and orphans exceeding the minimum. The action will be taken without consulting the employer involved. The commission will also be able to order recompensation by discharged Gentile employees, but only on request of the enterprises.

(Continued on reverse side)

COMMITTEE OF U.S. NOTABLES TO AID PALESTINE PLANNED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20. (JTA) -- The Emergency Committee for Zionist Affairs has taken steps here to organize a committee of prominent Americans in support of Jewish aspirations in Palestine, it was disclosed today. The Emergency Committee has designated Emanuel Neumann to do this work and he has been in contact with statesmen, legislators, clergymen, educators and writers, some of whom have already expressed willingness to serve on such a body.

The committee would represent a revival on a wider scale of the American Palestine Committee set up in 1932, with the late Vice-President Charles S. Curtis as chairman, "for the furtherance of the restoration of Palestine as the Jewish national homeland and the dissemination of accurate information as to the progress of the upbuilding work in the Holy Land." The committee at that time included Cabinet members, Governors, Congressmen and others.

PALESTINE BARS UNIFORMS, POLITICAL EMBLEMS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 20. (JTA) -- An order forbidding all uniforms and emblems of political and social organizations, except with special permission, was announced in the official Palestine Gazette today, effective April 20.

RUMANIAN CONSUL TO LEAVE PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, Feb. 20. (JTA) -- The Rumanian consul is expected to leave shortly, it was disclosed today, since Rumania is considered German-occupied territory. The Postmaster has announced cancellation of postal and telegraph service to Rumania.

FISHING SETTLEMENT IN PALESTINE GETS NEW BUILDINGS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 20. (JTA) -- The cornerstone was laid yesterday for the first permanent buildings of the combined fishing and agricultural settlement near Acre. The settlement was founded two years ago on Jewish National Fund land with Keren Hayesod funds. It has 300 members coming from nine countries, including China. The colonists have built six fishing boats and one other vessel.

JEWISH AGENCY SEEKS TO AID JEWS TO LEAVE RUMANIA

NEW YORK, Feb. 20. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency is making strenuous efforts to arrange for immigration of large numbers of Jews from Rumania to Palestine, the United Palestine Appeal announced today. (The New York Times reported from Jerusalem the Agency had chartered a ship to bring 900 from Constanza to Palestine.) During the first month of the Antonescu regime 1,500 Rumanian Jews were brought to Palestine.

The Agency has also been negotiating with the British authorities asking that the British consulate in Moscow distribute immigration certificates to Palestine for Jewish refugees in Soviet territory. It is estimated that there are 500,000 refugees in Soviet Poland alone.

With more than 7,000 immigration certificates distributed among Jewish refugees, it is expected that approximately 12,000 will reach Palestine by the end of June, 1941. Special immigration representatives of the Jewish Agency are operating in almost every corner of Europe in a desperate effort to effect the escape of a maximum number of refugees.

PALESTINE REPORTS RECORD GRAIN CROP, INCREASE IN MANUFACTURING

JERUSALEM, Feb. 20. (JTA) -- The Government today reported a record grain harvest in 1940 and increased exports of certain industrial commodities.

The Agriculture Department announced that 334,000 tons of all grains were harvested, compared with 237,000 tons in 1937, the previous five-year peak.

The wheat harvest of 170,000 tons exceeded the previous record of 1932 by one-third. Crops of barley, millet and maize were also extremely good. The sesame crop was 7,800 tons, or double the previous year.

Interesting experiments are proceeding in cultivation of ground nuts, which may become a staple crop if the oil content is sufficiently high. Market gardening became extensive and some citrus growers are intending to utilize part of their planted land for vegetable growing.

The report on industrial development mentions increased exports of wire, aluminum goods, razor blades, woolens, water heating apparatus, washing soap and artificial teeth. Total industrial exports for the first three-quarters of 1940 were valued at £196,752, against £44,690 in the same period of 1939. Last year's exports of potash and bromine were £317,234. Figures for this year are not yet available.

The United States and the United Kingdom are now practically the only suppliers of motor cars and lorries for Palestine. A total of 920 new vehicles were registered in the first 11 months of 1940, compared with 1,067 in the same period the previous year.

New factories and plants, in many cases in lines hitherto unrepresented in Palestine, continued to spring up, their production helping to fill the gap created by the impossibility of importing certain products. The latest establishment of this kind is a starch and glucose factory, named Galam, situated in the Karkur colony near Hedera. Its entire machinery was made or acquired in Palestine.

NEWSREEL FEATURES SCENES OF SOSUA COLONY

NEW YORK, Feb. 20. (JTA) -- The current Paramount Newsreel release, which began showing in theaters tonight, features the first moving-picture scenes of the refugee colonization in Sosua, Dominican Republic.

The Assembly of the University of Santo Domingo has awarded the degree "Doctor Honoris Causa" to James N. Rosenberg, president of the Dominican Republic Settlement Association, according to advices from Ciudad Trujillo. President Manuel J. Troncoso of the Dominican Republic participated in the ceremony.

JEWISH POET, LEAVING FOR U.S., FETED IN FRANCE

MARSEILLE, France, Feb. 20. (JTA) -- A farewell banquet was given tonight for Daniel Charney, the poet, who is leaving for the United States. Dr. Aaron Syngalowski, of the ORT, presided. Speakers included Herbert Katzki, of the Joint Distribution Committee; Rabbi Aisenstad and representatives of many Jewish bodies.

The famous painter, Marc Chagall, is also intending to proceed to the U.S. shortly.

(Continued on reverse side)

POLISH GOVERNMENT AIDS REFUGEES IN PALESTINE

LONDON, Feb. 20. (JTA) -- The exiled Polish Government has agreed to the proposal of Ignacy Schwartzbart, member of the Polish National Council, to grant support for 200 Polish Jewish refugees in Palestine. The Government set aside £14,400 for such assistance during the current year. Previously a one-time grant of £2,000 had been sent to Polish Jews in Palestine. The Polish consulate in Palestine was instructed to investigate the material status of other Polish Jewish refugees to determine what other aid should be given.

NAZIS SEIZE JEWISH-ENDOWED SORBONNE DORMITORY

LONDON, Feb. 20. (JTA) -- The Nazi authorities have converted into a hospital the Sorbonne students' dormitory, one of the largest buildings outside Paris, which was donated by the Jewish philanthropist, Deutsch Delameurthe, the Paris radio reports.

NAZIS SAFE FROM REVOLT BECAUSE OF 'SCAPEGOAT' OUTLETS, PSYCHIATRIST SAYS

NEW YORK, Feb. 20. (JTA) -- A symposium of the American Orthopsychiatric Association in the Hotel Pennsylvania today was told by Dr. Gregory Zilboorg that revolution in totalitarian countries was far off because the dictators offered their peoples outlets for aggressiveness and resentment by directing it against Communists, Jews and the Church.

The freedom to persecute religious and racial minority groups, he said, compensates the subjects of dictator nations for their lack of freedom in other respects, and they are "far from the psychological state that bids fair to produce a rebellion."

ADEN JEWS AID GREEK FUND

LONDON, Feb. 20. (JTA) -- The little Jewish community of Aden has sent £50 to the Greek Minister in London for the Greek Comforts Fund, expressing gratitude for the Greeks' "heroic campaign against the Italians," it was announced today.

BATTLE GETS AMERICAN HEBREW AWARD

NEW YORK, Feb. 20. (JTA) -- George Gordon Battle, attorney and co-chairman of the Council Against Intolerance in America, today received the 1940 Medal for the Promotion of Better Understanding Between Christians and Jews in America given annually by The American Hebrew Magazine. The presentation was at his office.

WIFE OF FRENCH COMMISSIONER AIDS JEWISH SCHOOL IN SYRIA

JERUSALEM, Feb. 20. (JTA) -- Mme. Dentz, wife of the French High Commissioner in Syria, donated 1,000 francs to the Alliance Israelite school at Sidon following a visit there, it was reported from Beirut today. Meanwhile, the French Consul-General here entertained managers and teachers of Alliance schools and expressed great interest in their work.