

# NEWS

*from all over the world*

VIA

CABLE  
WIRELESS  
TELEGRAPH  
TELEPHONE

*by the*

## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. VII. NO. 57

Wednesday, February 25, 1941

### REFUGEES STRIVE TO LEAVE PORTUGAL, FEARING NAZI OCCUPATION

LISBON, Feb. 25 (JTA) Offices of Jewish relief organizations and of foreign steamship companies here were besieged today with thousands of refugees from Germany, Belgium and France seeking to flee from Portugal as a result of Hitler's threat of yesterday that he would soon launch increased naval activities against England.

The refugees in Portugal, all of whom are awaiting their turn to emigrate to overseas lands, fear that in efforts to secure as many possible naval bases from which to attack England and Gibraltar, Germany may soon occupy Portugal. The fact that contingents of the Nazi army are already on Spanish soil adds to the panic prevailing among the refugees in Portugal, who fear being caught again by the Nazis after having once escaped from them.

Efforts by Jewish relief organizations here to charter a special steamer on which many of the 8,000 refugees could sail for the countries of their destination have proven so far unsuccessful. Representatives of Jewish and non Jewish American relief organizations operating in Portugal were therefore busy today discussing the advisability of appealing to the United States Lines to send a large steamship to Lisbon to save at least those refugees who have secured U. S. visas and cannot otherwise leave Europe because all steamers sailing from Portugal to the United States are booked until the beginning of June.

The lack of transportation facilities also affects hundreds of Jewish internees in concentration camps in unoccupied France. All of them have their visas and emigration documents in order, but are compelled to remain where they are because no place for them is available on any steamer sailing from Lisbon, which is the only place today in Europe from where ships leave for the American continent.

The panic among the refugees in Portugal has been especially aggravated by the fact that the German population in Lisbon is reported to be under orders not to move from their dwellings without securing special permission from local Nazi officials. It is well known that the German residents of Lisbon have been under orders from Berlin to secure dwellings in the best strategic parts of the hill capital. It is also established that with the tacit consent of the Portuguese authorities, all able-bodied Germans in Portugal are being drilled by special Nazi agents from Berlin "in order to be prepared for any emergency in case the British decide to land troops in Lisbon harbor."

### JULES MOCH, SOCIALIST LEADER, FREED FROM FRENCH CAMP

VICHY, Feb. 25. (JTA)--- Liberation of political internees is continuing, it was reliably reported today. One of those released is Jules Moch, Socialist leader and former secretary general of ex-Premier Leon Blum's cabinet.

PALESTINE WAR INDUSTRIES ABSORB 10,000 UNEMPLOYED

LONDON, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- Unemployment in Palestine has been reduced between 10,000 and 12,000 through absorption of workers in war industries, Director Leib Jaffe of the Palestine Foundation Fund (Keren Hayesod), who is visiting here, reported today at a press conference.

Jaffe said many had found work in industries working for the forces, such as metal, optical, food and chemical industries. The potash industry is particularly active, adding workers and extending its shifts, he said.

There is no food shortage, although prices have risen, and rationing has not been introduced, Jaffe declared. He said cultural life was flourishing, with 50 periodicals issued regularly and the Bialik Institute having started publication of popular editions.

The friendliest relations prevail between the Jewish population and the British forces, Jaffe said. The Anzacs are particularly popular with children and with the Yemenites, from whom soldiers buy all sorts of souvenirs, including Hebrew prayer books.

Many farmers among the Australian forces show keen interest in Jewish agricultural development. Groups of 40 to 50 officers regularly visit colonies on Sundays and exchange experiences with Jewish farmers.

Relations with Arabs have also greatly improved, Jaffe said. Jewish teachers from Baghdad are employed in Arab village schools, acting as liaison officers between Arabs and Jews.

Jewish Air Raid Precautions work, especially in Tel Aviv is most efficient and has been highly praised by the High Commissioner, he added.

Jaffe asserted that Palestine was looking to American and British Jews to take over the share of the 15 Nazi-occupied countries in building the national home. He said these countries had provided £50,000 to £60,000 of the Keren Hayesod's income annually.

Actions Committee Considers Situation

JERUSALEM, Feb. 25 (JTA) -- A day-long session of the Zionist Actions Committee yesterday heard David Ben Gurion report on the Zionist position in the light of conditions in Britain and the United States. Menachem M. Ussishkin, presiding, eulogized victims of the pogroms in Rumania. Emil Schmorak submitted a Zionist Executive budget of £16,500. No resolutions were adopted.

Meanwhile, the Central Committee of Hebrew University Students issued a statement warmly appealing to students to volunteer for service in the British forces. The university's medical center was visited by ex-Premier Felice Marjan Skladkowski of Poland, accompanied by leading Polish military physicians.

### Citrus Outlook Continues Unfavorable

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25 (JTA) — The Palestine citrus fruit export outlook continues unfavorable, with no indications during recent months that there is possibility for shipping any large part of the crop, the Agriculture Department's Office of Foreign Agriculture Relations said today.

The plight of the citrus growers was described as "desperate," with both Jewish and Arab interests appealing to the Government for assistance. Negotiations are understood to be under way looking toward British provision of refrigerated cargo ships to carry part of the crop to Britain via the Cape of Good Hope. The manufacture of citrus fruit juices, syrups and marmalades, which formerly utilized fruits not suitable for export, has been expanded considerably this season to take up the slack of lost export markets.

### ANTI SEMITISM IS CHRISTIANS' "DEADLY ENEMY" — ICKES WARMS AT INTERFAITH DINNER

NEW YORK, Feb. 25. (JTA) Secretary of Interior Harold I. Ickes warned tonight that "Hitler's ultimate aim is to destroy both the Jew and the Christian" and urged that "all Christians realize before it is too late that racial and religious hatred, particularly anti-Semitism, is their deadly enemy."

In an address entitled "Protestantism Answers Hate" scheduled for delivery at a dinner forum of the Protestant Digest Associates at the Hotel Roosevelt, over a nationwide network, Ickes combined an attack on race hatred with condemnation of "the quislings who, in pretended patriotism, would cravenly spike our guns in order that Hitlerism might more easily overcome us."

"With diabolical cleverness," he asserted, "Hitler and Goebbels have created a devil for their deluded people to hate. That devil is the Jew — the traditional scapegoat against whom every man's hand has been raised wherever selfishness or greed or cruelty was to be served.... as a Nordic, a Protestant Nordic, I denounce the cruel cunning of any tortured and twisted soul that would seek to defy nature, to ignore ethnology, to bury deep in ignorance and superstition all that Christ lived and died for."

Pointing out that "out of Judaism, with the finest moral system of its time — a moral system which prevails to this day — Christianity sprang and developed," Secretary Ickes said that Christianity's "tendrils are lost in Judaism, which has endured for thousands of years and which will survive this latest campaign of hate and persecution that has been launched against it."

"Nazi hate has spilled over into the Christian camp," he warned. "On their way to destroy Christianity, the Nazis first besmirched and assaulted Judaism. They believe that they will destroy Judaism if they destroy the Jews. But Judaism is not Hitler's ultimate or exclusive enemy. His real enemy is the Nazarene Carpenter who was never anything else but a Jew. It is He who is the actual objective of the brown-shirted disciples of hate who run like a swarm of evil streptococci through the blood stream of our western civilization."

The Interior Secretary quoted from Nazi utterances as proof that "Hitler's ultimate aim is to destroy both the Jew and the Christian, between whom Christ is the link of imperishable steel."

Ickes then turned his guns on the "dangerous fifth columnists who are serving the avowed purposes of Hitler and Goebbels," declaring that such men as Merwin K. Hart, Father Coughlin, Col. Lindbergh, Lawrence Dennis and Major Al Williams "are supported by others who play upon the prejudices of the anti-Semite, the anti-Negro and the antisharecropper."

Others on the speakers' list were Bishop J. I. Blair Larned, Dr. A. Clayton Powell Jr., Ralph Ingersoll, Dr. Joseph R. Sizoo and Johannes Steel.

CODE FOR NATIONAL UNITY ISSUED

NEW YORK, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- A "Code for National Unity," outlining the principles upon which unity among all groups should be based, was made public today by Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, president of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, in connection with Brotherhood Week. The code, written by Dr. Robert A. Ashworth, educational secretary of the National Conference, is being read in more than 2,000 communities observing Brotherhood Week.

The code follows:

"1. American democracy, with liberty and justice for all, is the most perfect form of political community yet known. 2. If our democracy is to be preserved we must uphold it with unselfish and sacrificial devotion. 3. No hostile influence from without can disrupt any nation among whose people distrust of one another is excluded. 4. We must have a patriotism so great that one citizen cannot hate another. 5. America is a composite of many racial and religious groups, no one of which can truly claim superior loyalty.

"6. Each of these groups has made its own distinctive contribution to the national life. 7. Variety is a source of strength to the nation, not of weakness. 8. Men may differ in religious convictions and yet unite in defense of American liberties. 9. The American liberties are guaranteed by the Constitution to citizens of all faiths equally. 10. Whatever threatens the liberties of any of our people threatens those of all."

BRITAIN PROMISES REPARATIONS TO REFUGEES ROBBED ON S.S. DUNERA

LONDON, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- War Secretary Henry D. Margesson today promised reparations to refugees robbed and mistreated while being transported to Australia for internment on the S.S. Dunera. He declared, however, that it had been decided not to establish a court of inquiry on the matter.

When Col. Josiah Wedgwood, Laborite, raised the question in Commons on a motion for adjournment, Capt. Margesson said a court of inquiry would have to carry on for a very long time and the persons involved might have to wait until the end of the war for compensation to be paid to those who allegedly were robbed and suffered injustice.

The War Secretary said he would see what steps could be taken for immediate reparations without waiting for the result of any court and would see that compensation was made as expeditiously and as justly as possible. "This might prove costly to the Exchequer, but it is better to clear our good name, even if it is a little extravagant," he said.

It will be made perfectly clear to crews that they are not to trade with prisoners on ships and "it will be seen that there will be no repetition of such unpleasant incidents," the War Secretary stated.

Earlier, Col. Wedgwood had demanded publicity on the proceedings of the proposed court of inquiry, stressing that the refugees on the Dunera had been mostly Jews classed as friendly aliens. He urged that watches and wedding rings be restored to the owners and that the Government pay the unfortunate refugees a small weekly sum pending the court's decision. He also suggested that treatment of refugees transported to Canada on the S.S. Ettrick be investigated simultaneously.