

NEWS

from all over the world

VIA

CABLE
WIRELESS
TELEGRAPH
TELEPHONE

by the

JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. VIII. NO. 75.

Friday, March 7, 1941.

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL RENEWED IN RESPONSE TO U.S. JEWS' 'OVERWHELMING DESIRE'

NEW YORK, March 6. (JTA) -- The United Jewish Appeal for Refugees and Overseas Needs, which was dissolved last December, has been reconstituted as the 1941 fund-raising instrument of the three major Jewish relief agencies, it was announced today.

An agreement to renew the united appeal was signed last night at a meeting of officials of the Joint Distribution Committee and United Palestine Appeal, held at the United Jewish Appeal offices, which culminated several weeks of negotiations. The agreement terminates independent campaigns which had been initiated by the JDC, UPA and National Refugee Service.

A statement issued today stressed that the action was taken in response to "the overwhelming desire of American Jewry to establish a union of forces in this critical period." It declared that "the officers of these three organizations recognize that the need for funds is so pressing and the amounts required so great that unity in raising funds is essential."

Reconstitution of the united appeal was hailed by Sidney Hollander, president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, who said in a letter to member agencies: "Now that the handicap of competition and conflict need no longer be feared, local energies can be devoted wholeheartedly to achieving maximum results in this year's welfare fund campaigns. With a reconstituted UJA, welfare funds have both the responsibility and the opportunity to demonstrate their capacity to meet unquestioned needs."

Hollander also pointed out that renewal of the united appeal would remove a "befogging issue" from the referendum of welfare funds on a national advisory budgeting service. The ballot in the referendum is divided into two proposals--the first for establishment of the budget service and the second for establishment of a special commission to formulate advisory recommendations on the needs of the JDC, UPA and NRS. The second point "is not of such immediate consequence" as a result of the new development, Hollander pointed out.

Hollander paid tribute to the "outstanding contribution" of Jacob Blaustein of Baltimore in the final successful phases of the reopened negotiations, "stimulated by the unanimity of sentiment expressed by the delegates at the Atlanta assembly" of the Council.

The negotiations were conducted by Chairman Edward M.M. Warburg and Vice-Chairmen Harold F. Linder and Solomon Lowenstein for the JDC and by Chairman Abba Hillel Silver

(Continued on reverse side)

3/7/41.

and Co-Chairmen Stephen S. Wise and Morris Rothenberg for the UPA. Also present at the meeting at which the agreement was signed were Honorary Chairman Paul Baerwald, Fund-Raising Chairman Frederick F. Greenman and Fund-Raising Director Isidor Coons of the JDC and Executive Director Henry Montor of the UPA.

The UJA statement said the united appeal would "ask the Jews of the United States to provide funds for the programs of the JDC, UPA and NRS to meet the problems of the Jews who are victims of persecution abroad, to assist in the upbuilding of Palestine and for the program of immigrants coming to the United States within the quota limitations." The initial statement did not announce what system of allocations had been agreed upon or what the total goal would be.

Decision not to renew the UJA, which had raised a total of \$30,500,000 in 1939 and 1940, had been announced on Dec. 26. Subsequently the three agencies announced separate drives and set up campaign offices. Several weeks ago, however, negotiations were reopened which resulted in the new agreement.

PRESS HITS WHEELER, HOLMAN FOR INJECTING ANTI-SEMITISM IN LEND-LEASE BILL DEBATE

NEW YORK, March 6. (JTA) -- With the speeches of Senators Burton K. Wheeler and Rufus Holman introducing a hint of anti-Semitism for the first time into the debate on the lend-lease bill, leading American newspapers today denounced the Nazi-style references to "international bankers" and the emphasis on Jewish names.

At the same time, the official Berlin radio approvingly quoted Senator Holman's utterances on this subject. The broadcast termed Senator Holman's speech "interesting" and "important."

The New York Post declared editorially that Senator Wheeler's speech had reached "levels sickeningly below mere sordid politics." It said that Wheeler's remarks about Rothschilds, Sassoons and Warburgs "was in the approved pattern set by Father Coughlin as he worked up to his outspoken anti-Semitism. Does that mean," the editorial continued, "that the Protocols of Zion shortly will be brought out against H.R. 1776?"

Referring to the support of Senator Wheeler by Father Coughlin, Charles B. Hudson, Mrs. Elizabeth Dilling and Joe McWilliams, the editorial stated: "Senator Wheeler now has his following--at disastrous cost to his name. He has won supporters and they--including that strange crew of political untouchables without any recent hope of getting a respectable front--have won a far greater victory. They have won a voice in the United States. They are his but, alas for him, Senator Wheeler is theirs."

The Philadelphia Record editorially spoke of Hitler's "undoubted gratitude for Wheeler's help" and published an imaginative letter from Hitler to Wheeler expressing thanks to him.

The Newark Star-Ledger said: "Senators Wheeler, Nye and Holman...have given voice to Nazi propaganda slogans and have sought to inflame un-American passions. Senator Reynolds has coupled his opposition to the lease-lend bill with vicious and untruthful attacks upon our alien population that recalls the savage racialism of Hitler."

The New York Times criticized "Wheeler's alarms about international bankers."

NAZIS BEGIN DRIVING JEWS OUT OF DUTCH TOWNS; ROTTERDAM GHETTO SET UP

ZURICH, March 6. (JTA) -- Following reports that the German authorities were planning to expel the Dutch Jews to the Polish Government-General, news was received here today that the ousting of Jews from the smaller towns of Holland had already been launched and that a new ghetto had been established in Rotterdam.

The first town to be "entirely cleared of Jews" is the Zandvort seaside resort, reports the Amsterdam German newspaper, Deutsche Zeitung fuer die Niederlanden, which adds that "it is desirable that other resorts, like Scheveningen, Noordwijk, Katwijk and others should soon follow this example."

The Rotterdam ghetto was ordered by the police, effective March 1, with a complete curfew going into effect at seven p.m. daily in the district. After that hour no Jew may leave his house and no traffic is permitted in the streets, except for emergencies, in which special police permission is required.

As in Amsterdam, institution of a ghetto followed alleged anti-Nazi incidents. It is stated that a stone was thrown into a window of a building where German and Dutch Nazi literature was sold.

A hint of Dutch opposition to the Amsterdam ghetto was seen in the Deutsche Zeitung's statement that "the German authorities do not intend to allow the Amsterdam ghetto to prescribe the form of their cooperation with the Dutch population. The people of the Netherlands would do well to take note of this."

NAZIS IN FRANCE TAKE OVER 154 MORE JEWISH FIRMS

VICHY, March 6. (JTA) -- A list of "temporary managers" appointed for 154 Jewish enterprises in occupied France, most of them in Dijon, was published in the Official Journal here today. This makes a total of 743 Jewish firms which have been subjected to such action, which is tantamount to expropriation.

JEWS TO JOIN IN BRITISH DAY OF PRAYER MARCH 23

LONDON, March 6. (JTA) -- The Jews will join in a national day of prayer on March 23 proclaimed by King George, it was announced today by Chief Rabbi J.H. Hertz.

"His Majesty's Jewish subjects will loyally obey the royal summons," Dr. Hertz stated, "and all congregations under my jurisdiction will, in the course of next week, receive the order of service containing supplications to Father in heaven for strength and guidance in the stern struggle before us, as well as prayers of thanksgiving for the mercies and victories hitherto granted to the forces of freedom."

ZIONIST LABORITES MAP POST-WAR AIMS

JERUSALEM, March 6. (JTA) -- A country-wide conference of the Mapai (Zionist labor party) was understood to be discussing today the formulation of Zionism's aims after the war. The meeting was opened last night with a report on the present Zionist position by David Ben Gurion.

(Continued on reverse side)

5/7/41.

NAZIS TELL POLISH JEWS TO SEEK EMIGRATION FUNDS FROM U.S.

GENEVA, Mar. 6. (JTA) -- Emulating the Nazi officials in Vienna, Gestapo officials in Nazi-held Poland are "advising" Jews in Warsaw and Lublin districts to cable their relatives in America to deposit American currency with German travel agencies in the United States in order to secure guaranteed permission to leave Poland for overseas countries, it was reported here today.

The Jews are urged to ask that the money be deposited in New York with the German-owned Hamburg-American and Nord-Deutscher Lloyd Lines. The sum of \$720 is requested for each prospective emigrant as "special passport fee" and cost of passage.

The passage money, when collected in the United States by the two German agencies, will enrich the German treasury with foreign currency, it was pointed out here. While these agencies may promise the prospective emigrants to secure for them passage on Spanish or Portuguese steamers, the amounts paid in America for the passage will nevertheless remain in the hands of the Nazis in view of the clearing arrangements existing between Germany and Spain or Portugal.

Though interested in securing as much American currency as possible through Jewish emigration, the Nazi authorities in Poland appear at the same time determined not to permit Jews of military age to leave the occupied territory. A number of Jews in Nazi-held Poland, according to information reaching Geneva, received notification from various consulates of Latin American countries in Berlin to appear for their visas, but were prevented from proceeding to Berlin on the pretext that they were of the age suitable for "voluntary labor." On the other hand, aged Jews have been informed that there will be no hindrance to their leaving Poland, providing that their passage is paid in America.

NEW YORK, March 6. (JTA) -- The offices of the Hamburg-American and North German-Lloyd in the United States are already accepting passage for Jewish emigrants residing in German-occupied Poland, it has been established. They request the payment of \$720 per person, which they say covers also the "special passport fees" which Jews in Poland must pay when securing a travel passport to leave the country.

SEEK TO SPEED CLIPPER PASSAGE FOR WEIZMANN

LISBON, March 6. (JTA) -- Efforts to arrange earliest possible passage on a Clipper to New York for Dr. Chaim Weizmann and his wife were made today by officials of the Pan-American Airways here. It appears that accommodations for Dr. and Mrs. Weizmann will not be available before the middle of this month. Dr. Weizmann, who was expected in Lisbon today, will remain in London until the Clipper reservations are definitely arranged, it was learned.

SLOVAKIA FORCES JEWISH DOCTORS TO SELL EQUIPMENT

ZURICH, March 6. (JTA) -- The Slovak Government has published a decree empowering the Central Economic Office to force Jews to sell all medical instruments to "Aryan" physicians and dentists at prices fixed by the office, it was reported from Bratislava today.