

NEWS

from all over the world

VIA

CABLE
WIRELESS
TELEGRAPH
TELEPHONE

by the

JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. VIII. NO. 101

Tuesday, April 8, 1941.

140,000 JEWS FACE BLITZKRIEG IN NAZI INVASION OF YUGOSLAVIA, GREECE

BERNE, Switzerland, April 7. (JTA) -- Another 140,000 Jews were brought under the threat of Nazi Blitzkrieg today as the German armed forces pressed their invasion of Yugoslavia and Greece.

First of the cities to feel the effects of Nazi terror from the air were the Yugoslav cities of Belgrade and Sarajevo and the Greek seaport of Salonika, which have relatively large Jewish populations. Salonika has 50,000 Jews, most of them concentrated in one section. Recent reports from Salonika said adequate air-raid shelters had been built in the Jewish quarter, which bore the brunt of the early Italian raids, and that the Jews were facing the German invasion calmly.

There are about 75,000 Jews in Yugoslavia and 85,000 in Greece. Last week, in expectation of the German invasion, a large number of the 12,000 Jews of Zagreb--largest Jewish community in Yugoslavia--had evacuated into the interior, spurred by anonymous telephoned threats in German to Jewish leaders that there would be a wholesale clean-up of Jews once the German forces entered.

Efforts had been made to evacuate as many as possible of the 5,000 Jewish refugees concentrated around Zagreb before the German invasion. More than 1,000 refugees had been marooned in an abandoned factory in Shabac after two years of efforts to emigrate to Palestine. Of these, 250 had succeeded in proceeding towards Palestine via Turkey before the zero hour struck. The refugees had been supported by the Federation of Jewish Communities in Belgrade with the assistance of funds from the Joint Distribution Committee.

One of the side effects of the Yugoslav-German break was the scrapping of plans to ship matzos from Yugoslavia to Jews in German-occupied Poland. The arrangement had been worked out by the Federation of Jewish Communities and was to be financed by the JDC. Instead, it was arranged to send matzos from Hungary and Slovakia since there had been no railway communication between Yugoslavia and German territory for a fortnight before the invasion began.

(Continued on reverse side)

VICHY INTENSIFIES OUSTING OF JEWISH OFFICIALS; 217 REFUGEE CHILDREN FREED

VICHY, April 7. (JTA) -- The Official Journal publishes almost daily lists of Jews ousted from French national life. Thus, today 25 judges and 85 Treasury Department officials were dismissed under the anti-Jewish statute while 158 Jewish enterprises were expropriated.

A new list of 163 denaturalized persons was published today, including 34 Jewish families were a total of 75 members. The rest are for the most part Italians.

The well-known Zionist leader, Leonie Bernheim, has lost his alderman's office in Chatillon, while James Rothschild has been removed as alderman in Compiègne (scene of the signing of the Armistice), of which he was mayor until recently.

A special manager has been appointed for the world-famous bank, Rothschild Freres, with a view to its liquidation. An "Aryanization" commissary has been appointed for the Jewish night shelter in Bayonne.

Meanwhile, 217 children have been released from refugee internment camps in unoccupied France after intervention by the Joint Distribution Committee. They will be cared for by the OSE organization. It is expected that nearly 100 refugee children will emigrate to the United States at the end of April under an agreement arranged by the Quakers.

Xavier Vallat, Commissioner General for Jewish Affairs, intends to go to French North Africa to "study" the Jewish question, it was learned.

Vallat's press conference statement yesterday serves as the springboard for an anti-Jewish campaign in the German-controlled Paris press today.

Le Petit Parisien demands that exceptions from the anti-Jewish statute for scientific and other merits be limited since "it is essential to avoid Jewish cultural influence in literature, science and journalism." The Pro-Nazi La France au Travail, considers Vallat not sufficiently "radical" and criticizes his statement on "assimilable" Jewish families, demanding that all Jews be proclaimed as foreigners.

(A Paris radio broadcast, heard in London, said the Ministry of Industrial Production in Vichy had appointed temporary administrators for 66 Jewish firms.)

LIQUIDATION OF JEWISH COOPERATIVES IN POLAND COMPLETED

ZURICH, April 7. (JTA) -- Nazi-appointed trustees in the Polish Government-General have completed the task of taking over cooperative societies and savings banks, including the large system of Jewish cooperatives, according to the Ostdeutscher Beobachter.

BRITAIN PLANS TO CRACK DOWN ON ANTI-SEMITIC POLISH PAPER

LONDON, April 7. (JTA) -- The News-Chronicle reported today that the Government would take immediate steps to deal with Jestem Polakem, Polish nationalist weekly, whose violent anti-Jewish attacks were declared to be causing "serious concern to the British Government." A possible method of dealing with the publication would be to deny it newsprint paper.

4/8/41.

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS WITHDRAWS FROM GENERAL COUNCIL CHARGING FAILURE TO ACHIEVE AIM

NEW YORK, April 7. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress announced today that it had withdrawn its delegation from the General Jewish Council at a meeting of the Council held yesterday at the Hotel Astor.

The action followed presentation of a memorandum setting forth the history of the General Jewish Council in the three years since it was formed by the Congress, the American Jewish Committee, B'nai B'rith and the Jewish Labor Committee. The memorandum charged the Council with "consistent failure to make any progress to achieve the purposes for which it was formed."

The Congress also charged that the action of the American Jewish Committee and B'nai B'rith on March 19 in reaching an agreement between themselves, without the knowledge or consent of the General Council, for joint fund-raising and coordination of activities, excluding from such an agreement the Congress and the Jewish Labor Committee, was the "culminating event in a whole series resulting in nullification of the purposes of the General Jewish Council."

The memorandum was presented by Louis Lipsky and the announcement of the withdrawal of the Congress delegation was made by Dr. Stephen S. Wise. The withdrawal followed the defeat, by a vote of 13 to 7, of a motion submitted by Prof. Jerome Michael asking the General Council to dissolve itself.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE GIVES \$30,000 TO COMPLETE JERUSALEM REFUGEE HOME

NEW YORK, April 7. (JTA) -- A \$30,000 check for completion of the third refugee girls' center of the Women's League for Palestine in Jerusalem was presented to Dr. Nahum Goldmann of the Jewish Agency today at a luncheon of the league in the Hotel Astor, attended by more than 1,500 persons.

Mrs. David L. Isaacs, chairman of the league's Palestine Committee, in making the presentation, declared: "We are demonstrating our faith in England's cause and our confidence in an ultimate English victory by completing our Jerusalem home at this crucial time. We feel certain that by building in Jerusalem now we are bolstering the morale of Palestine--a strategic factor in England's defense."

Sir Norman Angell, Nobel Prize winner, declared in an address: "the belief that the Jewish homeland can be defended must be kept alive as the British have managed to keep alive the belief that their homeland can be defended."

Other speakers included Dr. Goldmann and Mrs. William Prince, president of the league. Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, for whom a plaque will be placed in the Jerusalem home, and Dr. Chaim Weizmann were among those who sent messages to the luncheon.

PIONEER WOMEN SEND \$20,000 TO PALESTINE

NEW YORK, April 7. (JTA) -- The Pioneer Women's Organization has cabled \$20,000 to the Working Women's Council in Palestine for the agricultural and vocational training of girls and women and special services for children coming into Palestine from Europe, as well as for special women's courses in building trades, road construction, garage services, motor driving and other occupations to replace mobilized men, it was announced today. The quota for the year is \$100,000.

(Continued on reverse side.)

UJA LEADERS ISSUE PASSOVER MESSAGE

NEW YORK, April 7. (JTA) -- Declaring that on this Passover Jews in bondage under the Nazis in many corners of Europe will be scanning the skies for a sign of hope and liberation, Rabbis Abba Hillel Silver and Jonah B. Wise, chairmen of the United Jewish Appeal, today addressed a special Passover message to the Jewish communities throughout the land urging them to give the fullest support to the UJA \$25,000,000 campaign in behalf of the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal and the National Refugee Service.

MELCHETT BACKS AIR SQUADRON PLAN

NEW YORK, April 7. (JTA) -- In connection with the campaign conducted by the Argentine Jewish Community to raise funds for the first Jewish air squadron, a cable was received by the Buenos Aires Jewish community from Lord Melchett congratulating it on its efforts, the New Zionist Organization reported here today. Ezra Teubal and Dr. Jose Mirelman, in the name of the Jewish community, had cabled Lord Melchett asking him to intervene with Prime Minister Churchill for the Jewish army plan.

LORD MARLEY HONORED BY NEW ORT GROUP HERE

NEW YORK, April 7. (JTA) -- More than 100 Jewish leaders from various countries in Europe who are now residing in this country paid tribute to Lord Marley, Deputy Speaker of the British House of Lords, and chairman of the British Empire Parliamentary Advisory Council of ORT, and Lady Marley, at a dinner given at the Club Horizon by the European Friends of ORT, a newly-organized group. Lord and Lady Marley praised the work of ORT in Europe. Dr. David Lvovitch, who presided, was among those who paid tribute to the Marleys.

F. M. WILE, NEWSPAPERMAN, DIES IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, April 7. (JTA) -- Frederick William Wile, well-known newspaperman and member of a prominent Jewish family, died today at the age of 68. He had been for many years a columnist for the Washington Evening Star. He served as correspondent in London and Berlin and during the first World War as an intelligence officer with the American Expeditionary Force. He will be buried in Laporte, Ind., his birthplace.

MOSES GELBER LEFT \$70,000 TO JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

TORONTO, April 7. (JTA) -- Seventy thousand dollars was bequeathed to Jewish institutions by Moses Gelber, prominent Canadian Jewish leader and philanthropist, who died here on Dec. 17, it became known today when his will was made public. Of this sum, \$10,000 will be distributed among Jewish institutions in Canada and \$60,000 will be set as a trust fund, the income of which will go to the widow. After her death the fund is to be distributed among the Jewish National Fund, the Hebrew University, the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York and other institutions.

MEMORIAL FOR BRAMSON IN MARSEILLE

MARSEILLE, France, April 7. (JTA) -- A memorial meeting for Leon Bramson, chairman of the executive committee of the World ORT Union, who died on March 2, was held here last week, attended by representatives of many Jewish bodies. Prof. William Oualid was the principal speaker.