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COMPULSORY RECRUITING OF PALESTINE WORKERS PLANNED; ENTRY FOR 4 MONTHS REACHES 3,500

JERUSALEM, April 30. (JTA) -- The Palestine Jewish labor federation, Histadruth Haovdim, which numbers 125,000 industrial and agricultural workers, today announced plans for compulsory enlistment of all members between the ages of 20 and 35 for military service.

The Histadruth Council, meeting in Tel Aviv, decided to hold a census of members between 20 and 35 and to name a special recruiting committee to carry out speedy compulsory recruiting. All military enlistment in Palestine hitherto has been on a voluntary basis. The Histadruth's daily paper, Davar, published an editorial stressing the urgency of increasing the Jewish armed forces and demanding that every able-bodied union member enlist immediately.

More than 8,000 Palestinians, most of them Jews, are already enrolled in the British armed forces and many of them have seen action in the North African desert and in Greece. British officers have praised the performance of Palestinian units in the Eritrean campaign.

At the same time the Municipal Council of Tel Aviv, largest city in Palestine with a population of 200,000, completed plans for new public air-raid shelters for 12,000 persons, in addition to existing shelters capable of holding 10,000. The Municipal Council is also planning two new hospitals, one in the city and another in the suburbs. Approval of the Palestine Government for the plans is being sought.

The Chief Rabbinate issued posters calling for permanent daily prayers for British victory and proclaiming next Monday as a general fast day, with visits to the holy graves and the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem.

Despite activity on military fronts and transport difficulties, Jewish immigration to Palestine is continuing, Eliahu Dobkin, head of the Jewish Agency's Immigration Department, reported at a meeting of the Histadruth Immigration Department.

April immigration amounted to 1,400, the immigrants coming from Rumania, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Turkey, Greece and Lithuania, Dobkin said. They included 670 in the Youth Aliyah classification, 140 in the capitalist category, 50 rabbis, 190 with special permits, 200 in the labor category and 80 relatives of Palestine residents.

Total Jewish immigration since January was 3,500. Another 1,600, with immigration certificates under the previous schedule, are waiting in Sweden, Japan and Bombay, from

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where exit is still possible.

It was announced that 151 Palestine Jewish settlements absorbed 24,000 persons in 1940. The influx of Jewish capital to Palestine last year totalled £5,000,000.

VICHY ANTI-JEWISH MEASURES WIDENED; NEW BARS IN GOVERNMENT POSTS

VICHY, April 30. (JTA) -- First extension of the Vichy anti-Jewish legislation, published in the Journal Officiel here today, excludes Jews from civil positions in the Ministries of War, Air and Marine and from the ranks of under-officers.

The new decree provides no exemption for Jewish war veterans who have seen active service, such as all other anti-Jewish measures here have provided. It does not, however, apply to Jews serving France overseas, or to war prisoners, the journal explains, until their return to France.

Pétain Balked on Anti-Semitic Law, Refugee Post Says

NEW YORK, April 30. (JTA) -- Marshal Pétain five times declined to sign the French anti-Jewish statute of last October, but eventually capitulated under Nazi pressure, Andre Spire, the French Jewish post, who arrived here several weeks ago, said in an interview today. French leaders say quite frankly that the people of France, entirely out of sympathy with these measures, will force their repeal as soon as the country is liberated from the Germans, according to Spire.

Further information on the reaction of the French to the anti-Jewish legislation is given by Thomas Kernan, an American magazine publisher who lived in France, in an article in the current Saturday Evening Post.

"There seems to be no doubt that Vichy was forced to issue the decrees or suffer ever more punitive measures against the French people," the article says. "It is probable that Pierre Laval bargained for the release of around 200,000 French prisoners--needed doctors, nurses and the fathers or four children or more--in return for the anti-Jewish decrees."

Last September, the article says, a group of French youths in Paris demonstrated against Jews, breaking shop windows. The reaction "was one of disgust and sympathy, and it was forcefully if quietly manifested. The following days, behind boarded-up windows, Toutmain and Annabel (Jewish-owned shops) were filled with more customers than these shops had served in many months, customers they had never had before."

The youths, member of the Front Jeune, never again appeared in the role of storm-troopers. "They dropped into the discard. The anti-Jewish campaign, which the Nazis were determined to carry out regardless, shifted to the more subtle and lethal policy of census and expropriation.

AID SOUGHT FOR 1,600 POLISH REFUGEES FACING OUSTER FROM JAPAN

LONDON, April 30. (JTA) -- Sixteen hundred Polish refugees, many of them Jews, are stranded in the Japanese port of Kobe and will not be permitted to remain in Japan, the Kobe Jewish community today informed Ignacy Schwartzbart, member of the Polish National Council here, urging that efforts be made to enable the refugees to emigrate, possibly to British dominions and colonies.

The Jewish refugees include physicians, lawyers, rabbis, theological students, engineers and merchants. Schwartzbart is continuing intervention with the Polish Government in behalf of the refugees. Visas to Burma have already been granted for 150 of them and 50 have arrived there.

SHANGHAI, April 30. (JTA) -- The Japanese authorities are threatening deportation of Jewish emigrants from Kobe to the island of Sakhalin in Siberia, it was learned here today. The emigrants are refugees from Lithuania who were given transit through Soviet Russia and Japan, but cannot proceed to countries of destination because of visa complications and shortage of steamer accommodations.

Many of the refugees stranded in Japan are moving to Shanghai, adding to the already swollen refugee population here. Jewish refugees also continue to arrive here from Berlin, Vienna, Prague and Poland. Most of those reaching Shanghai during April are from Vienna.

CONGREGATIONS PARLEY CLOSES; PLANS ADDED STRESS ON INTERFAITH INSTITUTES

DETROIT, April 30. (JTA) -- The 37th biennial council of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations closed tonight with a banquet at the Hotel Statler at which scheduled speakers were Hendrik Willem van Loon, the author; James Marshall, president of the New York City Board of Education, and Rabbi Emil Leipziger, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

The banquet followed the closing business session this afternoon at which resolutions were adopted looking towards strengthening of Jewish religion in the United States.

At a symposium this morning addressed by representatives of national Jewish organizations, Morris D. Waldman, secretary of the American Jewish Committee, declared that the challenge of the present crisis made it vital that "the present heterogeneous mass called American Jewry" become one cohesive Jewish community and that the "present Babel of tongues give way to one coherent voice."

"To shape and build the structure of this community and preserve its ideals is the exalted task and sanctified privilege of the synagogue," Waldman said.

Our way of life, Waldman said, involves not only a belief in "the freedom of the spirit for every man regardless of origin, creed or color, the freedom to think and speak one's thoughts, freedom of conscience, freedom to labor and move about," but also the actual practice of those beliefs.

"Moreover," he said, "democracy is not a static concept; it is a dynamic process. It is not a being but a becoming. It is not a finality but a continuous evolution. Once it is accepted as static, it is lost. It is the difference between a tree, rooted in the ground and growing with the seasons, and a tree smitten at its roots by disease or violence, stunted and destined to decay.

"And, because religion, Jew and America are identical in interest, religion and the Jew, too, cannot be static. Religion is not an unchangeable set of dogmas; it is an evolutionary process, a continuous marching forward and upward toward God. This dynamic character applies to Christianity and Judaism alike and to all religions whose basic principles are the same. They each follow their particular road onward and upward, but the roads are in the same direction and lead to the same ultimate destination."

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Looking forward to the end of the present conflict, Waldman declared: "This war will have to produce a different kind of peace, just and equitable treatment of minorities, a greater internationalism, freer trade, more extended financial and commercial cooperation, universal good neighborliness and a limitation of national sovereignty in every country when and where national sovereignty threatens to encroach upon the rights of other nations. Above all, out of this war must come not national self-determination, but human self-determination. More even than in 1917 must we see this war as a war to make the world safe for democracy, discredited though that slogan has become to a tragically disillusioned world.

"To instill these truths into the consciousness of humanity is the task of the church and synagogue. This is the contribution that all religion is making to the status of mankind including the status of the Jew as an indestructible part of mankind."

Others on the speakers' list were Sigmund Livingston, chairman of B'nai B'rith's Anti-Defamation League; Rabbi Morton M. Berman, Chicago, of the American Jewish Congress; Fred Butzel, Detroit, of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds; B. C. Sherman, New York, of the Jewish Labor Committee, and Robert P. Goldman, president of the Union, who presided.

Yesterday the meeting approved recommendations of the Union's survey committee including a dues increase, increased development of interfaith institutes, seminars and laymen's groups; greater support of youth work, and establishment of traveling exhibits of books and ceremonial objects and establishment of a national magazine. A resolution was adopted paying tribute to Rabbi George Zeplin, retiring as secretary of the Union after 35 years.

HADASSAH PLANS WAGNER FOREST IN PALESTINE

NEW YORK, April 30. (JTA) -- Senator Robert F. Wagner, chairman of the newly-formed American Palestine Committee, was honored during a semi-annual conference of Hadassah's national board, which closed tonight at the Hotel Astor, by the dedication of a forest of 10,000 trees to be planted in Palestine in recognition of his "life-long liberalism, devotion to justice, interest in the Zionist movement and courageous espousal of humanitarian causes."

The announcement was made by Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Hadassah president, before 60 leaders representing nearly 700 Hadassah chapters and groups from 46 states. The meeting was called to consider emergency, health, child welfare, refugee and land reclamation measures made necessary by the spread of war hostilities to the Mediterranean.

HUNGARY SEIZES JEWS' RADIOS

LONDON, April 30. (JTA) -- The Hungarian Government has issued an emergency law authorizing confiscation of radios owned by Jews, it was reported here today. If the law is carried out strictly, more than 20 per cent of Hungary's population will be left without sets.

JEWISH WRITERS MEET IN LONDON

LONDON, April 30. (JTA) -- Sixty Jewish authors and journalists, meeting in one of the most heavily bombed areas of London, last night discussed the problem of culture in the present perilous times. Leib Jaffe, director of the Keren Hayesod, stressed the encouragement drawn by Jews in time of adversity from "Judaism's eternal faith in justice and the liberty of the soul."