

NEWS

from all over the world

VIA

CABLE
WIRELESS
TELEGRAPH
TELEPHONE

by the

JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. VIII. NO. 130

Wednesday, May 14, 1941.

NAZIS REPORTED IN AGREEMENT WITH SOVIET FOR TRANSFER OF 150,000 JEWS

ZURICH, May 13. (JTA) -- An agreement between the German and Soviet governments which would force approximately 150,000 Jews from Nazi-held territories into Soviet Russia was reported here today.

The report said the Nazis had reached an arrangement with the Soviet authorities by which all Jews born in the Baltic countries and in the Soviet-occupied Poland would return to their native places if they now reside in Nazi-held territory. The Soviet authorities, while agreeing to admit those Jews into Soviet-controlled land, however reserved the right to refuse admission Jews whom they consider as "capitalist elements."

The Nazi-Soviet agreement is reported to contain a provision permitting the Jews to take along their household property when leaving Nazi-held territory for Soviet. They will, however, not be permitted to take with them any merchandise which may be in their possession. This merchandise is to remain in the hands of the Nazis in exchange for goods left by Germans repatriated from the Baltic countries to Germany.

The report added that while Jews from Soviet-held Galicia were being transported to Siberia for hard labor, the Soviet authorities in Lithuania had started transportation of declassed Lithuanian Jews to Biro-Bidjan.

NAZIS PLAN TO WIDEN ANTI-JEWISH MEASURES IN FRANCE

VICHY, May 13. (JTA) -- Jews must abandon hope that any branch of activity will remain open to them, a spokesman for the Nazi occupation authorities stated to the press in Paris, it was reported here today.

The newly-announced anti-Jewish measures are only the beginning, the spokesman stated, and all fields of commercial and other activities will be gradually closed to Jews. The German spokesman added that the Jewish problem must find "understanding" on the part of the French, which, he said, was essential to the success of Franco-German collaboration. He concluded by paying tribute to Xavier Vallat, Vichy's Commissioner-General for Jewish Affairs.

(Continued on reverse side)

Nazi Press for Stricter Curbs in Free Zone

GENEVA, May 13. (JTA) -- The Nazi authorities in Paris are pressing the Vichy government to promulgate the same rigid anti-Jewish laws which have been issued by the German military command in occupied France, forbidding Jews to engage in retail and wholesale trading as well as in professions which may bring them into contact with non-Jews.

Paris newspapers reaching Geneva today carry reports indicating that Xavier Vallet Vichy Commissioner for Jewish Affairs, is inclined to yield to the Nazi pressure on the pretext that unless there is uniformity in the anti-Jewish policies, there would be an influx of Jews from occupied France into the free zone.

The Paris newspapers also reveal that leaders of the Catholic Church in France have protested to Vallat against the showing in France of the anti-Semitic Nazi film, "Jud Suss," which the Nazis exhibit in every occupied country in order to stir up anti-Jewish feelings.

WEIZMANN SEES ZIONIST CLAIMS MET AFTER WAR

TORONTO, May 13. (JTA) -- Dr. Chaim Weizmann, in his first address in Canada of his current tour, predicted on Sunday, that Zionist claims would be met after the war and asserted that if the Nazis visited destruction on Palestine, "we shall build and rebuild until the great peace."

Addressing some 8,000 persons in a crowded Varsity Hall, the Jewish Agency president said: "There will be victory and there will be peace after much blood, sweat, tears and toil, and Jews will have their share of all of these. After this peace, our claims will be met. I have confidence in the honesty and the faith and the sincerity of the Prime Minister of Great Britain and of the President of the United States. I know that it is not beyond their ken to find a solution whereby the Jews and the Arabs can live fully in equity."

"The filthy claws of barbarism are stretching out to grab hold of the sacred site of Palestine and Zion in the same way that they have polluted the shrine of the Acropolis of Greece and the Chamber of Deputies of France and as they have desecrated the Westminster shrine," he said. "They shall not succeed, we pray. But if they destroy, we shall rebuild a finer Tel Aviv, a more beautiful Haifa and a more sacred Jerusalem. We shall build and rebuild until the great peace."

ARGENTINE BISHOP BACKS JEWISH HOMELAND

BUENOS AIRES, May 13. (JTA) -- Bishop d'Andrea today told Dr. Solomon Goldman, former president of the Zionist Organization of America, that reestablishment of the Jewish people in Palestine was a religious desideratum and a historic necessity.

Honorio Pueyrredon, former Ambassador to Washington and a leader of the Radical Party, recently received Dr. Goldman and told him that Nazi anti-Jewish atrocities had the effect of weakening anti-Semitism in Argentina and increasing the Argentines' sympathy with the Jews. Dr. Goldman is touring South America in behalf of the Zionist cause.

5/14/41.

WORKS OF HEBREW WRITERS REPORTED BANNED IN LITHUANIA

STOCKHOLM, May 13. (JTA) -- Removal from circulation of works of Chaim Nachman Bialik, Saul Tschernichovsky and other prominent Hebrew poets is reported today from Kaunas, Soviet Lithuania. The report states that a purge of the works of these poets has been carried out by the local Jewish Communists in all libraries in Kaunas under the ground that the authors were "bourgeois elements."

Simultaneously it is reported from Kaunas that an order has been issued by the Soviet authorities prohibiting listening to foreign broadcasts.

ANTI-SEMITES QUIZZED ON THREAT TO ROOSEVELT

WASHINGTON, May 13. (JTA) -- Donald Shea, head of the National Gentile League, who was held last night by the Secret Service in connection with an anti-Semitic threatening letter to the President signed, "The Secret Million Committee," was questioned again today, but it was indicated he would be released for lack of evidence against him.

The Dies committee announced no charges had been preferred against Shea, but said a committee hearing would be held shortly to make public documents seized in a raid on his home last night. At the Dies committee office, Shea said he knew nothing about the murder of Heinrich Simon on May 5.

PALESTINE JEWS GREET YUGOSLAV PREMIER

SOMEWHERE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, May 13. (JTA) -- Moshe Shertok, head of the Jewish Agency's political department, yesterday visited Yugoslav Premier Dusan Simovitch and asked him to transmit to King Peter the greetings of the Palestine Jewish community, its sympathy during Yugoslavia's present trials and the hope for ultimate victory.

SLOVAKIA SEIZES MORE JEWISH PROPERTY

ZURICH, May 13. (JTA) -- Jewish property with a total value of four billion kronen has been taken over in Slovakia, Vice-Premier Sano Mach stated at a meeting in Bratislava according to the newspaper Grenzboten. A total of 4,700 Jewish enterprises were liquidated, 350 "Aryanized" and 1,580 sequestered.

JEWISH ORCHESTRA STARTED IN AMSTERDAM

GENEVA, May 1. (JTA-By Mail) -- A Jewish orchestra is being formed in Amsterdam. The orchestra consists of Jewish musicians who are being dismissed from their posts under a decree issued a few days ago.

SONS OF ZION BUYS \$10,000 BONDS

NEW YORK, May 13. (JTA) -- Postmaster Albert Goldman, at a ceremony at the General Post Office yesterday, transferred a \$10,000 National Defense Bond to Harry Grayer, Grand master of the Order Sons of Zion, fraternal Zionist organization of the United States with a nation-wide membership. Goldman expressed gratitude for the patriotic action.

(Continued on reverse side)

5/14/41.

PERSECUTION OF JEWISH RELIGION IN POLAND TOLD BY EYEWITNESSES

NEW YORK, May 13. (JTA) -- Persecution of rabbis and profanation of Jewish ritual objects is more brutal in Nazi-occupied Poland than it was in Germany, according to a survey of German persecution of religious life in Poland released here by the Polish Information Center today.

"Many synagogues have been burned, many converted into stables, motion pictures or brothels," the survey said. "Numerous houses of prayer and rabbinical schools have been closed; many rabbis murdered."

According to an eyewitness report, in Szczecin on Yom Kipper Nazi elite guards armed with revolvers and machine-guns evicted Jews from the local synagogue, tore the prayer shawls from them and threw out the sacred scrolls and prayer books. Silver and gold vessels were seized. The other articles were piled up and the Jews, whipped and hit with butt-ends, were forced to dance around the heap. Aged Jews, ordered to set fire to the heap, refused and were beaten, kicked and spat upon. Dresses were torn off young girls and they were forced to run nude around the market place. Finally the Germans set fire to the pile and to the synagogue, which was destroyed within an hour.

In Tuchow, the synagogue was burned, the 70-year-old keeper was hanged and the sacred scrolls torn to pieces and thrown into rubbish holes. In Wengrow, Rabbi Morgenstern was tortured before all the Jews assembled in the market place. He was whipped and then a knife was slowly pushed into his body until he died. In Nowe Miasto, during a pogrom Nazis raided a small Chassidic prayer house, grabbed seven old men, dragged them to the market place and threw them together with the holy scrolls into a burning pile of faggots.

In Mielec, a number of Jews were locked in a synagogue, which was then set afire and an estimated 50 persons burned alive. Similar burnings of synagogues with the congregants within occurred in Dynow, Frysztat, Myslenice, Sosnowiec, Rzeszow, Krosno, Sanok, Lancut, Jaroslaw, Przeworsk, Przemyśl, Grodek Jagiellonski, Lublin, Zamosc and Krasnystaw.

GARMENT UNION SENDS \$10,000 TO HISTADRUTH

NEW YORK, May 13. (JTA) -- Replying to a call from the Histadruth in Palestine, the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, through its president, David Dubinsky, yesterday cabled \$10,000 to the Histadruth Executive as a contribution for Jewish labor war needs in Palestine.

RAYBURN SPEAKS TO B'NAI B'RITH

WASHINGTON, May 13. (JTA) -- Speaker Sam Rayburn of the House last night made an off-the-record speech to 800 delegates attending the annual convention of B'nei B'rith District Lodge No. 5. President Henry Monsky of B'nei B'rith declared in an address: "The price of freedom is sacrifice--sacrifice on the part of all of us, capital and labor alike, those in high places and those in low places."