

JTA

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Tuesday, August 19, 1941.

KAUNAS JEWS GIVEN FOUR DAYS TO MOVE INTO GHETTO

STOCKHOLM, Aug. 18. (JTA)-- The first eye-witness story of Jewish destruction by the Nazis in Kaunas, Bialystok and Grodno is published today in the Aftonbladet, a Swedish newspaper, written by its correspondent who just returned from a trip to these cities.

All Jews in Kaunas, the correspondent reports, were given four days to move into the ghetto there. A ghetto has also been established for the Jews in Bialystok, while the city of Grodno is completely destroyed.

Nazi officials, the Swedish journalist relates, claim that the introduction of a ghetto in Kaunas became necessary "in order to protect the Jews from pogroms planned by Lithuanian anti-Semites." In addition to driving the Jews into ghettos, all able-bodied Jews in Lithuania are being taken for forced labor to repair roads and other public utilities damaged during the fighting between the Russian and German armies, the correspondent writes.

NAZIS USE THOUSANDS OF DUTCH JEWS AS GUINEA PIGS

BERNE, August 18. (JTA)-- Several thousand Jewish youths in Holland between 18 and 25 years old, were forcibly used by the Nazi authorities there as guinea pigs for testing anti-cholera serum, according to an Amsterdam report reaching here today.

The report reveals that more than twenty percent of the victims died as a result of the experiments made on them, by injecting anti-cholera serum after a previous injection of the cholera bacilli. News of this Nazi atrocity has evoked bitter indignation among the Dutch population, the report states.

JEWISH COMMUNITY IN PRAGUE APPEALS TO JEWS TO KEEP OFF STREETS

LISBON, Aug. 18. (JTA)-- An appeal to the Jews of Prague to refrain from making themselves conspicuous was issued yesterday by the Prague Jewish Community exactly one month after the Nuremberg laws were officially proclaimed in the Protectorate.

The appeal specifically warns Jews against the use of taxis and reminds them that when using the street cars, they must ride only in the second car. It urges them to obey the police regulations with regard to the shopping hours and the ban on visiting public baths.

"Even in closely populated Jewish districts," the appeal declares, "Jews should not promenade in the streets and should conduct themselves as modestly as possible. People with little understanding do harm not only to themselves, but to all the Jews."

The Nuremberg laws, unofficially practiced in the Protectorate for many months, have been formally introduced by a decree published on July 17th in the Reichsgesetzblatt.

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GUSTING OF JEWS DISORGANIZES RUMANIAN ECONOMY IN REGAINED PROVINCES

ZURICH, Aug. 18. (JTA)-- The Rumanian authorities, while persecuting the Jews in the regained territories of Bessarabia and Bukovina, are finding it extremely difficult to bring economic life there back to normalcy since no Rumenians can be found to carry on the trades which are no longer permitted to Jews, it was reported here today.

The report is substantiated by an appeal published in the Bucharest daily newspaper Universul, which urges qualified Rumanian traders and artisans to proceed to Bessarabia and Bukovina "to take the place of the Jews there."

HUNGARY STAGES TRIAL AGAINST AGED JEWISH DOCTOR

ZURICH, Aug. 17. (JTA)-- Because he urged during the first World War that the Baranya District in Hungary should be annexed to Serbia, the seventy-seven years old Jewish doctor, M. Alexander, has now been put on trial by the Hungarian authorities, it is reported here today.

The trial is taking place in a court in Fuenfkirchen, a city regained by Hungary after the collapse of Yugoslavia. Dr. Alexander who resided in Fuenfkirchen, fled from there shortly before the Hungarians occupied the city. He was, however, trapped in another Yugoslavian city and brought to Fuenfkirchen for trial, charged with conducting anti-Hungarian activities.

YIDDISH THEATRE REOPENS IN LONDON AS NAZI RAIDS SLACKEN

LONDON, Aug. 18. (JTA)-- After being closed for more than a year due to the heavy Nazi air-raids over London's Jewish-populated East End, the Pavilion Theatre, only Yiddish theatre in England, was reopened last night.

News of the theatre's reopening was received so enthusiastically among the Jews in the East End, that hundreds were unable to obtain admission to the opening performance. Permission to have the theatre reopened was granted as a result of the slackening of the Nazi air raids on London since the outbreak of the German-Russian war.

NEVILLE LASKI WINS LIBEL SUIT AGAINST ANTISEMITIC WRITER

LONDON, Aug. 18. (JTA)-- Neville Laski, K.C., former president of the Jewish Board of Deputies, was today awarded £525 damages with costs in a libel suit brought by him against the periodical "Truth" and Henry Newnham a writer for the magazine. Laski charged that Newnham had imputed that he was a coward and had evaded service in the last war, in an article published in "Truth" last August.

The plaintiff's counsel pointed out that Laski had served with the British forces in the last war in Gallipoli, Sinai and France, until invalided out in 1917, after suffering from shell shock. His brother, Harold Laski, British Labor Party leader, against whom Newnham's article was similarly directed, was rejected for military service by a medical board, Laski's counsel explained.

In awarding damages to Neville Laski, Justice Hawke, who presided at the trial, said the case had a "wicked aspect." Speaking of the obsession against Jews, which was charged to Newnham, Justice Hawke said, "I do not know whether it is a good thing that such a man with obsessions of this kind should be in the journalistic profession." Speaking of Laski, the Justice commented that, "he had made an honorable position for himself."

INJUNCTION AGAINST BOSTON RABBIS TO BE WITHDRAWN

BOSTON, Aug. 18. (JTA)-- The injunction which barred six nationally known Orthodox rabbis from interfering in the affairs of the Stadium Packing Company, and which attracted attention in Orthodox circles throughout the country, will be withdrawn within a few days and the slaughter house will be open to the inspection of all rabbis according to a decision handed down by a Beth Din at which all parties involved were represented.

The controversy came about because Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, of Boston, argued that he had sole authority in Boston Kashruth matters while a newly formed local Rabbinical Council sought the right to serve as "mashgichim," (religious inspectors), in the establishment.

Irving Keller, proprietor of the Stadium Packing said that he wanted his establishment open to any rabbi. Rabbi Soloveitchik then brought down five leading Orthodox rabbis and it is alleged that Keller was threatened with an "issur," (a religious ban) if he didn't conform with their demands. The slaughter house proprietor feared the "issur" and decided to take out an injunction against the rabbis. A controversy in which the entire Boston Jewish community was aroused ensued.

Sitting in on the Din Torah were Rabbi Abraham Isaac Zalmonovitz, Rabbi Eliezer Proiosky and Rabbi Moses Rosen, all of New York

JDC ARRANGES TRANSPORTATION FOR REFUGEE CHILDREN TO THE USA

LISBON, Aug. 18. (JTA)-- A group of 45 refugee children who found refuge in the homes of the OSE, Jewish health society, in unoccupied France, and who reached Lisbon Sunday on their way to the United States, will sail from here Wednesday. The Joint Distribution Committee arranged their transportation on the Portuguese steamer Mousinho. There are 26 boys and 19 girls in the group.

The OSE, which is subsidized by the JDC, has now opened summer colonies for several hundred undernourished Jewish children in unoccupied France. A sum of 100,000 francs has been appropriated for this purpose. Part of this sum was contributed by the Chief Rabbi of France and part by friends of the OSE in Lyon. A branch of the OSE has also been established in Marseille to care for children and to conduct medical and hygienic work among the Jewish population there.

GUILD'S STRIKE AGAINST "DAY" IS SETTLED

NEW YORK, Aug. 18. (JTA)-- The strike which the New York Newspaper Guild, an affiliate of the CIO, has conducted for six months against the Jewish Day, New York Jewish newspaper, was settled during the week-end, according to a joint announcement by representatives of both parties.

The conditions of the settlement were kept secret, but Dr. S. Margoshes, editor of the Day, stated today that they will be announced shortly. It is understood that the editorial members who joined the Guild will have to apply for reinstatement in the Jewish Writers Union which represents the organized Jewish newspapermen. Employees of the commercial department will get their jobs back but will not be paid for the time they lost during the strike. The question of the reinstatement of B.Z. Goldberg, former managing editor and columnist of the Day, would be decided by arbitration.

(Continued on reverse side)

35,000 JEWS SETTLED IN PALESTINE WITH HELP OF U.P.A. SINCE OUTBREAK OF WAR

NEW YORK, Aug. 18. (JTA)-- More than 35,000 Jewish refugees from lands under the domination of the Nazi regime were settled in Palestine through the assistance of the United Palestine Appeal since the outbreak of the war two years ago, it was announced this week by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, National Chairman of the United Palestine Appeal.

Dr. Silver emphasized that although the war had created critical problems for the 550,000 Jews in Palestine, the normal rebuilding program as well as the work of caring for, training and settling newly arrived refugees had continued without interruption through the financial support provided by the United Palestine Appeal.

Many refugees from Poland and the Baltic countries were settled in colonies established by German Jewish refugees who had arrived in the past few years, he said, adding that more than 260 Jewish agricultural colonies had been established to date through the efforts of the Palestine Foundation Fund and the Jewish National Fund, which are combined in the United Palestine Appeal.

Reporting on the industrial development of Palestine, Dr. Silver declared that since the beginning of the second World War a total of 67 new industries had been established, in which many refugees had been absorbed and given opportunities for economic self-sufficiency. The Jewish Agency for Palestine, which receives its funds from the United Palestine Appeal, has been engaged in a program of industrial expansion in order to enlarge the opportunities for the use of the special skills which many newcomers from Central and Eastern Europe have brought to the Jewish homeland.

In addition to providing for agricultural and industrial upbuilding, the United Palestine Appeal also helps to maintain the Jewish public school system of Palestine, which now serves more than 85,000 children.

REFUGEE TRAINING FARM MARKS EIGHTEEN MONTHS OF PROGRESS

BOUND BROOK, N.J., Aug. 18. (JTA)-- Eighteen months of progress were observed yesterday at gala ceremonies at the Refugee Training Farm, conducted here by the Jewish Agricultural Society with the cooperation of the National Refugee Service. Certificates of merit were presented to those trainees who have made the greatest progress in learning to be farmers. The occasion for the celebration was the completion of a new 2,000-brooder house.

Of the 200 trainees who were accepted at the farm when it was first established, 72 have already acquired farms of their own, 35 are out looking for farms, and another 12 are working as farm laborers. The trainees range from office workers to rabbis. The rabbi is Max Katz, who was forced to flee from Nuremberg three years ago.

Speakers at the ceremonies included Dr. Gabriel Davidson, managing director of the Jewish Agricultural Society, which is maintained by the Baron De Hirsch Fund, Miss Celia Razowsky of the National Refugee Service and William H. Allen, Secretary of Agriculture of New Jersey.

4105 REFUGEES IMMIGRATED TO THE USA IN JUNE

NEW YORK, Aug. 18. (JTA)-- Refugee immigration to the United States totalled 4,105 during June, the National Refugee Service announced today. The June figure was nearly two and one half times the number who arrived during May.

Reports reaching the agency revealed that a high level of immigration is expected during August, since boats clearing Spanish and Portuguese ports during the first 10 days of August carried 2,000 emigres.

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Wednesday, August 20, 1941.

BERDICHEV COMPLETELY DESTROYED, NAZI RADIO REPORTS

STOCKHOLM, Aug. 19. (JTA)-- The Jewish-populated city of Berdichev, once known as the "Jerusalem of Volhynia," is now completely destroyed, a Nazi radio broadcast today reported from Berlin. The city had been occupied by the German army after the Russians were forced to retreat from the Zhitomir region.

The correspondent of the Swedish pro-Nazi newspaper Aftonbladet, who just returned from a trip to the Nazi-occupied Baltic countries and the city of Bialystok, today continues to describe his impressions. He expresses strange sympathy with the sufferings of the Jews of Bialystok which he says "is now a half-destroyed, burned city." More than 50,000 Jews, he says, were evacuated by the Soviet authorities in six days preceding the German occupation of the city. They included men, women and children.

"The evacuation," the correspondent writes, "was ordered by the Soviets on July 26 and had to be completed on August 1st. It was a big movement in a half-destroyed, burned city. Jewish women and children, tired, barefooted and hungry, stood against the walls of their destroyed homes. Many of them had no place to go, although it was mandatory that they leave the city."

VICHY COMMISSIONER FOR JEWISH AFFAIRS ARRIVES IN ALGERIA WITH ANTI-JEWISH PLANS

RABAT, Algeria. Aug. 19. (JTA)-- Pursuing the plan of the Vichy Government to extend the French anti-Jewish laws to the 110,000 Jews of Algeria, Xavier Vallat, French Commissioner for Jewish Affairs, arrived here today from Vichy. He was met by French military representatives and by a representative of the Sultan.

Timing its broadcast to the arrival of Commissioner Vallat, the Nazi-controlled radio station in Paris broadcast the provocative news that "Jews have arrived from Tel Aviv and Haifa to Syria and Lebanon to settle there on Moslem land." A vast plan for the colonisation of Jews in Syria and Lebanon is already being implemented, the broadcaster alleged. The districts chosen for the settlement of Jews are in the neighborhood of Damascus and in the fertile region of the North, he said.

NAZI MILITARY ORDERED TO STIMULATE ANTI-JEWISH POGROMS IN OCCUPIED CITIES

ZURICH, Aug. 19. (JTA)-- The Moscow Radio reported last night that the text of a military order has been found on captured German officers instructing them to stimulate anti-Jewish pogroms in Nazi-occupied cities and to incite the local Russian population against the Jews.

At the same time the Berlin radio last night severely attacked Chief Rabbi Hertz of England for his call to the Jews to participate in the National Day of Prayer for British victory on September 7, marking the second anniversary of the beginning of the war. "Rabbi Hertz pointed out quite rightly that the outcome of the war is of utmost importance to Jews," the Nazi broadcaster commented.

MANCHESTER GUARDIAN DEMANDS AN INDEPENDENT JEWISH STATE IN PALESTINE

LONDON, Aug. 19. (JTA)-- The abolition of the White Paper and the establishment of a "well based Independent Jewish State in Palestine" is urged today by the Manchester Guardian, England's leading liberal newspaper, in an editorial devoted to the situation in the Near East.

"This is essential if we want a lasting settlement in the Near East," the editorial points out. It draws the attention to the fact that Palestine and the established policy of a Jewish National Home there is never mentioned in the statements which the British Government has been issuing recently on matters concerning the Middle East. This despite the fact "that the future of Palestine is fundamental for any planning in that part of the world."

"Without Palestine there can be no settlements," the article continues. It emphasizes that after the first World War, the British Government gave freedom and great possessions to the Arabs, while to the Jews it gave "only a corner for a Jewish National Home." It, therefore, insists that "now we ought to have it clear in our minds that any scheme which gives still further satisfaction to the Arabs, must include justice for Palestine."

Declaring that the White Paper "is neither of legal nor of moral validity" the Manchester Guardian advances the following demands: 1. Abandonment of the White Paper. 2. Establishment of a well-based Independent Jewish State, and 3. Grant the Jews the right to fight as Jews along the same lines as it is granted to Poles and Czechs.

"A Jewish Palestine must be established that can live and defend itself, and bring home its people free from being persecuted in any part of the world," the editorial urges.

CHAPLAINS REPORT IMPROVED RELATIONS BETWEEN JEWS AND NON-JEWS IN POLISH ARMY

LONDON, Aug. 19. (JTA)-- Relations between Jewish and non-Jewish officers in the Polish army are definitely improving, it was stated here today by Major Melcer, chief Jewish chaplain in the Polish army and Chaplain Captain Klepfisz. Both of them arrived here from Scotland several days ago to arrange for High Holiday Services for the Jewish soldiers stationed with the Polish forces there.

Marked improvement in the attitude of non-Jewish Polish officers was noted after General Sikorski, Polish premier, had addressed Polish troops in Scotland, denouncing any attempts to introduce politics into the army, the two Jewish chaplains, who are returning there today, reported.

While in London they made arrangements with the Jewish Board of Deputies and other Jewish organizations to cover the costs of travelling and maintenance for the Polish Jewish soldiers who will be collected in the one place in Scotland available for holding the holiday services.

STRONGER MEASURES URGED AGAINST JEWS IN CZECH PROTECTORATE

ZURICH, Aug. 19. (JTA)-- Stronger anti-Jewish measures in the Czech Protectorate are urged by the pro-Nazi Prague newspaper, Moravske Novik, reaching here today. It declares that the "Jewish problem has not been solved to the full satisfaction of the Aryan population because Jews still have too many opportunities of supplying themselves at the expense of a strong, industrious people."

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JAPAN DEPORTS STRANDED JEWISH REFUGEES

TOKYO, Aug. 19. (JTA)-- Preparing the country for all possible eventualities, the Japanese authorities today continued the deportation from Kobe to Shanghai of Jewish refugees from Poland stranded in Japan on their way to overseas countries.

A group of 500 refugees, including rabbis, were ordered to leave for Shanghai tomorrow. This will be the third group of stranded Jewish refugees deported from Japan to Shanghai in the course of this month.

At the same time it is reported from Shanghai that the Germans have made plans with the Japanese for the taking over of Shanghai's International Settlement by Japanese military forces, with German cooperation, should hostilities break out between Japan and the United States and Britain. In such an event it is feared that the fate of approximately 20,000 refugees from Germany who found refuge in Shanghai will be seriously affected.

Canadian Visas Asked For Rabbis Stranded In Japan

LONDON, Aug. 19. (JTA)-- Malcolm MacDonald, British Commissioner at Ottawa, was today urged to secure issuing of Canadian visas for more than 400 Polish rabbis and yeshiva students stranded in Kobe, Japan, in a cable sent by the Executive of the Agudas Israel.

At the same time a Jewish delegation here visited the Polish Foreign Minister, whom they urged to intervene with a view toward obtaining visas for these refugees somewhere within the British Commonwealth. The Foreign Minister promised the immediate intervention of his government to alleviate the problem, which he said had his personal, deep sympathy.

JEWISH CONGRESS NEGOTIATES WITH SOVIET EMBASSY FOR RELIEF TO JEWS IN RUSSIA

NEW YORK, Aug. 19. (JTA)-- Negotiations are proceeding between representatives of the American and World Jewish Congress and the Soviet embassy with regard to expediting the release of Polish Jews interned in Russia as well as to the possibility of conducting relief activities in the Soviet Union, it was announced by the Congress today. The names of a number of leading Jewish personalities known to be imprisoned in Russia have been submitted with the request that they be released.

The matter of the release of Jewish prisoners has also been taken up with the representatives of the Polish government here and in London, the announcement said. Immediately upon the conclusion of the Russo-Polish agreement, the World Jewish Congress established contact with both the Polish and the Soviet governments with a view to facilitating the release of Polish Jews interned in Russia. The office of the Congress in New York has made known to American Jews that they may submit the names of their imprisoned relatives for whom intercession will be made with the Polish and Russian authorities.

VICHY GENERAL SENDS MOROCCAN JEWS INTO GHETTO

VICHY, Aug. 19. (JTA)-- All Moroccan Jews living in the European quarters in Morocco since September 1939 will be ordered to move back into their old dwellings in the Arab quarters, it was announced here today.

The measure which amounts to forcing Jews into a ghetto has been demanded by the French resident General Nogues, the announcement said. It is a part of the plan to extend the French anti-Jewish laws to the African colonies.

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PALESTINE HIGH COMMISSIONER, REPRESENTATIVES OF JEWISH AGENCY LEAVE TO OPEN CAIRO EXHIBIT

JERUSALEM, Aug. 19. (JTA)-- Sir Harold MacMichael, High Commissioner for Palestine, left today to open the Palestine Industrial Exhibit at Cairo. He was accompanied by Dr. Emil Schmorak and Elieser Kaplan, representing the Executive of the Jewish Agency in Palestine. With them went Amin Bey and Abdul Hadi, on behalf of the Supreme Moslem Council.

Simultaneously, the New Zionist Organization announced that its Administrative Committee in London had submitted a plan for a travelling Jewish exhibition to the British Ministry of Information.

The plan suggests that the exhibition be held under the auspices of the Ministry of Information. It would present facts concerning Jewish soldiers and police force in Palestine, Jewish services in the North African campaign, Jewish work in Tobruk harbor, Jewish industrial help to the war effort in Palestine, support of the Jewish press throughout the world to the Allied war effort campaign and to the creation of a Jewish army, and Jewish gifts, such as ambulances, field kitchens and food supplies, that have been made to Britain in connection with the war.

SOCIAL SCIENTISTS TO STUDY EFFECT OF INTOLERANCE AT WILLIAMSTOWN INSTITUTE

WILLIAMSTOWN, Mass. Aug. 19. (JTA)-- Hate and intolerance will be studied by social scientists and educators attending the Williamstown Institute of Human Relations here on August 24 to 29, according to an announcement issued here today by the Institute.

At the first national educational forum on post-war problems on the campus of Williams College under the sponsorship of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, specialists will analyze the effect of "hate" in the same light that scientists and students have studied the menace of "tuberculosis" and "yellow fever" as an obstacle to the achievement of a healthy society.

An entire session on "Intolerance -- Its Toll Upon the Intolerant" will be given to this problem Thursday morning, August 28. Dr. David M. Levy, eminent New York psychiatrist, will present findings of an investigation into the effects of "hate" on the individual human personality, showing the various stages of frustration, general hostility, guilt and even insanity through which its victims are led. Sister Mary de Lourds, of St. Joseph College, West Hartford, Conn., an expert in the subjects of child guidance and prejudice, will demonstrate how hatreds, which develop patterns of conduct inimical to the democratic way of life, are inculcated in many children at an early age. Another principal speaker will be Alice L. Halligan, chairman of a committee of teachers, supervisors and principals of the Springfield, Mass., schools, which has been producing materials and devising methods for immunizing public school children against hatreds and prejudices.

MEMORIAL MEETING FOR DR. OTTO HIRSCH HELD IN LONDON

LONDON, Aug. 19. (JTA)-- A memorial meeting for Dr. Otto Hirsch, the leader of the Jews in Germany, who was tortured to death in a Nazi concentration camp, held here last night in the Woburn House was addressed by Otto Schiff, Prof. Norman Bentwich and Dr. Kurt Alexander.

In eulogizing Dr. Hirsch, Otto Schiff, president of the German Refugee Committee in England, pointed out that Dr. Hirsch could have left Germany and would have saved himself from the Nazis, but preferred to carry on his duties as leader of German Jewry, and was thus murdered. "The only way to honor his memory is to carry on the relief work for German Jews which he began," Mr. Schiff said.