

# JTA

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ZURICH, Aug. 25. (JTA)-- The first ghetto for Jews in Rumania has been established in the city of Kishinev, Bessarabia, regained from the Soviets, according to a report published in the Aachener Zeitung.

The Nazi newspaper states that all Jews who remained in Kishinev after the retreat of the Soviet army are now forced to live in a special section of the city segregated as a ghetto.

Statistics compiled by central Jewish organizations in Bucharest reveal that damages totalling more than 566,000,000 lei, approximately \$1,750,000, were sustained by 1,500 Jewish families who were victims of the Iron Guard pogrom in Rumania last January.

The data discloses that 80 percent of the pogrom victims were Jews born in Rumania. More than two-thirds of the damage was suffered by stores, shops and other places of business. Damages to homes and dwelling places account for close to 100,000,000 lei, or about 27 percent of the total, while the injuries to synagogues and Jewish community buildings amounted to an additional 22,000,000 lei. About 4,600 individuals comprise the 1,500 families involved. More than twenty-five percent of these families are those of Jewish war veterans who served Rumania in war-time.

### IMPROVEMENT FOR 40,000 JEWS IN IRAN EXPECTED UNDER BRITISH OCCUPATION

LONDON, Aug. 25. (JTA)-- A radical change in the life of the 40,000 Jews in Iran is expected in Jewish circles here as a result of the entry of British and Russian troops into Iran.

It was pointed out here today that the Jews in Iran have been subjected during recent years to serious persecutions and special humiliations. A number of regulations aimed specifically against the Jews had been issued by the present government.

About 100 Jewish refugees from Poland are now stranded in Iran on their way from India to Palestine. It was hoped here today that the occupational authorities would allow them to proceed to Palestine without delay.

### JEWS IN SLOVAKIA EVICTED FROM THEIR HOMES

ZURICH, Aug. 25. (JTA)-- Jews in Slovakia, especially in Bratislava, are now being evicted from their homes and transferred to dilapidated castles, it is reported in the Bratislava newspaper Grembote which reached here today.

The paper states that it was originally planned to build barracks for the evicted Jews, but such barracks have not yet been erected. In the meantime the practice of giving Jews thirty days notice to leave their dwellings has been abandoned. Instead the Jews are being evicted from their homes without any notice under the pretext of "unsanitary conditions" the central authorities claiming that the Jews live in crowded quarters "which constitute a danger for the whole population."

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## NAZI ANTI-JEWISH ATROCITIES DESCRIBED AT MEETING IN MOSCOW

MOSCOW, Aug. 25. (JTA)-- All highways and roads in the Nazi-occupied part of the Ukraine are strewn with tortured and butchered Jews, it was reported here last night at a Jewish mass meeting which was addressed by Jewish writers and artists, including David Bergelson, Perets Merkish, Prof. Kapitsa, Ilya Ehrenburg, Sergei Eisenstein and others.

The meeting addressed an appeal to the Jews of the world "to listen to the guns of Gopel and the voices of the murdered Jewish woman of Berdichev" and to realize that the Nazis are determined to wipe out the Jewish people as a nation. It called on the Jews of the world to actively participate in the fight against Hitlerism wherever they are.

"The Nazis have made up their minds to completely annihilate the Jews as a people, but the Jews are determined to live and not to die," said David Bergelson, prominent Jewish writer, who spoke at the meeting. He described how a German commanding officer, occupying a small town in the Ukraine summoned the local Jewish leaders and asked them why the Jews in occupied Russian territory do not commit mass-suicide as did the Jews in Germany and in Austria. "You certainly possess less pride than the Jews of Berlin and Vienna," the German officer reprimanded the Russian Jews.

Giving similar descriptions of Nazi cynicism and brutality, Perets Merkish, prominent Jewish poet, pointed out that the Jews in Russia do not think of ever committing suicide. "The Jewish people," he said, "must live and justify its existence and its history." Prof. Kapitsa, addressing the gathering, pointed to the "great indebtedness which the world of science owes to the Jews since they always worked for the country in which they live, thereby increasing the progress of the world."

## PALESTINE INCOME TAX GOES INTO EFFECT ON MONDAY

JERUSALEM, Aug. 25. (JTA)-- The Palestine Income Tax Law, opposed by Jewish commercial bodies, will go into effect on September 1, it was officially announced here by the Palestine Government. This is the first time that Palestinians will have to pay an income tax.

The law exempts unmarried people having an income below £500 a year and married people with an income below £400, approximately \$1,200 and \$1,600, respectively.

The official announcement of the Palestine Government explains that the introduction of an income tax in Palestine had as a chief aim the "encouragement of bona fide cooperative societies without prejudice to private industry."

The Government stated that it had been unable to accede to the requests of Palestine industrialists for the exemption of new industries and an allowance on past losses and sums set aside for reserve because of the necessity to raise increased revenue as a result of war conditions. Also, that the Government felt that the future of industry in Palestine would be determined by other factors than the tax law. The law contains some modifications, however. For example debenture interest may be carried forward in case of loss, and local or municipal rates can be claimed as deductions.

## Jews IN HUNGARY NOT PROTECTED BY NEW RENT LAW

BUDAPEST, Aug. 25. (JTA)-- Jews in Hungary are excluded from the benefits of the new rent regulations issued to protect tenants from unjustified increases, the Hungarian press today points out. The new measures prohibit landlords from giving tenants of apartment houses and business premises notices to vacate or pay higher rentals. They specify that non-Jews are protected by the measure and state that Jewish tenants may be ordered to vacate.

## POLISH GOVERNMENT REVOKES LAW AFFECTING JEWISH CITIZENSHIP

LONDON, Aug. 25. (JTA)-- The Polish Government today decided to abolish the law which takes away Polish citizenship from any Polish citizen residing outside of Poland for more than five years, it was stated here by Dr. Ignacy Schwartzbart, Jewish member of the Polish National Council.

The suggestion to abolish this law came from Dr. Schwartzbart who is interested in the restoration of citizenship to many Polish Jews now considered stateless because of their living in countries outside of Poland.

Jewish circles as well as Polish democratic circles in London were today alarmed over the fact that the Polish anti-Semitic Endek Party is pressing the Polish government to name the Endek leader Tadeusz Bielecki as vice-Premier. Bielecki is known to hold extremely reactionary and anti-Jewish views, and it was, therefore, feared that cooperation between the various Polish democratic groups and the Polish government would be greatly hampered if Bielecki were given the vice-Premiership.

## NOCK'S THEORIES ON JEWS DENOUNCED BY NOTED ANTHROPOLOGIST AT WILLIAMSTOWN INSTITUTE

WILLIAMSTOWN, Mass. Aug. 25. (JTA)-- The theory that "Jews are an Oriental people," recently expounded by Albert Jay Nock in two articles in the Atlantic Monthly, was denounced here today as "unscientific and without any basis of truth" by Professor Ruth Benedict, noted anthropologist from Columbia University.

Dr. Benedict made this statement in the course of an address to the symposium on "Cultural Diversity - America's Strength" at the 1941 Williamstown Institute of Human Relations, which is being held here under the auspices of the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

"Nock's writings reveal a personality problem," Dr. Benedict stated. Disputing Nock's theory that "Jews have a locked closet which no non-Jew can ever hope to pierce," she said that "Cultural or racial background is no barrier to intellectual or social relations between men." Dr. Benedict also assailed the Nazi idea of a "pure master race," denying the validity of such thinking. "The German themselves are a mixed race," she added. "Every people who have built impressive civilizations in any country in the world have been drawn from diverse human breeds. Hitler is wrong in his facts of history."

Other speakers at the symposium were Dr. Otto Klineberg, Jewish psychologist from Columbia; Professor Rayford Logan, Negro historian from Howard University; and Geoffrey Schmidt, Catholic labor expert, connected with the New York State Department of Labor.

## Congressman Celler Takes Issue With Nock's Figures on Jews in Civil Service

NEW YORK, Aug. 25. (JTA)-- The assertion made by Albert Jay Nock in his articles on Jews in the Atlantic Monthly that there are from 40 to 65 percent Jews among the 959,146 civil employees in the Federal executive departments, is denied by Congressman Emanuel Celler in an article published in the September issue of the Atlantic Monthly.

"Mr. Nock does not give us the source of these figures," Congressman Celler writes. "To say the least, they are fantastic. During my many years as a member of the House of Representatives, I have come in contact almost daily with many branches of our government. I know something of its personnel. While I have never counted noses, it is utterly preposterous to estimate that 40 per cent of the total, or 385,658 Federal civil jobs, are held by Jews. I am sure that if you were to fine-comb the State Department you would find few Jews. Jews in the War and Navy Department are an scarce as hen's teeth. Check over the list of personnel in the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and all its subsidiaries,

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such as the Credit Commodity Corporation, Export-Import Bank, Plant Defense Corporation, and so forth, and you will find hardly any Jews. Check the various agencies in the Treasury Department. You might find some Jews there, but the proportion is nowhere near 40 or 65 per cent. It would be more reasonable to say 5 per cent.

"In the Post Office Dept. any Jews employed would be found in a few large cities such as New York, Chicago and Philadelphia, but there again the percentage is relatively small.

"According to the United States Census of Religious Bodies as of 1937, the total Jewish population in this country was 4,770,647. Forty per cent of the total Federal civilian personnel would be more than 8 per cent of the total Jewish population, including men, women and minors; 65 per cent would be more than 12 per cent of the total Jewish population. I offer these figures to indicate how absurd are the reported estimates of Mr. Mook.

#### AGUDAS ISRAEL READY TO JOIN UNITED FRONT FOR PALESTINE, CONVENTION DECLARES

BALTIMORE, Aug. 25. (JTA)-- A resolution declaring that the Agudas Israel is ready to join with other Jewish organizations for the creation of a united front in Palestine was adopted last night at the third annual Agudah convention held here.

Palestine can be a solution of the Jewish problem only under certain conditions, the resolution states. These conditions are: 1- Opportunity for free Jewish immigration into Palestine without any political restrictions to limit the economic absorption capacity of the country. 2- Upbuilding of Palestine on the basis of the Torah. 3- Peaceful rapprochement between Arabs and Jews.

Another resolution on Palestine, passed at the convention, reads: "The rights of several peoples in Palestine rest upon the teaching of the Bible. The existence of a Jewish State in Palestine is justified only when the laws of the Torah are recognized as a basis for state law. Therefore, the Torah authorities believe that no Jewish organization may enter into any ploys on changing the status of Palestine."

On the American scene the convention adopted a resolution appealing to President Roosevelt to ask for a law against anti-Semitism to be included in the Constitution of any new world order set up after the victory of the democracies.

Rabbi Eliezer Silver of Cincinnati was re-elected President of the Agudah for a third term, while Rabbi Jacob Rosenheim, president of the World Agudah, was elected Honorary President. Vice-Presidents elected are: Rabbi Mordecai Friedman, the "Boyaner Rabbi"; Rabbi Solomon Hymas, Dean of the Yeshiva Torah Vodaas in Brooklyn; Rabbi Abraham Yaffin, Dean of the Bialystoker Yeshiva; Rabbi A. M. Bloch, Dean of the Telzer Yeshiva; and Solomon Tavis of Ellenville, New York. Treasurers: Rabbi Hirsch Hantschewits of New York and Isaac Haser of Philadelphia. Executive Director: Benjamin W. Bendles of New York.

#### DR. J. RUBINSTEIN, PROMINENT PHYSICIAN OF POLAND, DIES IN NAZI CAMP

NEW YORK, Aug. 25. (JTA)-- Dr. Julian Rubinstein of Warsaw, assistant General Secretary of the TOZ, Jewish Health Society in Poland, died in a Nazi concentration camp where he had been confined since August 1940, according to information received today by the American Committee of OSE in New York.

Dr. Rubinstein was 40 years old. For many years he had been the school physician of the TOZ in the Warsaw Jewish religious schools and was also the medical supervisor of the children's colonies maintained by the TOZ and GENIOS in Poland, with the aid of the Joint Distribution Committee. He is survived by his wife and his eight-year-old child.

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