

VOL. VIII. NO. 229

Friday, September 12, 1941

SOL M. STROOCK DEAD

NEW YORK, Sept. 11. (JTA)-- Sol. M. Stroock, President of the American Jewish Committee, a leading member of the American Bar and one of the outstanding Jewish leaders in the United States, died early today of a heart attack at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., where he was vacationing. He would have been 68 years old on September 22nd.

Mr. Stroock was as well known for his activities in Jewish charities and in organizations devoted to educational, economic and historical studies as in his profession. He served as president of the Federation for the Support of Jewish Philanthropic Societies several times. Together with Louis Marshall, Felix Werburg and Cyrus Adler he laid the foundation for the establishment of the Jewish Agency for Palestine. He was president of the Y.M.H.A. of New York, president of the Metropolitan League of Jewish Community Associations, member of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, the American Geographical Society, the American Historical Association, the American Economic Association and the Harmonie Club.

During the last eight years - the most critical in Jewish history - Stroock devoted himself to the fight against Nazi propaganda and anti-Semitism. As head of the American Jewish Committee he delivered a number of radio addresses against Nazi brutalities and took a special interest in the Jewish situation in various European countries.

Mr. Stroock was the author of a book "Switzerland and American Jews." For many years he was the treasurer of the Jewish Theological Seminary and chairman of its board of regents. He had been a member of the bar since 1894.

The funeral will take place tomorrow at 2 p.m. from Temple Emanu-El. He is survived by his wife, Hilda Weil Stroock, a daughter, Minette Stroock Kuhn and a son, Alan M. Stroock.

Governor Lehman Lauds Stroock's Devotion and Ability

Governor Lehman, in a message to Mrs. Stroock, stated: "I am inexpressibly shocked and grieved to hear of the great sorrow that has come to you. I had the privilege of your husband's friendship for many years and had the greatest affection and respect for him. No one served his fellow men with greater devotion and ability. He was a great leader whose wisdom, vision and loyalty all of us will miss beyond measure."

"He Was a Devoted Servant of Israel," Rabbi Wise says

Dr. Stephen S. Wise, President of the American Jewish Congress, sent the following message: "The American Jewish Congress expresses its deepest sympathy to the American Jewish Committee on the death of its beloved president, Sol M. Stroock. He was a great

(Continued on reverse side)

American in every respect and a devoted servant of Israel."

General Jewish Council Mourns Loss of Stroock

Edgar J. Kaufmann, Chairman of the General Jewish Council, issued the following statement: "The General Jewish Council joins American Jewry in mourning the loss of Sol M. Stroock, President of the American Jewish Committee, whose sudden passing deprives the Jewish community of America of a highly esteemed and valued leader. American Jewry can best pay its tribute to the memory of this outstanding American by unitedly carrying on with unabated zeal the work to which he devoted so much of his life."

"A Great Communal Loss," says George Backer

George Backer, president and editor of the New York Post, stated: "I have been shocked by the news of Mr. Stroock's death. The communal loss in which we all share is for me heightened by a sense of personal deprivation. To all of us his passing removes from our midst a wise, modest and charming man."

JDC Officers Saddened, Hyman States

Mr. Joseph C. Hyman, on behalf of the Joint Distribution Committee, sent the following message to Mrs. Stroock: "At a meeting of the officers and executive committee of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee today we were greatly saddened by the news of the passing away of your dear husband. He was to us all, in our many problems, a kindly guide and friend whose wisdom, broad humanity, tolerance and insight enabled us to overcome many difficulties. Each of us feels that he has lost a friend and leader. We shall miss him sorely. To us all, to this community, to this country, he symbolized the highest ideals of American citizenship and devotion and deep Jewish feeling. May I, on behalf of our entire organization, and personally, convey to you and to all the members of your family our deepest sympathy and tell you how much we all share in the sense of overwhelming loss that has come to you."

Leading Jewish organizations today continued to send messages of condolence to the bereaved family. Statements from various Jewish leaders in all parts of the country were also received by the JTA. They will be published tomorrow.

JEWS EXPELLED FROM COLOGNE, BONN; NAZIS BLOCK JEWISH FUND OF SIXTY MILLION MARKS

LISBON, Sept. 11. (JTA)-- The entire Jewish population in Cologne and in Bonn today received 24-hours notice to move out of the cities so that their apartments could be used to house Germans left homeless by the repeated bombing of these two cities by the British Royal Air Force.

At the same time manufacturers in these cities were informed by the Nazi authorities that should their plants be partially or wholly rendered inactive due to British bombing, they are to make use of their raw material by sending it to Jewish labor cooperatives in the Warsaw ghetto where production is now being maintained for manufacturers in bombed German towns.

Latest reports reaching here today from Berlin reveal that the German Government has blocked a fund of 60 million marks belonging to the Reichsvereinigung of the Jews in Germany. This fund was amassed through emigration taxes. The action of the Nazi authorities in blocking the fund came as a severe blow to Jewish emigration work in the Reich.

NUREMBERG LAWS PROCLAIMED IN SLOVAKIA

ZURICH, Sept. 11. (JTA)-- The German radio announced today that the Nuremberg Laws have been introduced in Slovakia.

American in every respect and a devoted servant of Israel."

General Jewish Council Mourns Loss of Stroock

Edgar J. Kaufmann, Chairman of the General Jewish Council, issued the following statement: "The General Jewish Council joins American Jewry in mourning the loss of Sol M. Stroock, President of the American Jewish Committee, whose sudden passing deprives the Jewish community of America of a highly esteemed and valued leader. American Jewry can best pay its tribute to the memory of this outstanding American by unitedly carrying on with unabated zeal the work to which he devoted so much of his life."

"A Great Communal Loss," says George Backer

George Backer, president and editor of the New York Post, stated: "I have been shocked by the news of Mr. Stroock's death. The communal loss in which we all share is for me heightened by a sense of personal deprivation. To all of us his passing removes from our midst a wise, modest and charming man."

JDC Officers Saddened, Hyman States

Mr. Joseph C. Hyman, on behalf of the Joint Distribution Committee, sent the following message to Mrs. Stroock: "At a meeting of the officers and executive committee of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee today we were greatly saddened by the news of the passing away of your dear husband. He was to us all, in our many problems, a kindly guide and friend whose wisdom, broad humanity, tolerance and insight enabled us to overcome many difficulties. Each of us feels that he has lost a friend and leader. We shall miss him sorely. To us all, to this community, to this country, he symbolized the highest ideals of American citizenship and devotion and deep Jewish feeling. May I, on behalf of our entire organization, and personally, convey to you and to all the members of your family our deepest sympathy and tell you how much we all share in the sense of overwhelming loss that has come to you."

Leading Jewish organizations today continued to send messages of condolence to the bereaved family. Statements from various Jewish leaders in all parts of the country were also received by the JTA. They will be published tomorrow.

JEWS EXPELLED FROM COLOGNE, BONN; NAZIS BLOCK JEWISH FUND OF SIXTY MILLION MARKS

LISBON, Sept. 11. (JTA)-- The entire Jewish population in Cologne and in Bonn today received 24-hours notice to move out of the cities so that their apartments could be used to house Germans left homeless by the repeated bombing of these two cities by the British Royal Air Force. ✓

At the same time manufacturers in these cities were informed by the Nazi authorities that should their plants be partially or wholly rendered inactive due to British bombing, they are to make use of their raw material by sending it to Jewish labor cooperatives in the Warsaw ghetto where production is now being maintained for manufacturers in bombed German towns.

Latest reports reaching here today from Berlin reveal that the German Government has blocked a fund of 60 million marks belonging to the Reichsvereinigung of the Jews in Germany. This fund was amassed through emigration taxes. The action of the Nazi authorities in blocking the fund came as a severe blow to Jewish emigration work in the Reich.

NUREMBERG LAWS PROCLAIMED IN SLOVAKIA

ZURICH, Sept. 11. (JTA)-- The German radio announced today that the Nuremberg Laws have been introduced in Slovakia.

NAZIS ABOLISH ELECTRIC STREET CARS IN WARSAW GHETTO

ZURICH, Sept. 11. (JTA)-- Electric street cars have been abolished in the Warsaw Jewish ghetto and horse-drawn cars have been substituted by the Nazis, according to a report in the Nowy Kurier Warszawski, Nazi-controlled Polish newspaper published in Warsaw. The fare on these "ghetto cars" is sixty groszy, nominally 12 cents.

In the "aryan" sections of Warsaw the street cars are still being operated by electricity. The cars are, however, repainted yellow, since the Nazis considered the former red-white color too reminiscent of the Polish national colors.

TEACHERS IN DUTCH JEWISH SCHOOLS MUST BE JEWS

STOCKHOLM, Sept. 11. (JTA)-- Only Jewish teachers will be allowed to teach Jewish children in Holland, already segregated in "ghetto schools," under a new decree just announced by the Secretary General of the Department of Education. The decree which appears in the Agrarisch Nieuwsblad, reaching here today, follows publication some time ago of an announcement asking Jewish teachers to apply for posts in Jewish schools.

IRAN CAMPAIGN REUNITES BROTHERS - ONE IN BRITISH ARMY, ONE WITH SOVIET

TEL AVIV, Sept. 11. (JTA)-- A dramatic story of how two brothers separated for twenty years were reunited when the combined Soviet-British troops occupied Iran appears today in Hamashkif, Hebrew daily newspaper.

The two Kraffoff brothers were separated when their parents fled from Russia after the Revolution taking with them the younger son, while the elder remained in the Soviet Union. The parents took the younger boy to Berlin where they lived until the advent of Hitler forced them once more to flee, this time to Palestine. Here the boy enlisted in the British army and was sent to Iran with the expeditionary force that occupied that country.

When the British forces met the Russians the latter staged a party during which one of the Russian soldiers started to sing an old song. The younger Kraffoff brother vaguely remembered the song and joined in the singing. He was immediately recognized by his older brother who had remained in the Soviet Union, became an engineer, and was in Iran with the Soviet forces. A joyful reconciliation took place.

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF EN HAROD COLONY CELEBRATED IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, Sept. 11. (JTA)-- The En Harod colony will mark its twentieth anniversary today with the opening of a school, "Beth Sturman," in honor of Chaim Sturman, head of the Jewish Defense Committee in the Ezdrealon area who was killed by a land mine three years ago, together with Ahron Etkin and David Mossinson.

"Beth Sturman" will be devoted to the study of the natural history, topography and geology of En Harod which is in the Beisan region. "Beth Etkin," in honor of Ahron Etkin, will be opened at Kvuzath Geva on December 7th, when the colony will celebrate its twentieth anniversary.

PEN CLUB EXHIBITION INCLUDES HEBREW, YIDDISH WORKS

LONDON, Sept. 11. (JTA)-- Hebrew and Yiddish sections are included in the book exhibition on view in connection with the International Pen Congress which opened here today. The Hebrew section includes publications of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

(Continued on reverse side)

OEM TELLS AMERICAN ANTI-SEMITES TO MIGRATE TO TOTALITARIAN COUNTRIES

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11. (JTA)-- Anti-Semitic elements in America were today given a lesson in elementary civics by the Office of Emergency Management, in reply to their anonymous letters complaining that the OEM broadcast on Labor Day in the "Salute to Labor" radio program contained "a fine collection of Jews."

Telling these "critics" that there is no law in America prohibiting them to migrate to any country whose government is more in harmony with their views, the OEM public reply, prepared and issued today by Robert W. Horton, Director of Information, reads in part:

"For your information, this office is a part of the Government of the United States. From the nature of your complaint I assume that you are ignorant of the basis upon which that Government was founded. The date was 1776, should you be interested in pursuing the subject or perhaps you are opposed to the tenets upon which it rests.

"I can understand, though quite without sympathy, how one of your prejudices must find it irritating to have to live under such a system of government as is ordained in the Constitution. There are, of course, other systems to be found in other parts of the world. One of the rights of American citizens is to migrate to any country whose government is more in harmony with their views. This right, however, is denied by some governments, so it is always well to acquaint ones self with such details before making a move. You can understand, I hope, that it might sometime be found that the 'American way' is really the best after all.

"Meanwhile, just remember that there are some places in this world where you would not be permitted to express opinions contrary to the spirit of the prevailing form of government as openly as you do here. Those places, I might add, are governed by dictators and share what I understand to be your prejudices."

MELBOURNE CELEBRATES 100th ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST SYNAGOGUE

MELBOURNE, Australia, Sept. 11. (JTA)-- Preparations were completed here today for the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the first synagogue in Australia founded in Melbourne in September, 1840, on the week preceeding the High Holidays.

In connection with the celebration a message was received here today by cable from Rabbi Hertz of London, praising the Melbourne Hebrew Congregation "for its record of religious endeavor and achievement," and stating that "English Jewry rejoices in the centenary of Judaism in Victoria."

PROGRAM FOR JEWISH SURVIVAL OUTLINED BY UJA LEADERS

NEW YORK, Sept. 11. (JTA)-- In a joint New Year message to the Jewish community in America, Rabbi Hillel Silver and Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, National Chairmen of the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine, today proposed a three-point program for American Jewry to assure the survival of the Jewish people in the Jewish year of 5702 which coincides with the third year of the present world war.

Rabbi Silver and Rabbi Wise outlined the program as follows: (1) to strengthen our own future existence and defense through direct moral and material aid to the Jews imprisoned in the Nazi ghettos of Europe; (2) to aid the cause of the democracies by supporting the upbuilding of Palestine as a bastion of British defense in the Middle East; (3) to promote inter-group relations in the United States through the systematic integration of refugees who have found a haven here. They declared that the United Jewish Appeal represented American Jewry's instrumentality for putting this three-point program into effect.