

JTA

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

106 EAST 41ST STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

VOL. VIII. NO. 261

Friday, October 24, 1941

HISTADRUTH PROCLAIMS "WEEK FOR RUSSIA"; WILL RAISE FUND FOR MEDICAL AID TO SOVIETS

TEL AVIV, Oct. 23. (JTA)-- A decision to proclaim the last week of October as a "Week of Solidarity and Aid for Russia" was adopted here today at the closing session of the conference of Histadruth, the Palestine Federation of Labor, which is the largest organized Jewish body in Palestine.

The funds collected during this week will be allocated to the medical delegation which the Histadruth is sending to Soviet Russia. The delegation, carrying medical equipment, is to proceed "to the front where the Soviet Army is fighting the trampling of mankind," a resolution adopted at today's conference states. The Histadruth executive is also empowered to change the form of its aid to Russia as circumstances require.

Another resolution sends "brotherly greetings to thousands of Histadruth members and other Jewish soldiers who are standing on guard to defend the Yishub and the country against the Nazi enemy." It empowers the executive of the Histadruth to work out a plan of post-war colonization in Palestine of Jewish soldiers and their families with the aid of the Palestine government. The resolution also demands that in Palestine the soldiers should receive the same pay as do the British soldiers. At the same time the resolution calls upon the Palestine Jewish population to increase their contribution to the fund for greater support of the families of Jewish soldiers.

Government Urged to Admit New Immigrants to Replace Enlisted Jews

The demand that the Palestine government should admit new Jewish immigrants into Palestine to replace the Jews who enlisted in the British forces and on various defense duties is voiced in one of the resolutions passed at the conference. The resolution claims that the shortage of Jewish workers affects the Palestine war effort in industry and agriculture. It asks the government to permit Jewish immigration from Soviet Russia and from the countries bordering on Palestine.

The conference also adopted a resolution urging the Palestine government to supply the Jewish settlers with seeds and necessary agricultural machines in order to increase agricultural production in the country "and avoid real hunger." The Palestine government is also urged to combat profiteering and the increase in prices on foodstuffs. The Jewish workers will vigorously defend their wages in accordance with prices of basic commodities, the government is warned.

EMPLOYEES OF JEWS IN BULGARIA MUST LEAVE JOBS

ZURICH, Oct. 23. (JTA)-- A new decree in Bulgaria orders all persons working for Jewish employers to give fourteen days' notice that they plan to resign, according to a German wireless report.

MAURITIUS INTERNEES ASK TO JOIN POLISH FORCES

LONDON, Oct. 23, (JTA)-- Jewish refugees interned on the island of Mauritius today cabled a plea to be allowed to actively participate in the fight against Hitlerism as combatants.

In an appeal addressed to Dr. Ignacy Schwartzbart, Jewish member of the Polish National Council, some 400 Polish Jews on Mauritius asked him to intervene with the authorities so that they might be enabled to join the Polish forces in Palestine. The Polish War Ministry is now considering the proposal which presents certain difficulties since the Mauritius internees are under British detention until the end of the war.

At the same time Herbert Morrison, Home Secretary, announced in Commons that every effort is being made to secure shipping to transport aliens who have been released from internment in Canada and Australia back to England. In reply to Col. Josiah Wedgwood who suggested that interned Jews who wish to work or fight be released because of "their undoubted hostility to Hitler," Morrison replied that everything was being done to release aliens who wish to work especially those volunteering for pioneer work. He, however, avoided any specific reference to Jewish internees as a special category.

JEWISH FEDERATIONS AND WELFARE FUNDS DISCUSS AMERICAN JEWISH PROBLEMS

OMAHA, Oct. 23. (JTA)-- Leading figures in American Jewish welfare activities are arriving here to participate in the West Central States Regional Conference of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds which opens on Saturday evening to discuss problems concerning Jewish life in America, including Jewish education, the relief campaigns for the forthcoming year, civic protective questions and overseas problems.

Delegates to the conference will represent Jewish institutions from ten states: Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri and Manitoba. Principal speakers at the closing session will be Edward M. M. Warburg, chairman of the JDC and Joseph C. Hyman, executive vice-chairman of the JDC. Mr. Henry Monsky, president of the B'nai B'rith, will be toastmaster at a dinner to be given to the delegates on Sunday evening.

The conference will be opened with a presidential message by Amos S. Deinard, and conducted under the chairmanship of Morris E. Jacobs of Omaha. Principal speaker at the opening session will be Rabbi James G. Heller, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

B'NAI B'RITH CALLS NATIONAL PARLEY ON JOB DISCRIMINATION IN DEFENSE INDUSTRIES

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23. (JTA)-- An all-day national conference on racial and religious discrimination in defense industries is being called by B'nai B'rith to meet in Washington, D. C. on November 12th, according to an announcement here by Henry Monsky, president of B'nai B'rith.

Invited to participate in the conference are representatives of local Jewish vocational service and anti-discrimination agencies and national Jewish organizations, as well as officials of government agencies concerned with the problem of job discrimination. The major objective of the conference is to coordinate the work of Jewish groups and individuals concerned with the problem of discrimination in defense industries in their relations with government agencies and industry.

GOVERNMENT FOOD STORES OPENED IN PALESTINE IN DRIVE TO COMBAT HIGH PRICES

JERUSALEM, Oct. 23. (JTA)-- Two government-operated food stores, one in Haifa and one in Tel Aviv, were opened today as part of the combined drive by the Palestine Government, the press and the consumer organizations to end the drastic rise in prices of essential commodities.

In Jerusalem the press campaign against rising prices continues unabated with editorials demanding that the Government intervene to normalize distribution and to impose severe penalties on speculators. The Haifa municipality and consumers organizations there demand the introduction of ration cards.

In Tel Aviv, the rising cost of living was the subject of a special meeting today of Municipality officials at which it was decided to send a delegation to the authorities to demand a normalization of the importation of supplies and guarantees that sufficient stock would be kept on hand. At the same time a special committee was set up headed by Mayor Rokach to organize a central bureau to acquire and distribute essential food products, which would be financed by the community should the necessity arise.

Meanwhile the Vaad Leumi announced that it will shortly call a nation-wide conference of mayors, heads of local councils, and representatives of the chambers of commerce and of the merchants associations to combat speculation.

MORE JEWS WILL BE DEPORTED FROM CZECH PROTECTORATE, PRESS WARNS

ZURICH, Oct. 23. (JTA)-- On the heels of the deportation of thousands of Jews in the Czech Protectorate to Poland, the Nedelni List, Nazi-controlled Czech paper, reaching here today, warns that more deportations can be expected and that "not only Jews but Czechs who show friendship to Jews will be deported."

A report in the Prague Neue Tag discloses that the first Jewish forced labor battalion in the Protectorate has been formed at Maehrischu Ostrau. The battalion is known as the "Jewish Penal Column" because it consists of Jews who have previously been imprisoned by the Nazis. The group will be used to clean streets and clear up debris. Meanwhile information reaching here reveals that five more Jews have been hanged in Prague as daily executions of Jews and Czechs by Nazi Protector Heydrich continue.

ALL ELIGIBLE YOUTH IN PALESTINE COLONY JOIN BRITISH FORCES

JERUSALEM, Oct. 23. (JTA)-- A farewell banquet attended by all the 255 inhabitants of the Netaim colony today marked the departure of all the remaining eligible males of military age to enlist in the British forces.

The youths were blessed by their parents before they left for "their joining the fight against Nazism which is enslaving the world and destroying the Jewish people."

POLAND JEWISH REFUGEES IN VILNA TO BE RETURNED TO POLAND

STOCKHOLM, Oct. 23. (JTA)-- Jewish refugees from Poland who fled to Vilna during the Polish-German War are now being registered there by the Nazis, it was learned here today. It is believed that they will be expelled to Nazi-occupied Poland.

AMERICAN JEWS URGED TO DEVELOP CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL RESOURCES

NEW YORK, Oct. 23. (JTA)-- The necessity for American Jewry to develop its own spiritual and cultural resources, both for its own sake and to enable it to fulfill its responsibility of serving as a fountain-head for Judaism in the entire Western Hemisphere was emphasized by a number of speakers addressing a gathering of 800 religious and lay leaders of the Jewish communities in the United States and Canada at the Conference for the Preservation of Judaism held in New York under the auspices of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

In an address entitled "American Jewry Comes of Age" Dr. Israel Goldstein recalled the principle of the "saving remnant" which has been providentially imposed upon Jewish Americans by the tragic forces of recent history. He hailed as "a difficult but glorious privilege" the responsibility of carrying forward the torch of the Torah which has fallen from the hands of European Jewry.

Dr. Mortimer J. Cohen, Rabbi of Beth Shalom Congregation in Philadelphia, proposed "A Program of Action for American Jewry" in which he emphasized the importance of leadership by the Jewish Theological Seminary. Calling for a vitalization and expansion of its activities to embrace projects covering the whole Western Hemisphere, he offered a detailed program for Jewish leadership, interfaith cooperation and community action. In the first category he urged enlarging the facilities of the Seminary Library and Museum, even now one of the finest Jewish research centers in the world, to enable it to salvage and house the treasured literary and art collections of the Old World; provision for training rabbis and teachers to serve in South America, where there is now a Jewish community of 500,000; the training of executives for Jewish federations and community centers; establishment of a Bureau of Jewish Information; intensification of the program of the National Academy for Adult Jewish Studies, sponsored by the Seminary; the establishment of a School of Jewish Music for the training of cantors and choir directors; assistance to young men during their college years to prepare for entrance to the Rabbinical School; and the publication of a prayer-book with a comprehensive commentary and modern translation.

RABBI ISRAEL BURIED IN BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE, Oct. 23. (JTA)-- Thousands of Baltimoreans in all walks of life paid their last respects yesterday to Rabbi Edward L. Israel at funeral services at Har Sinai Temple where he served eighteen years before accepting the post as executive director of the United American Hebrew Congregations.

The eulogy was delivered by Rabbi Stephen S. Wise who stated: "The impression he has left on American Jewish life will abide. He was the most Jewish of Jews, as well as deeply American. The tragedy of his going as he stood on the threshold of a second career to help American Jews realize their heritage is no mean portion." Governor Herbert O'Connor of Maryland and Mayor Howard Jackson of Baltimore attended the services and were among honorary pallbearers. A number of leading Jewish figures from various parts of the country also attended. Several thousand people were unable to gain admittance into the temple because of lack of space.

THOUSANDS MOURN AT FUNERAL OF NATHAN LASKI

LONDON, Oct. 23. (JTA)-- Thousands of onlookers lined the streets of Manchester today as the funeral cortege of Nathan Laski, British Jewish leader and industrialist, wound through the streets to the Manchester Jewish cemetery. Leaders in British Jewry and many high officials attended the services in the Great Synagogue here. Obituaries in the British press stress Laski's Jewish humanitarian activities and the contributions he made to the industrial development of Manchester.