

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF JCA COLONIZATION IN ARGENTINE CELEBRATED BY SETTLERS

BUENOS AIRES, Nov. 4. (JTA)-- The fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Jewish colonies in Argentina by the Jewish Colonization Association is now being celebrated here by all communities throughout the country.

Mr. Louis Oungre, executive director of the JCA, now on a visit here, today participated in a celebration in the Lucienwill settlement at which 100 Jewish youngsters paraded as cowboys on horses in a program arranged by the 500 Jewish colonists of the settlement. Lucienwill is one of the oldest JCA colonies in the Entre Rios region. The youngest colony, Avigdor, which was established only a few years ago in wild country, also arranged a celebration in which Mr. Oungre participated. Most of the settlers in Avigdor colony are German-Jewish refugees.

JEWS IN PALESTINE WILLING TO WORK 24 HOURS A DAY FOR DEFENSE

NEW YORK, Nov. 4. (JTA)-- Palestine Jewish workers are now in the factories eight hours a day but they are willing to work twenty-four hours a day, Israel Mereminsky, Histadruth delegate to the Workers Section of the International Labor Conference, last night told a joint meeting here of the International Federation of Trade Unions and the delegates to the ILO Conference.

Labor in Palestine, Mr. Mereminsky declared, is working full speed to produce defense essentials and there has not been a strike in a Palestine defense industry for the last year and a half. "We call upon Great Britain," the Histadruth leader stated, "to fully exploit the productive capacities of Palestine and also demand the creation of a Jewish army which would be a constructive force to build up and defend Palestine, its neighbors and world democracy."

JEWISH GIRLS PLEDGE SUPPORT FOR AMERICAN DEFENSE PROGRAM

NEW YORK, Nov. 4. (JTA)-- Holding their second annual convention at an all-day session at the Hotel New Yorker, 500 members of the National Council of Junior Mirachi Women, the religious youth Zionist movement, unanimously voiced their support of the administration's defense program, pledged aid to the democratic forces opposing Nazism and adopted a program of projects in Palestine looking to resettlement of the Jewish masses there.

JEWISH REFUGEES RELEASED FROM CANADIAN INTERNMENT ARRIVE IN ENGLAND

MONTREAL, Nov. 4. (JTA)-- Nearly 200 Jewish refugees who were interned in Canada have arrived in England in one of the ships that carried thousands of Canadian soldiers safely over the Atlantic, according to reports received here today.

The remaining Jewish internees are now concentrated in three camps in Eastern Canada. At one of the camps the internees recently decided to donate one week's pay - they receive 20¢ per every working day - towards the relief of the Jewish war victims.

ARTHUR FISCHER, PROMINENT REFUGEE JOURNALIST, DIES IN MIAMI

MIAMI, Nov. 4. (JTA)-- Mr. Arthur Fischer, well-known German-Jewish publicist, for 25 years connected with the Central Verein of German Jews before the Nazis came to power, died at the Victoria Hotel here after an operation. He came to the United States in 1933, where he contributed articles to the anti-Nazi German newspaper Neue Volkszeitung and was engaged in doing research work for the American Jewish Committee. He is survived by his widow who remains at Rivermont Park sanatorium as guest of Dr. Salem Beer, a personal friend of the deceased.

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VICHY DISSOLVES JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS IN FRANCE; CENTRAL BODY PROJECTED

LISEON, Nov. 5. (JTA)-- The dissolution of all existing Jewish cultural and relief organizations in both occupied and unoccupied France, and the establishment of a Central Union of Jews of France, modeled after the Reichsvereinigung of the Jews of Germany, to conduct its activities under the direct control of the Commissariat for Jewish Affairs, is suggested in the draft of a law submitted for approval to Marshal Petain, it was reliably learned here today.

The draft of this new law, which in its details is even harsher than the law governing the Reichsvereinigung in Germany, provides:

1. All Jews must pay taxes to the Central Union, membership in which is compulsory for all Jews residing in France.
2. The administrative council of the Union is to be composed of 18 members all of whom are to be nominated by Xavier Vallat, Commissar for Jewish Affairs. Each of these members is to be directly responsible solely to Vallat, who will have the power to veto any of their decisions.
3. All existing Jewish relief organizations are to be dissolved and their property handed over to the Union under conditions to be fixed by the Ministry of Interior. The Commissar for Jewish Affairs and two controllers designated by the Ministry of Economics and Finance are to have financial control over the funds of the Union, contributed by French Jewry for relief and other communal purposes.
4. In addition to these funds, the Union is to have an income from direct taxation to be levied upon its members in proportion to their fortunes. The rate of the tax is to be fixed by the Administrative Council of the Union with the approval of the Commissar for Jewish Affairs.

Explaining that the purpose of the establishment of the Central Union is "to assure representation of Jews in France before the public authorities, particularly regarding questions concerning relief, social work and retraining," the draft of the new law contains provisions as to how the law will operate in the occupied and the unoccupied sections of France.

URUGUAY PERMITS LANDING OF REFUGEES DEPORTED FROM ARGENTINA

NEW YORK, Nov. 5. (JTA)-- Permission to debark in Montevideo and wait there for a Brazilian steamer which will carry them to Brazil en route to Paraguay for permanent residence there, was granted today by the government of Uruguay to the 86 German-Jewish refugees who were this week ordered shipped back to Europe by the Argentine authorities on the Spanish steamer Cabo de Hornos, according to information received by the Joint Distribution Committee here.

The refugees, who were already on their way back to Spain, will be held in quarantine at Montevideo until arrangements are completed to take them from there to Paraguay.

U.S. CLOSED AS ASYLUM FOR PERSECUTED REFUGEES, SURVEY SHOWS

LISBON, Nov.5 (JTA)-- Administrative action by the State Department has reversed America's traditional immigration policy and closed the country as an asylum for thousands of persecuted refugees from Hitlerism, it was revealed here today in a survey of the refugee situation.

Although the United States immigration quota law still stands on the books, the survey reveals that the entire quota system has been a dead letter since July 1 when regulations drastically altering the system of visa issuance and centralizing immigration control at Washington entered into effect.

In the first three months under the new regulations, the survey discloses, the total number of immigration visas issued to bona fide refugees on the entire European continent was approximately two hundred and fifty, plus several hundred renewed visas granted to immigrants whose original visas expired before they could be used while they waited for transportation in European ports. These visas were renewed by American consuls in Europe on specific instructions from Washington. This figure is in striking contrast to the normal immigration before the regulations entered into effect of between three and four thousand monthly.

When the new regulations were made public, Washington explained that they were not designed to reduce immigration but to establish a stricter control and more careful selection of those admitted to the country. In theory, after Washington passed on an applicant, the consul abroad was to issue the visa after examination of the prospective immigrant. In actual practice, however, the survey shows, thousands of applications are piling up in Washington and approvals trickle through to consulates in Europe in infinitesimal numbers.

No Visas Issued Even on Approved Applications

But not all approved applications result in visa grants, the survey shows. At several consulates, the officials, on receipt of word from Washington that there is "no objection" to the grant of the visa in the particular case, claim full discretion and require documents, evidence of support and compliance with widely differing conditions in accordance with the consuls' own personal interpretations of the immigration laws.

In Switzerland, for instance, one consulate demands production of "family books" from German refugees. These are the record of the family's vital statistics, and a refugee from Germany, particularly a Jewish refugee, has no means whatever of obtaining the document from the Reich. Consequently, he is denied a visa though the Departments of State, War, Navy, Labor and Justice have "no objection" to his admission into the United States.

When the new regulations came into effect, several hundred refugees who had been "accorded" visas but had not actually received them, had to start their applications all over. No action has yet been taken in their cases. Some of them, in Portugal, who were admitted on transit visas to obtain their U.S. visas here, are now in forced residence after being imprisoned for failure to leave the country. Others are interned in Spain and Switzerland. Several thousand men, women and children, who can qualify for immigration visas under the new regulations, are in concentration camps in unoccupied France, undergoing inconceivable hardships waiting for their applications to go through the Washington mill. The State Department's present system not only closes the United States to refugee immigration, but also greatly increases the difficulties involved in emigration to South and Central America and Canada, since the refugees cannot obtain United States transit visas, the survey establishes.

RUMANIA WILL COPY ANTI-JEWISH LAWS OF GERMANY

ZURICH, Nov. 5. (JTA)-- The Rumanian government will introduce anti-Jewish legislation along the same lines as that in Nazi Germany, it was announced today over the Bucharest radio. Radu Lecca, a cabinet attache, has been appointed to cooperate with German officials in working out details of new anti-Semitic laws.

It is expected that the laws will be incorporated in a new Rumanian constitution which will make Rumania a corporate state in the same pattern as Germany and Italy. A referendum will be held next Sunday to enable the Rumanian people to vote on whether or not they approve of the present regime. They will be able to vote only "Yes" or "No." Jews will not be permitted to vote, Premier Antonescu announced.

HITLER WILL USE MUFTI FOR RENEWED ANTI-JEWISH CAMPAIGN, CAIRO BELIEVES

CAIRO, Nov. 5. (JTA)-- The arrival of Haj Amin el Hussein, ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, in Berlin today is reported in the Arab press here provoking considerable interest among the Arabs. It is pointed out that this is the first visit which the exiled Mufti has ever made to Nazi Germany and it is believed that his present trip to the Reich was arranged with Hitler's approval and with a view of utilizing it for increased anti-British and anti-Jewish propaganda.

Little doubt exists here that the ex-Mufti, during his stay in Germany, will broadcast from Berlin to the Arab world backing the German military drive which is now moving slowly towards the Middle East. The British authorities, however, are not idle in that territory. Among other things they are focussing their attention upon the Arab States, and the possibility of these states ultimately becoming federated. The Arab communities representing a potential field for federation have a population of approximately 35,000,000 people, including 16,000,000 in Egypt, 10,000,000 in Saudi-Arabia, 5,500,000 in Iraq, 2,500,000 in Syria and Lebanon, 1,000,000 Arabs and 500,000 Jews in Palestine, and 250,000 Arabs in Transjordan.

Though Arab unity is far easier to talk about than to achieve, the British believe that the idea of a federation must be integrated with long-term post-war policies. The Axis powers, however, are still at work attempting to undermine the British position in this part of the world, but the Arabs as a whole are accounted pro-British. The propaganda activities of the ex-Mufti from Berlin may, however, strengthen the hands of the Mufti's followers in Palestine, Syria and Iraq, who lost contact with him after he escaped from Iraq to Iran.

JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE LAUNCHES \$500,000 RELIEF CAMPAIGN FOR JEWS IN RUSSIA

NEW YORK, Nov. 5. (JTA)-- The Jewish Labor Committee today announced a campaign to raise \$500,000 in the United States for relief for Jewish war victims in Soviet Russia. The campaign is supported by Jewish labor organizations and prominent leaders of the Jewish labor movement in America.

A report released by the Committee on its activities emphasizes that through the efforts of the Committee more than 700 political refugees, the majority of them Jews, have been enabled to reach the United States, after escaping from Germany or Nazi-occupied territories.

The report also deals with the precarious position of the 15,000 Jewish refugees stranded in Shanghai. Hunger among them has reached such a point that many women are compelled to resort to prostitution, the report states.