

JTA

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY
106 EAST 41ST STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

VOL. VIII. NO. 285

Friday, November 21, 1941

JEWS WILL BE TRANSFERRED FROM POLAND FARTHER EAST, NAZI GOVERNOR ANNOUNCES

GENEVA, Nov. 20. (JTA)-- "Poland will only be a transition camp for the Jews rather than a concentration camp," Hans Frank, Nazi Governor-General for Poland announced today over the German radio.

"Ultimately the Jews will be sent farther East," the Nazi official stated. "Having come from Palestine to Europe, it really makes no difference if they are transferred 600 miles further East."

A conference of judges and prosecutors of the German special tribunals in Nazi-held Poland decided to impose death penalties on Poles and Jews guilty of trying to obtain food above their fixed rations. The conference, which was held in Lublin, defined as "economic sabotage" any attempt on the part of Jews or Poles to secure food in a way which violates the regular Nazi rationing scheme.

ENTIRE JEWISH POPULATION OF PILZEN TO BE DEPORTED; JEWS UNDER 50 TO GO TO POLAND

ZURICH, Nov. 20. (JTA)-- All Jews in Pilzen, one of the largest Czech cities, have been notified to be ready for expulsion, in accordance with a plan to "de-judaize" the Czech Protectorate, it is reported in pro-Nazi Czech newspapers reaching here today. All Jews of Pilzen under the age of 50 will be deported to Poland while the older ones will be moved to the village of Cikanka, in the Protectorate, the Prague newspapers state.

The expulsion of the entire Jewish population from Pilzen follows the mass-expulsions of Jews from Prague and Moravska-Ostrava which is continuing unabated. At the same time the Nazi-controlled Czech newspapers carry a warning to Czechs that they too will "share the fate of the Jews" if they continue to stubbornly display sympathy with the persecuted Jewish population.

A campaign to force the Czech film industry to produce anti-Jewish moving pictures has simultaneously been launched in the Prague newspapers. The Narodni Politika criticizes the producers for "still making use of old themes." Instead, it urges them "to educate the nation through films showing the pernicious activities of the Jewish parasites," in order to make the Czech people cease pitying the Jews.

The pro-Nazi Czech newspapers, as can be seen from their own articles, hardly have any influence upon the local population. The obvious failure of their systematic anti-Jewish propaganda is revealed by the fact that they must repeat their threats against Czechs who demonstrate their friendship to Jews, as well as by the announcement that a Czech version of the notorious Nazi anti-Semitic film "Jud Suss" will soon be shown to Czech peasants and workers in order to prove to them that they must not feel any compassion toward Jews.

WERTHEIM, PRESIDENT OF AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE, SAYS AMERICANS REJECT ANTI-SEMITISM

NEW YORK, Nov. 20. (JTA)-- The election of Maurice Wertheim, prominent New York banker and communal leader, as President of the American Jewish Committee to succeed the late Sol M. Stroock, was announced here yesterday. Mr. Wertheim becomes the fifth president of the American Jewish Committee. In addition to the late Mr. Stroock, previous holders of that office were Judge Mayer Sulzberger, Louis Marshall, and Dr. Cyrus Adler.

In accepting the presidency, Mr. Wertheim spoke of the challenge and grave responsibility in assuming his office at a time of such crisis. "Fortunately," he stated, "it has already been shown that anti-Semitism is a manifestation repugnant to the vast majority of Americans. To resist it successfully, we must assist American Jews to do their duties as Americans and as Jews in a worthy manner and to play their part in the affairs of our country as worthily as ever their ancestors did. We have confidence in the traditional American conception of equality and freedom which has made this country a sanctuary of peace and tolerance. If we hold fast to American and Jewish principles, we need have no fear. I can assure you that we expect to be vigilant and, along with other Americans, to resist with all our power all efforts to secure for Nazi doctrines in any form, a foothold in this country and to disturb the democratic foundations which are dearer than life to all Americans."

"The tragedy abroad," Mr. Wertheim continued, "represents a challenge to the Jews of this country to work as they have never worked before toward a post-war society that would make for the maintenance of the fundamental basis of humane civilization. Shoulder to shoulder with Americans of other faiths, we must fight the old fight for justice which the Hebrew prophets fought in their day and for which all lovers of mankind have struggled throughout the ages."

Other officers of the American Jewish Committee are: Louis E. Kirstein, Chairman; Irving Lehman, Honorary Vice-President; Abram I. Elkus, Honorary Vice-President; Lessing J. Rosenwald, Vice-President; Carl J. Austriem, Vice-President; Samuel D. Leidesdorf, Treasurer; Morris D. Waldman, General Secretary; Sidney Wallach, Associate Secretary; Harry Schneiderman, Assistant Secretary.

AMERICAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONDEMN INHUMAN TREATMENT OF JEWS

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20. (JTA)-- Condemnation of the inhuman treatment of Jews in many countries is contained in the pronouncement issued in behalf of the Catholic Bishops of the United States following their annual conclave which met here. The statement was issued by the administrative board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference which was authorized by the annual meeting of the Bishops "to express their mind on the crisis of Christianity."

"Our sympathy," the pronouncement reads, "goes out again to the people of those countries who have been crushed under the heel of the invader, and indeed, to all upon whom war has imposed so heavy a burden of suffering and sacrifice. We cannot too strongly condemn the inhuman treatment to which the Jewish people have been subjected in many countries. In this hour of cruel torture, we are mindful, daily of God's altar, of all the innocent victims of the war, of the homeless, the exiled, the imprisoned, and all who are suffering because of hunger or disease. We ask the faithful to unite with us in offering daily prayers and sacrifice in their behalf."

The pronouncement states that Nazism and communism are to be considered "the two greatest evils of today which would destroy all spiritual values." It condemns the Nazi system and offers fervent prayers for the "freedom from the slavery of tyranny" for all oppressed.

"YELLOW MAGAZINE" TO DEAL WITH JEWISH AFFAIRS PUBLISHED IN FRANCE

VICHY, Nov. 20. (JTA)-- The publication of an anti-Jewish organ under the title "The Yellow Magazine" was announced today in Paris by the Institute for Jewish Affairs. The name of the publication which will be the official mouthpiece of the Institute is taken to indicate that the reports abroad of contemplated "ghetto measures" for Jews in occupied France, including yellow badges, have some basis in fact.

A suggestion that "all Jewish property should be confiscated in order to cover the destruction brought about by the war" is made in *Union Francais*, a French newspaper published in Lyons, while French news agencies today reported that further anti-Jewish measures are to be expected in France. Simultaneously it was reported here today that in Algeria all Jews have been instructed to leave before December 15 all the professions barred to them under the French anti-Jewish laws. Only a small percentage of Jews will be allowed to remain in the medical and legal professions.

(District Attorney Dewey, addressing the annual dinner of the Lawyers' Division of the Federation of Jewish Charities, in New York, stated that the decree of the Vichy government last Saturday extending its anti-Jewish laws to all French possessions in the Western Hemisphere, is a violation of the Monroe Doctrine.)

GERMANY NOT PERMITTING JEWS TO LEAVE FOR SWITZERLAND TO AWAIT EMIGRATION VISAS THERE

BERNE, Nov. 20. (JTA)-- Swiss citizens who have Jewish friends in the Reich are being flooded with letters from Jews in Germany and Austria begging the Swiss residents to help them escape deportation to Poland by securing immigration visas to overseas countries for them.

Swiss authorities today declared that though they have been obliging in allowing Jews from the Reich to enter Switzerland and obtain their visas here, not a single Jew has succeeded in leaving Germany recently.

86 WANDERING REFUGEES LAND AT CURACAO, DUTCH GOVERNMENT REPORTS

LONDON, Nov. 20. (JTA)-- The Netherlands government here today announced that the 86 Jewish refugees on the steamer *Cabo de Hornos* have landed at Curacao, Dutch island off the coast of Venezuela.

Among the passengers who have spent several weeks living under appalling conditions aboard the vessel are eighteen refugees from Poland, seven from Belgium, twenty-six from Czechoslovakia, seven from France, seventeen from Rumania, one from Switzerland, nine from Germany, and one from Italy.

Hyman Announces JDC Agreement With Dutch Government

NEW YORK, Nov. 20. (JTA)-- Joseph C. Hyman, Executive vice-chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee, issued a statement yesterday declaring that admission of the refugees to Curacao was granted under an agreement between the J.D.C. and the Netherlands Government-in-exile, negotiated in London through Sir Herbert Emerson, League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

"Under the agreement, the J.D.C. has undertaken to find places for the permanent settlement of the refugees within three months, and to evacuate them from Curacao. In the meantime, the J.D.C. has guaranteed their maintenance on the Dutch island," Mr. Hyman said.

ANTI-SEMITISM IN AMERICA MUST BE EXPOSED AS FIFTH-COLUMN WORK, CIO RESOLUTION SAYS

DETROIT, Nov. 20. (JTA)-- Anti-Semitic efforts, "such as Lindbergh's," in this country were condemned as endangering America's national unity in one of the resolutions adopted here yesterday by the convention of the C.I.O., the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

"National unity is essential," the resolution reads. "Efforts of any such as Lindbergh to disunite the American people on such un-American issues as anti-Semitism must be ferreted out and exposed as Hitler's fifth column. The American people demand that all aids of Hitler in this country, be they our home-grown Quislings or the representatives of his puppet states, such as Vichy, must not be permitted to cause dissension or sow their seeds of disunity in this nation. Only through the united effort of all our people to protect our great nation through the support of our clear foreign policy shall we survive with the heritage of our founders kept intact."

POLISH EMBASSY IN MOSCOW UNABLE TO ESTABLISH WHEREABOUTS OF DR. SCHORR

LONDON, Nov. 20. (JTA)-- Dr. Moses Schorr, former Chief Rabbi of Warsaw and Dr. Emil Sommerstein, former Polish Jewish deputy, both of whom have been reported as released from imprisonment in the Soviet Union on several occasions, are still not freed, according to official information disclosed today by the Polish embassy here.

The Polish officials in Moscow have located Sommerstein at Balashoff, near Saratov, but he has not yet been released by the Soviet authorities. Efforts to locate Rabbi Schorr, however, have been fruitless. Polish authorities have traced down several reports but all have proved to be baseless. Meanwhile, the Polish embassy here is flooded with inquiries concerning the whereabouts of the Belzer Rabbi, Rokach, and the Bobover Rabbi, Halberstam.

SECRETARY HULL AWARDED AMERICAN HEBREW MEDAL

NEW YORK, Nov. 20. (JTA)-- Secretary of State Cordell Hull today was awarded the American Hebrew Medal Award for 1941 in recognition of his services to the country "in a time of grave national crisis" and particularly for his contribution to the cause of "better understanding between Christians and Jews", it was announced by Joseph H. Biben, editor and publisher of The American Hebrew.

Acknowledging the award, Mr. Hull expressed "profound gratitude and best thanks," adding that "to be made the recipient of this fine honor which has been awarded in the past to such distinguished persons as President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the Honorable Myron C. Taylor, the Honorable Newton D. Baker, and others, appeals to me greatly." The American Hebrew Medal Award was established in the Fall of 1929 to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the publication. The official citation under which the Secretary of State was selected as the Medal Award recipient, reads: "Because in his Lincolnesque manner he has repeatedly warned the country against the dangers of Nazism from within and from without; because with true greatness and simplicity he has set forth the national policy and has given of himself, the best in him, in the interests of better understanding and human freedom."

"CONCENTRATION CAMP" BILL KILLED IN CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20. (JTA)-- The Hobbs "concentration camp" bill which provided for the internment of deportable aliens who could not be returned to their country of origin was defeated in the House of Representatives on Tuesday by a vote of 167 to 141. The measure which had the support of the Department of Justice has been assailed from many sides as endangering the rights of all aliens, even those who are staunch supporters of the government.