

# JTA

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### NEW ANTI-JEWISH MEASURES DECREED BY PARIS MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

VICHY, Dec. 18. (JTA)-- New anti-Jewish measures were decreed today by the Nazi-dominated Paris municipal government, according to information reaching here. They apply to Jews in the city itself and in the surrounding Seine district.

Jews are now required to report any change in address within twenty-four hours, and those entering the city are also required to report immediately. The order forbids Jews from sending any of their assets outside the Seine department.

### INSANITY, DISEASE DECIMATING RESIDENTS OF CRACOW GHETTO

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 18. (JTA)-- Insanity and disease are decimating the 11,000 residents of the Cracow ghetto, located in the Podgorze section of the city, it is reported in the Krakauer Zeitung, organ of Dr. Hans Franck, Nazi governor of the Government-General section of Poland, which reached here today.

The Cracow Jewish residents, the German paper discloses, who are forced to do different types of work required by the Nazis, are not permitted to leave the ghetto nor enter it without a visa or special pass issued by the German authorities. Within the ghetto itself a Jewish police council maintains order and deals with the city officials in matters relating to the Jews.

Reviewing the situation of the Jews confined in the Cracow ghetto the Nazi newspaper states that before the German-Polish war there were 60,000 Jews in the city. By the spring of 1940 this figure had risen to 71,000. Since then, however, the Nazis have driven about 60,000 Cracow Jews from their homes to various parts of the Government-General.

### BRITISH JEWRY PLEDGES SOLIDARITY WITH AMERICAN JEWS IN U.S. WAR EFFORT

LONDON, Dec. 18. (JTA)-- A message "of brotherhood and solidarity with American Jewry" and a pledge to stand together in the fight for "a free Jewry in a free world," appears in the leading editorial in tomorrow's issue of the Zionist Review, official organ of the British Zionist Federation.

Stating that the United States' entry into the war has changed the aspect of the whole Jewish scene the Zionist organ calls upon Jews in Britain and the United States to work out a program for Palestine. "British and American Jewry now stand united, sharing a common burden," the editorial states. "What is essential now is coordination of efforts of the Jewish communities in the English-speaking world. It is more essential than ever to awaken public opinion in the Western Hemisphere to the magnitude of the Jewish problem, and its connection with Palestine."

Declaring that Jews of the English-speaking nations have already helped build a Jewish homeland in Palestine and have fought Nazism and Fascism, the Zionist Review concludes: "We are convinced that with the Jews of Britain and the Dominions the bulk of American Jewry is ready to face the greater tasks allotted it by world developments."

RELEASE OF INTERNEES, FORMATION OF PIONEER CORPS IN AUSTRALIA, CANADA PROPOSED

LONDON, Dec. 18. (JTA)-- A suggestion that the governments of Canada and Australia be asked to form Pioneer corps composed of Jewish and non-Jewish friendly refugees released from internment camps, similar to the corps in Britain, was made today by the Rt. Rev. G. K. A. Bell, Bishop of Chichester, during an extensive debate in the House of Lords today on the position of refugees in Britain and the Dominions.

Stating that the "Pioneers" in England had proved "a most valuable asset to the army" the Bishop also expressed the wish that the Australian government follow the example of the Canadian government by releasing students who will study in the various universities, under a sponsor system such as that now in operation in Canada. He also urged that refugee scientists be employed in the Australian universities. Touching upon the shortage of skilled labor in Australia, Chichester stated that a high proportion of the interned refugees were trained mechanics and recommended that their services be utilized.

Dwelling in great length on the moral aspect of the refugee problem the Anglican church leader urged that full rehabilitation facilities be extended to loyal refugees and demanded that they be given protection under the status of "friendly aliens." He proposed that the government once again emphasize that no stigma of disloyalty is attached to those who were deported to overseas dominions.

Devonshire Promises Release of Friendly Refugees Will Continue

The Duke of Devonshire, Under-Secretary for Burma, who was the government spokesman during the debate, assured the Bishop that the policy of releasing friendly refugees continued but warned that the release of internees now in Australia would take longer than was originally contemplated because of the shortage of shipping and the tightening of immigration regulations in the United States, to where some of the refugees desire to emigrate.

"When passage is finally obtained for all released refugees," the Duke stated, "hardly thirty percent will remain overseas, but it is scarcely possible to bring all of them back to England." He expressed regret at the hardships that had resulted from some of the cases of deportation and revealed that the majority of the refugees who were robbed on the S.S. Dumera while en route to Australian internment have already been recompensed. "Although there have been cases where hardship was suffered by innocent persons," the Duke concluded, "in no other country in the world have people, who after all are of enemy origin, been treated kindly and with more justice and sympathy than here."

The Bishop of Chichester's suggestions were supported by Noel Buxton, Lord Hailey and Lord Farrington. Farrington asked the British government to make representations to the Australian government with a view toward facilitating the publication in the Australian press of denials of the falsehoods that had been spread about the refugees in Australia. Lord Elibank, while agreeing in principle that fairness be used in all dealings with the refugee problem, demanded that dangers that might result from too liberal treatment be kept in mind.

PALESTINE JEW ELECTED HEAD OF OXFORD UNION

LONDON, Dec. 18. (JTA)-- Gershon Hirsch, a Palestine Jew, who was the first Palestinian to hold office in the Oxford Union, when he was elected Secretary last March, was today chosen to head the Union for the coming term, as President. The younger son of Lord Melchet was chosen as Secretary to succeed Hirsch.

120 DEAD, 150 INJURED IN BAGHDAD RIOTS LAST JUNE, REPORT REVEALS

NEW YORK, Dec. 18. (JTA)-- The toll in lives and property damage taken by the Nazi reign of terror in Iraq last June was revealed for the first time today when Mr. Joseph C. Hyman, Executive Vice-Chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee, announced that his organization in cooperation with the American Joint Reconstruction Foundation, is making available \$60,000 to aid in reconstruction and rehabilitation in riot-torn Baghdad.

The anti-Semitic disturbances, which broke out in the ancient Iraq capital on the accession to power of the Nazi-dominated regime of Rashi Ali El Galiani, resulted in the death of 120 Jews, serious injury to 150 others and the looting of homes and business establishments affecting more than 14,500 persons, Mr. Hyman said. The reign of terror lasted for a little more than two weeks, until British troops forced the flight of El Galiani to Iran.

The havoc wreaked by the pogroms was attested to by the American Minister to Iraq, Paul Knabenshue who, in verifying reported casualty figures of the terror wave, said, according to Mr. Hyman, "Anything American Jewry can do to relieve the situation is well warranted and would be highly appreciated."

OVER 250 JEWISH REFUGEES ARRIVE IN MEXICO FROM LISBON, CASABLANCA

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 18. (JTA)-- More than 250 Jewish refugees arrived in Vera Cruz yesterday on the Spanish steamer Serpa Pinto from Lisbon and Casablanca, it was learned here today.

Most of the refugees came from occupation camps in unoccupied France and from forced labor camps in French Morocco. Many of them have had their Mexican visas for a year but were not permitted to emigrate by the Vichy government, and some were sent to forced labor camps near Casablanca. Their transportation was arranged by the Hias-Ica and the JDC. Mexican Jewish groups were at the dock to meet them as was Isaac L. Asofsky, executive director of the HIAS in New York. Some of the refugees were immediately given lodging in the homes of local Jewish residents.

FIFTY POLISH JEWISH FAMILIES WITH AUSTRALIAN VISAS STRANDED IN SHANGHAI

LONDON, Dec. 18. (JTA)-- Fifty Polish Jewish families in Shanghai, who recently received Australian visas are still in the Japanese-controlled city, it was disclosed here today. The visas were originally secured through the efforts of the Polish authorities in Shanghai.

Meanwhile, a list of Polish Jews in Russia who have relatives in Australia was cabled here today with a request that the Polish government intervene to secure their release.

ALTER, EHRlich, BUNDIST LEADERS, REPORTED RE-ARRESTED IN RUSSIA

LONDON, Dec. 18. (JTA)-- Victor Alter and Henryk Ehrlich, Polish Jewish Socialist Bund leaders, recently released from imprisonment in the Soviet Union, have been re-arrested, it was officially reported here today.

According to Dr. Ignacy Schwartzbart, who was officially informed of the arrests, the reason why Alter and Ehrlich were taken into custody by the Russians is not known, nor is there any information available as to where they are incarcerated. Efforts by Polish officials in Russia to secure their release have been so far unavailing, Dr. Schwartzbart learned.

PALESTINE WRITERS CALL UPON WORLD JEWRY TO FIGHT FOR "FINAL VICTORY"

TEL AVIV, Dec. 18. (JTA)-- The 300 delegates present at the Palestine Jewish Writers Conference today unanimously adopted a resolution calling upon the Yishub and world Jewry to mobilize all its moral, spiritual and material sources, as well as manpower, to fight with the democracies "for final victory." The resolution expressed the "deepest hope that the victorious democracies in establishing a new, just world order will give the most serious consideration to the Jewish problem and right all the tragic wrongs inflicted upon the Jewish people."

Justice Louis D. Brandeis, Menahem M. Ussishkin, Vladimir Jabotinsky and David Yellin were eulogized at the Conference by Dr. Saul Tchernichovsky, noted Hebrew poet.

WILLKIE URGES RESISTANCE TO WAR-TIME INTOLERANCE

NEW YORK, Dec. 18. (JTA)-- Wendell L. Willkie warned Americans that if they "fail to preserve civil rights in this country" during the present war all of our "sacrifices will be in vain" and declared Americans must be alert to resist the reawakening of the spirit of intolerance and prejudice under wartime conditions. He spoke before a luncheon yesterday under the auspices of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, tendered by J. Robert Rubin, vice-president of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, to members of the theatrical industries.

Others who spoke briefly at the luncheon were Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, president of the National Conference; Basil O'Connor, former law partner of Pres. Roosevelt and prominent Catholic layman; and Rabbi Morris Lazaron of Baltimore.

BRITISH WAR LOAN WILL BE FLOATED IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, Dec. 18. (JTA)-- Residents of Palestine are being enabled to participate still more actively in democratic war efforts as a result of a law published in Jerusalem today empowering the High Commissioner to raise a war loan by the sale inside or outside the Holy Land of registered bonds and war savings certificates.

The money raised by the sale may be lent to the British Government. The amount of such loans, the rate of interest, maturity dates and classes of bonds to be issued will be announced later.

HADASSAH OPENS DEFENSE CAMPAIGN HERE WITH PURCHASE OF \$50,000 DEFENSE BONDS

NEW YORK, Dec. 18. (JTA)-- Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, began a national campaign to register its 100,000 members for civilian defense work throughout the country by announcing here today that the organization has invested \$50,000 of its trust funds in defense bonds.

At a mobilization rally held by the Manhattan chapter of the group in the auditorium of the Jewish Center, those present saw Mrs. Samuel J. Rosensohn, national treasurer of Hadassah, transfer the U.S. bonds to Mrs. Nathan D. Perlman, newly appointed American Affairs chairman. Hadassah's countrywide campaign will continue until next Monday, Dec. 22, which has been designated as National Hadassah Defense Registration Day.

Several hundred Hadassah women from the metropolitan area registered before and after the rally for air-raid precautions courses which were initiated by the American Women's Voluntary Services.