

JTA

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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

VOL. IX. NO.-38

Sunday, February 15, 1942

NO MORE THAN TWO JEWS ALLOWED TO WALK TOGETHER IN GHETTO STREETS IN POLAND

ZURICH, Feb. 13. (JTA)-- An order providing that no more than two Jews may walk together in the ghetto streets has been issued by the Nazi authorities in occupied Poland, according to information reaching here today. Both the Jewish and the non-Jewish police in the ghettos have been instructed to rigidly enforce the order. No exceptions are to be made even for members of the same family.

The number of Jewish marriages in Poland, which averaged 19,000 annually in pre-war years, was drastically reduced last year, it is disclosed in data reaching here from Warsaw. Not more than 1,500 Jewish weddings took place in the whole of occupied Poland during 1941. In the city of Warsaw only 150 Jewish marriages were registered in the course of the entire year. No Jewish weddings took place in cities like Kielce, Otwock and others.

The Kresauer Zeitung, which reached here today, reports very favorably on the work of Jewish artisans in the city of Bochnia, the largest town in the Cracow rural district. "Jews are working at present in specially prepared city workshops as tailors, carpenters, basket makers, sewers and brush manufacturers," the Nazi paper writes, adding that the workers are trained by Jewish master craftsmen. "The working premises are clean and the work well disciplined," the report states.

SON OF DR. WEIZMANN MISSING AFTER RAF ENGAGEMENT WITH GERMAN FORCES

LONDON, Feb. 13. (JTA)-- Michael Weizmann, youngest son of Dr. Chaim Weizmann, was reported today to be "missing" after a battle between his R.A.F. squadron and Nazi air or naval forces.

For the time being it cannot be established whether young Weizmann was killed in action or was taken prisoner. It is assumed that he participated in the Dover battle yesterday during which German battleships made their daring escape through the English Channel under the fire of British planes, ships and shore batteries.

JEWS FORBIDDEN TO USE TRAINS IN NAZI-HELD YUGOSLAVIA; ANTI-NAZI SENTIMENTS IN ROMANIA

BERNE, Feb. 13. (JTA)-- An order prohibiting Jews in Nazi-held Yugoslavia from travelling on trains is published in the Danau Zeitung, Nazi organ for the Balkan states, reaching here today. Internment in a concentration camp is provided as punishment for those violating this order.

Private reports from the Balkan countries reaching here today state that unrest is growing among the Rumanian people due to the food shortage and heavy war casualties. The effort of the Nazi-dominated press to throw the blame for the shortage of food on the Jews has met with little success since everybody in Rumania is aware of the fact that most food in the country is being transported to Germany.

FORMATION OF MORE JEWISH UNITS IN PALESTINE URGED BY BRITISH COMMANDER

JERUSALEM, Feb. 13. (JTA)-- The achievements of the Palestine Military Transport Company, manned by Jews, were lauded today by the commanding officer of the unit who stated that the best answer to Gen. Erwin Rommel's new offensive in Libya would be the formation of an additional number of such companies in Palestine.

The C.O.'s statement was made at ceremonies "somewhere in Palestine" marking the first anniversary of the Company. Moshe Shertok, chief of the political department of the Jewish Agency, and senior officers of the British forces attended.

A statement taking issue with the editorial published recently in the New York Times opposing the establishment of a Jewish Army and a Jewish State in Palestine, was made public here last night by Shertok. Declaring that the editorial "has created a painful impression among Jews in Palestine," Shertok says in his statement that it was difficult to believe after the experience of this generation that the hopes of the Jews could be achieved, as suggested in the editorial, by the assurance of full civic rights.

"The reasons that demand the establishment of a Jewish Army are twofold," Shertok declared. "First, the Jews were the first people attacked by Hitler and suffered more than any others at his hands. They have been called upon and are entitled to make their contribution to the allied war effort as a people. Every allied nation, however small, from the Free Danes to the Druses of Syria and the Senusis of Libya, is fighting under its own flag and there is no reason why just Jews should be required to fight anonymously and subjected to the indignity of obliteration of their identity.

"Secondly, only by the formation of a Jewish Army can the maximum Jewish enthusiasm and contribution to the allied war effort be elicited. The demand for the creation of a Jewish Army is not inspired by aggressive design against any one but is merely a plea for fair play, equality and the greatest effort."

LEGISLATION BARRING COLLECTIVE DEFAMATION WILL BE ASKED IN COMMONS

LONDON, Feb. 13. (JTA)-- Legislation prohibiting "collective defamation" in England will be asked for shortly in the House of Commons by Daniel Lipson, Independent Conservative, in the form of a question directed to Prime Minister Churchill.

Lipson's question asks "whether in order to further the cause of justice and prevent the growth of disaffection among His Majesty's subjects, His Majesty's Government will introduce legislation providing legal protection for religious bodies and other similar communities against libels and slanders." It was learned here that Lipson's question is motivated by recent attacks against Jews.

JAMES MARSHALL ASKS FOR PEACE PROGRAM GUARANTEEING RACIAL, RELIGIOUS EQUALITY

NEW YORK, Feb. 13. (JTA)-- The urgent need now for preparing an active post-war peace program in which "race, religion and color are equal" was emphasized yesterday by James Marshall, president of the Board of Education, in a talk to 2,000 members of the Jewish Teachers Association at the Association's fifteenth annual luncheon at the Hotel Astor.

Mr. Marshall expressed hope and confidence that something "more concrete" than the Atlantic Charter will develop. "This is no battle for the hegemony of the English-speaking world, nor is it a war versus the 'yellow peril,'" he declared. "Awake, arise, prepare for peace in which race, religion and color are equal. Let this awakening occur before 'peace' descends upon us as another Pearl Harbor."

JEWISH AGENCY PROTESTS AGAINST SLANDER IN OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT

JERUSALEM, Feb. 13. (JTA)-- A denial of the allegation made by the Palestine Government that the Jews "are mainly guilty of profiteering in Palestine" was voiced here today by Dr. Emil Shmorerak, economic advisor of the Jewish Agency, addressing a gathering of the Journalists Association.

This charge, Dr. Shmorerak said, is contained in an official government report published in English, Hebrew and Arabic. He announced that "the political department of the Jewish Agency is preparing an adequate official protest."

Dr. Shmorerak estimated that \$60,000,000 are now invested in 1,800 Jewish enterprises in Palestine. He said that 45,000 Jewish families are earning their livelihood in Palestine's industry. He warned, however, that unless more industrial investments are made by Jews in Palestine, the opportunity to develop the country into an important industrial center for the entire Far East will be missed, since Turkey and Egypt are also developing large industries. "I do not think that industry is less important for the development of Palestine than agriculture," he declared.

Pointing out that of the \$56,000,000 Jewish industrial production in Palestine in 1941 only goods valued at \$16,000,000 were acquired by British forces, Dr. Shmorerak emphasized that much of Palestine's production can be exported to other countries if only Palestine's industry is expanded. Hundreds of thousands and even millions of people could then be absorbed and provided with work, he asserted.

LEADER OF PALESTINE TERRORIST BAND KILLED IN GUN BATTLE WITH POLICE

TEL AVIV, Feb. 13. (JTA)-- Abraham Stern, alleged leader of the terrorist band that has caused death and destruction in Tel Aviv and Haifa during the past month, was killed yesterday in a gun battle with police who surrounded him in his hide-out on Florentin street, here. A bomb explosion charged to Stern's gang killed three policemen here on January 20. A reward of £1,000 had been offered for Stern's capture.

The police today arrested Beruch Moisewitz as one of the suspected terrorists. It was charged that his fingerprints allegedly corresponded to the marks left on incriminating material recently seized by the police here.

A Jewish electrician, Jacob Hershman, disappeared yesterday from Tel Aviv. It is believed that he was kidnapped. Police have started an investigation.

SEVERAL HUNDRED JEWS EXPELLED FROM FRENCH WINTER RESORT; JEWISH BUSINESSES CLOSED

VICHY, Feb. 13. (JTA)-- The prefect of the department of Haute Savoy, in north-eastern France, has expelled hundreds of Jews from the winter resort of Megève, it was reported today in the Pariser Zeitung.

At the same time the French official ordered the closing of Jewish businesses in the towns of La Baraque, Lisba and Perceneige in the same district. The owners of several restaurants in the towns were severely punished, the Nazi Paris paper reports, for illegally selling food to Jews.

PALESTINE GOVERNMENT WILL SET MAXIMUM PRICES FOR FRUITS, VEGETABLES, DAIRY PRODUCTS

TEL AVIV, Feb. 13. (JTA)-- The Palestine Government has prepared the draft of a by-law fixing the maximum sale prices for fruits, vegetables and dairy products, it was revealed today by Mayor Israel Rokach of this city. The Government has authority to do so under the food rationing system which went into effect throughout Palestine on Feb. 1.

JEWISH RELIEF AGENCIES IN CANADA DISCUSSING AID TO POLISH JEWS IN RUSSIA

MONTREAL, Feb. 13. (JTA)-- Relief for the hundreds of thousands of Polish Jewish refugees in Russia will be discussed by the Dominion executive of the United Jewish Refugee and War Relief Agencies which opens its sessions tomorrow in Toronto. It is pointed out that the establishment of diplomatic relations between Canada and Soviet Russia will facilitate the efforts to send food, clothing and medical aid to the refugees.

An effort will also be made to obtain a concession from the Canadian government to admit a certain number of refugees who are now stranded in various countries and also obtain the release of more categories of interned German Jewish refugees. Many students and skilled workers have already been released through the efforts of the refugee committee.

NAZIS DOOMED BECAUSE OF THEIR ABUSE OF RELIGION, SAYS ASSISTANT SECRETARY BERLE

NEW YORK, Feb. 13. (JTA)-- A statement that the Nazis are doomed because of their abuse of religion, was made here last night by Assistant Secretary of State A.A. Berle, Jr. speaking at a dinner which marked the closing of the five-day Columbia University Conference on Religion in the Modern World.

"If the Nazi rulers had been more theologically minded than they were," Berle said, "they would have realized something which they now are finding out to their present grief and their ultimate disaster. They would have found that the moment a faith is perverted, the moment a design is invented which excludes humanity, it must either conquer the world and assassinate every free spirit or it must eventually die." The Assistant Secretary of State declared that there can be no doubt of an ultimate victory over the Nazis whether on the political, military or spiritual plane.

BROTHERHOOD WEEK OBSERVANCES OPEN TODAY THROUGHOUT NATION

NEW YORK, Feb. 13. (JTA)-- The observance of Brotherhood Week, which opens Sunday, as an occasion for creating a spirit of "understanding, cooperation and friendliness" among citizens of all faiths and nationalities was urged today by the National Conference of Christians and Jews, which is sponsoring the "Week." Brotherhood Week was described by the Conference as "a contribution to national defense and national unity."

JEWISH ARCHAEOLOGIST PRESENTS VALUABLE COLLECTION TO MEXICAN GOVERNMENT

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 13. (JTA)-- An extensive archaeological collection of great historical value has been presented to the Mexican government by Prof. S. Tannenbaum of this city, it was reported here today.

The collection, which was gathered over a period of twenty years, contains about 15,000 exhibits. As soon as they are all uncrated and catalogued they will be placed on exhibition in the National Museum of Mexico.

ARTHUR ZYGELBAUM, NEWLY APPOINTED MEMBER OF POLISH NATIONAL COUNCIL, LEAVING FOR LONDON

NEW YORK, Feb. 13. (JTA)-- The plight of the Jews in Poland under the Nazi regime there was described in a radio broadcast here today by Arthur Zygelbaum, leader of the Jewish Socialist Bund in Poland, who was recently appointed a member of the Polish National Council in London. Mr. Zygelbaum, who escaped from Poland to this country, expects to leave for London within a fortnight to participate in the first session of the Council scheduled to take place on February 28.