JTA
DAILY NEWS BULLETIN
PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY
106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

VOL. IX. NO. 60 Friday, March 13, 1942

## NEW HUNGARIAN PREMIER, THOUGH NO ANTI-SEMITE, IS LIKELY TO COMPROMISE WITH THE NAZIS

ZURICH, March 12. (JTA)-- Jews in Hungary, sensitive to any changes in the Hungarian Government, are reported today as satisfied with the fact that Nicholas von Kallay, former Minister of Agriculture, was this week appointed Premier, succeeding Dr. Ladisleus de Bardossy, who resigned "for reasons of ill health" after resisting German pressure for increased Hungarian military aid on the Soviet front.

Though the new Premier is considered likely to compromise with the Nazis and anti-Semites, it is known that he is not an admirer of Hitler and also that he is not an anti-Semite by personal conviction. He comes from one of Hungary's oldest noble families, the members of which are known to be liberal. As Minister of Agriculture he was responsible for certain anti-Jewish measures in Hungary's grain export trade, but his appointment to Premiership now is looked upon by Jews in Hungary as a move to prevent the coming to power of Dr. Imredy, the leader of the Hungarian Nazis who though of Jewish descent is one of the most bitter anti-Semites in the country.

The fact that von Kallay has taken over the post of Premier, is being interpreted here as proof that no Hungarian statesman of great stature could be found for the post under the present conditions. The existence of the newly formed von Kallay Cabinet depends entirely upon Hitler, as he is able to force Kalley's resignation at any moment he may choose to do so by having the Nazi members in the Hungarian parliament exploit certain incidents in the new Premier's past which took place when he was Minister of Agriculture.

## DESPERATE FOOD SHORTAGE IN BALTIC GHETTOS; JEWS SELL LAST VALUABLES FOR BREAD

STOCKHOLM, March 12. (JTA)-- The desperate shortage of food among the Jews confined in the ghettos in the Baltic countries has driven them to trade their last valuables to non-Jews for bread, despite the severe penalties provided for illegal intercourse between residents of the ghetto and persons outside.

A story appearing in the Deutsche Zeitung im Ostland, Nazi paper for the Baltic area, reaching here today, reports that two Latviens have been arrested in Riga for violating the regulations forbidding intercourse with Jews. They are charged with approaching a Jewish home at the edge of the ghetto and purchasing watches from its residents.

The Goniec Krakowski, a Nazi-censored Polish newspaper published in Cracow, reports that the food rations for Jews and Poles in that city, which were already below subsistence level, have been further reduced. Hitherto the daily food ration for a Pole was 500 calories, and much less for a Jew. Compared with pre-war prices, a Jew was permitted to buy daily food worth not more than three American cents in local currency.

JEWS IN AMERICA CONTRIBUTED 11.5% TO RELIEF FOR BELLIGERENT COUNTRIES, DATA REVEALS

NEW YORK, March 12. (JTA)-- Data showing the extent of Jewish contributions in America for relief in belligerent countries and for refugees driven out of these countries, as compared with the general contributions raised in America for the same purpose, was made public here today by Dr. H. S. Linfield, director of the Statistical Bureau of the Synagogue Council.

The data, based on official tabulations released by the State Department in Washington, shows that a total of $60,147,000 was collected in the United States between September 6th, 1939 and November 30th, 1941. This sum included $6,916,000 received by Jewish organizations, or 11.5%, as compared with the fact that Jews constitute 5% of the total population of the country. These figures cover only the collections for relief in belligerent countries and for refugees driven out of these countries as a result of the present war.

The average monthly collection during the above period preceding America's entry into the war was $2,239,000, including $257,000 by Jewish organizations. In December, during the greater part of which the United States was at war, the American relief bodies collected $2,990,000, including $334,000 by Jewish organizations.

In accordance with the law requiring the registration with the State Department of all persons and organizations permitted to receive contributions to be used "for medical aid and assistance or for food and clothing to relieve human sufferings" in belligerent countries, or for refugees driven out of these countries, a total of 527 persons and organizations, including 21 Jewish organizations registered by November 30, 1941. The countries for which the Jewish bodies registered were Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, United Kingdom, Yugoslavia and Palestine.

$4,900,000 Collected for European Relief and $2,000,000 for Palestine Relief

A total of $4,918,000 was received between September 6, 1939, and November 30, 1941, by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and 14 other Jewish organizations, to be used for medical assistance and for food and clothing in the 12 European countries enumerated above, and for aid to refugees driven out of these countries by the present war. In addition, $1,998,000 were collected by the Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization, and five other organizations for relief in Palestine. The latter sum does not include the funds received by the Palestine Foundation Fund and the Jewish National Fund which are engaged in settling refugees and other Jews in Palestine. "It must also be stated here that information regarding the American Red Cross, is not included in the statistics set forth in these paragraphs," Dr. Linfield stated. Information on activities in non-belligerent countries is also omitted.

Of the $6,900,000 received by Jewish organizations for relief activities as given above, a total of $6,627,000 was received by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and the Hadassah during the period preceding the entry of the United States into the war; while 19 other Jewish relief organizations received $289,000, or 95.8% and 4.2% respectively. Of the latter, 14 for European relief collected $65,000, and five organizations for Palestine relief received $223,000. Five Jewish organizations for European relief discontinued their relief operations during this period, after collecting the small sum of $30,000.

The Statistical Bureau of the Synagogue Council, which was formerly known as the Jewish Statistical Bureau, is headed by Mr. Charles P. Kremer. Dr. Israel Goldstein is the president of the Synagogue Council.

SILVER DISCUSSES JEWISH PROBLEMS WITH COLONIAL MINISTER AND SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN LONDON

LONDON, March 12. (JTA)-- Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, American Zionist leader, who is now on a Zionist mission here, was received today by Lord Cranborne, the British Colonial Minister, with whom he discussed matters concerning Palestine. Rabbi Silver was also received today by Ivan Maisky, Soviet Ambassador.

A statement that the British Government cannot undertake any steps that would undermine the Palestine immigration policy was made in Commons last night by Harold MacMillan, under-secretary for Colonies. He reiterated the policy outlined by Lord Cranborne in the House of Lords this week, declaring that the British Government hoped that such tragedies as the Struma sinking would not occur again, but that it could give no definite assurances as to changes in the immigration policy of the Palestine administration.

The Daily Telegraph, a leading London newspaper, violently assails both Lord Davies and Lord Wedgwood for their criticism of the Palestine government voiced in the House of Lords. Declaring that "there could hardly be a more flagrant abuse of the freedom of Parliamentary debate," the Telegraph charges both speakers with raising disputable points "tending to unsettle both Arabs and Jews and make more anxious the already delicate situation." At a time"when the Middle East lies under a threat of attack and disquiet is in the air in Palestine those who raise these 'loud provocative shouts,' as Lord Cranborne called them, incur the gravest responsibilities apart from discrediting and slandering an administration that is doing its utmost to hold a true balance in circumstances of perennial difficulty,"the paper writes.

GERMAN FIRMS BENEFIT FROM "ARYANIZATION" OF JEWISH PHARMACIES IN BULGARIA

ZURICH, March 12. (JTA)-- The boycott of German goods, which had been conducted for many years by Jewish pharmacists in Bulgaria has finally been broken by the "aryanization" of all Jewish-owned pharmacies in the country, it is reported today in the Donau Zeitung, a Nazi paper for the Balkan countries.

Since the Sofia municipality has taken over the Jewish drug stores it has decided to purchase 44,500,000 levas of German pharmaceutical supplies, the Nazi orgen writes.

REFUGEE RABBIS PROTEST AGAINST SWISS MODIFICATION OF RITUAL SLAUGHTER

LONDON, March 12. (JTA)-- The decision by the Swiss rabbinate to allow the ritual killing of cattle after the animals have first been stunned by electricity was protested today in a telegram sent to the Swiss rabbis by the Association of Refugee Rabbis here.

Pointing out that despite the difficult conditions under which they live, the German-Jewish communities found it impossible to sanction ritual slaughter with the aid of electricity, the refugee rabbis expressed the hope that "Swiss Jewry will not take a measure which German Jewry refused to approve even in a time of great distress."

LT.-COL. KISCH NAMED BRIGADIER GENERAL WITH BRITISH FORCES IN MIDDLE EAST

LONDON, March 12. (JTA)-- Lieut.-Col. Frederick H. Kisch, former member of the Zionist Executive, who is now serving with the British forces in the Near East, has been promoted to the rank of Brigadier, it was announced here today. Col. Kisch served with the British General Staff in World War I.

## AMERICAN ZIONISTS URGE UNITED STATES INTERVENTION AGAINST PALESTINE IMMIGRATION POLICY

NEW YORK, March 12. (JTA)-- The United States Government was urged tonight to intervene with the British Government to secure modification of the policy of admitting Jewish refugees into Palestine, in a resolution adopted at a mass meeting arranged by the American Emergency Committee for Zionist Affairs at the Cosmopolitan Opera House here. The meeting mourned the death of the more than 750 Jewish refugees from Rumania who lost their lives in the waters of the Black Sea on the freighter Struma, after being refused admission to Palestine.

Presided over by Dr. Stephen S. Wise, the meeting was addressed by Senator Edwin Johnson of Colorado, Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr of the Union Theological Seminary, Dr. James G. Heller, President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Hadassah President, Mr. David Ben-Gurion, Chairman of the Executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and Dr. A. Samuel Brodt, former Chief Rabbi of Antwerp, Belgium. The speakers demanded that Palestine be opened to victims of Nazi persecution.

In asking intervention on the part of the United States Government, the resolution adopted at the meeting demanded that:

1. Such immediate changes in the policies as well as the personnel of the British Administration in Palestine be effected as shall make impossible the repetition of such appalling disasters.
2. The 700 refugees from the Darien who, after escaping from the pogroms in Rumania have been interned for more than 12 months on Palestinian soil under threat of deportation, be immediately released.
3. The 1800 refugees who were deported under the most distressing circumstances to the Island of Mauritius by the Palestine Administration in March 1941 be returned to Palestine.
4. The Jewish victims of Nazism be treated as democracy's friends and not as its foes.
5. The doors of Palestine be opened to those desperate people who knock at its doors only to be cast back into the sea.
6. British policy in Palestine be brought into harmony with the high ideals to which Britain and the United Nations are committed.

Earlier in the day the Emergency Committee cabled a direct appeal to Winston Churchill which stated: "We have the right and the duty to insist that there be such changes in policies and in the men in the Palestine Administration as shall prevent any recurrence of these appalling happenings. In the name of all American Zionists we register our solemn protest."

### Canadian Zionists Cable Protest to Colonial Minister

MONTREAL, March 12. (JTA)-- Mr. A. J. Freiman, president of the Zionist Organization of Canada, announced today that he has cabled, on behalf of the organization, to Lord Cranborne, the British Colonial Minister, expressing "profoundest grief at a tragedy which need never have taken place," the drowning of the more than 750 Jewish refugees of the Struma in the Black Sea. "Poles, Czechs, Greeks and other non-Jewish victims of the Nazis are admitted to Palestine in the thousands; shall this privilege be denied to Jewish victims of the same persecution?" the message asked.

"Nothing now can save the lives of those hundreds who sought a haven of refuge and found only a grave in the sea," the cable added. "But the ideals of justice demand that future Jewish immigration into Palestine shall be based upon the historical claims of the Jewish people, consecrated in the Balfour declaration, and on those humanitarian principles for which the United Nations are fighting today."