

# JTA

DAILY

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## PELLEPOIX ORDERS FRENCH JEWS TO WEAR YELLOW STAR OF DAVID

VICHY, May 24. (JTA)-- Jews in France were ordered today by the Laval government to wear a Mogen David "so as to insure their immediate identification."

The order was announced by Louis Darquier de Pellepoix, French Commissioner for Jewish Affairs, who is known for his notorious anti-Jewish activities in pre-war France. "In order to obtain the Star of David, the wearer will have to give up one point of his or her clothing allowance," the order stated. It did not specify whether the decree enters into effect immediately.

In Paris ten "Jews and Communists" were executed during the week-end in reprisal for an attack on a Nazi soldier there on May 19. The German authorities announced that ten more will be shot if the persons responsible for the attack are not found within eight days.

## POLISH PREMIER AND U.S. AMBASSADOR CONFER ON SENDING FOOD TO POLAND

LONDON, May 24. (JTA)-- The campaign to send "mercy food shipments" to starving Poles and Jews in Nazi-occupied Poland received new impetus today following a conference here last night between the Polish Premier Gen. Sikorski and the American Ambassador to Poland, Anthony Drexel Biddle, Jr.

The conference followed a similar meeting on Thursday between Premier Sikorski and high officials of the British Government in charge of studying the problem of permitting the shipment of food from the Allied countries to the starving population in Poland in the same manner as this is being done for the population in Axis-occupied Greece.

Recent reports reaching the Polish Government here from occupied Poland all emphasize that the shortage of food there, especially in the Jewish ghettos, has reached a point where people are dying in the street of hunger. The situation is especially aggravated by the fact that the harvest this summer promises to be worse than last year's. It is admitted here that the problem of sending "mercy food" to Poland is more complicated than the shipping of food to Greece, since the transports to Poland must cross Germany or Nazi-held territories by railway. The Polish Government, however, is hopeful that an arrangement will eventually be reached whereby the food will not fall into the hands of the Nazis but will reach the starving population in Poland.

While negotiations for sending food to Poland seem to be making headway in London, a report from Jerusalem today stated that another neutral steamer sailed from Haifa this week-end to Greece carrying a cargo of 1,000 tons of flour donated as relief for the starving population of Greece. This is the second transport of flour sent from Palestine to the people of Greece.

PENSION PLAN FOR RABBIS ANNOUNCED; TO BE RATIFIED BY SEPTEMBER

CINCINNATI, May 24. (JTA)-- Security for rabbis who have reached the retirement age is now assured through a retirement-pension plan in which the individual rabbi, his congregation and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the Central Conference of American Rabbis acting together will participate, it was announced today in a statement issued jointly by Mr. Adolph Rosenberg, chairman of the board of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, for the congregations, and Rabbi James G. Heller, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, for the rabbis.

The announcement of a definite plan climaxes years of study, it was stated. Ratification of at least seventy-five per cent of Union congregations, by September 1, is necessary, so that a group annuity contract can be negotiated covering all rabbis below the pension age of sixty-five and otherwise eligible.

The plan provides for the Union and the Conference to place at the disposal of the Joint Committee on Rabbinical pensions, funds totaling over \$220,000 which have been contributed and designated for this purpose. Of this sum, \$150,000 is to be given by the Central Conference of American Rabbis from its own Pension Fund, and the rest by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations from the Schiff Fund and from the Joseph Schonthal Fund.

Provisions of the Pension Plan provide that each rabbi is to contribute annually three per cent of his salary, with the Congregation paying seven per cent annually. The Union and Conference, acting jointly, are to pay one to three per cent of his salary annually, depending on the age of the rabbi when he enters the plan. The cost of the latter charge will be defrayed in part out of the above Pension Funds and the remainder incorporated in the Budgets of the Union and Conference. A policy will be issued to the rabbi providing a retirement annuity at the age of sixty-five, and death benefits before that age.

WILLIAM ROSENWALD RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF NRS; FULL NRS PARTNERSHIP IN UJA URGED

NEW YORK, May 24. (JTA)-- William Rosenwald and Prof. Joseph P. Chamberlain were re-elected president and chairman of the board, respectively, of the National Refugee Service at the third annual meeting of the organization in the Harmonie Club here today, with 200 national leaders in emigre aid activity in attendance. Vice-presidents elected were: Gustav H. Kahn of Pittsburg, Daniel E. Koshland of San Francisco, Charles H. Riegelman of New York, David H. Sulzberger of New York, Paul Felix Warburg of New York, David N. Watchmaker of Boston, Henry Wineman of Detroit and Morris Wolf of Philadelphia. Richard P. Limburg was again elected to the post of treasurer and Richard P. Goldman was named secretary.

The delegates urged that the NRS be admitted into full partnership in the United Jewish Appeal in a resolution adopted at the conference. The NRS executive board was instructed to take steps to bring this about.

Albert Abrahamson, executive director of the NRS, addressing the meeting, pointed to Britain's policy of utilizing the skills of 70,000 ex-enemy aliens in every branch of her war machine as a "goal for us who are engaged in the refugee aid program of the United States." When full opportunity has been provided for all refugees in America "to contribute to the battle for democracy in which we are now engaged, we shall have accomplished a notable aim," Mr. Abrahamson declared.

The efforts of the NRS officers in aiding the refugees in the United States were lauded in a resolution, introduced by Mr. Jacob Blaustein and unanimously adopted by the meeting, "expressing profound appreciation to the officers of the National Refugee Service for making its work a symbol of America's aid to emigres from racial and religious persecution and for doing the job well."

ACCOUNTS OF NAZI POGROMS IN OCCUPIED WHITE RUSSIA RELATED AT MOSCOW JEWISH RALLY

MOSCOW, May 24. (JTA)-- Detailed accounts of the death and destruction that were visited upon the heavily Jewish-populated towns of White Russia by the invading Nazi army were recounted here today at the opening session of the Anti-Fascist Jewish Rally being held in the House of the Federation of Labor Unions.

In Vitebsk the Germans rounded up several thousand Jewish men, women and children and loaded them into leaking boats which were towed to the middle of the Dwina River, three sisters, Sara, Chana and Luba Aron, who fled to Vitebsk from the neighboring village of Kolischki, related. When the boats reached mid-stream, the Nazi soldiers turned a murderous stream of bullets upon the Jews, killing thousands of the prisoners and leaving hundreds of others to drown when their leaking craft sank.

In Kolischki, the Aron sisters disclosed, the Germans immediately after entering the village looted all the Jewish homes. Later a detachment of storm troopers raged through the town murdering about 100 Jews. It was then that the sisters decided to flee to Vitebsk, where they were spared from execution by the fact that they did not appear Jewish. Driven half-mad by the atrocities they witnessed at Vitebsk, however, the three Jewish women returned to Kolischki when members of guerrilla units told them that the advancing Red Army was about to recapture the village.

Another Jewish woman, Hinda Frydman, who remained in Kolischki for a longer time, saw two of her four children and her husband executed by the Nazis, who had rounded up all the Jewish men in the village. The Nazi soldiers indiscriminately shot every tenth Jew after they lined them up in the market place.

The extent of the pogroms inflicted upon the Jews of White Russia was indicated by reports told Mrs. Frydman by Jews fleeing through Kolischki from towns occupied by the Nazis. In every village those Jews who had been unable to flee were shot and burnt. In the districts of Goublokoje and Wilejka no Jews remained alive. The fleeing Jews revealed that Russian collective farmers had given them help along the way and hidden them from the Nazis when possible. They also reported that French soldiers forced to fight with the German armies had warned the Jews to escape before the main Nazi force arrived.

The Aron sisters and Mrs. Frydman and her two remaining children were evacuated from Kolischki to the Saratov district on the Volga River in March, after the Soviet troops had recaptured the region.

NAZIS SEND THOUSANDS OF LITHUANIAN JEWS TO FORCED LABOR IN COAL MINES

ZURICH, May 24. (JTA)-- The Neue Züricher Zeitung, one of the best informed Swiss newspapers, today carries a report from its Berlin correspondent stating that the Nazi occupational authorities in the Baltic countries are deporting thousands of Jews from Lithuania into occupied Poland, placing them in forced labor camps in the coal mines of the Kattovice district.

Reports reaching here today from the Slovakian Press Bureau in Bratislava state that 5,600 Jews were deported last week from the Slovakian cities of Trebisov and Michalovce and that "the deportation of Jews from Slovakia continues according to plan."

200 REFUGEES WILL LEAVE FRANCE FOR SURINAM UNDER JDC ARRANGEMENT

NEW YORK, May 24. (JTA)-- Two hundred Dutch refugees, at present in unoccupied France, will reach the Western Hemisphere next month as a result of an agreement reached between the Joint Distribution Committee and the Dutch Government-in-Exile, it was announced here today.

Asylum for the refugees will be provided by the Dutch Government in Surinam, Dutch Guiana, under a twelve-months' maintenance guarantee for them by the JDC. Approximately \$45,000 is involved. The refugees, 90% of whom are Jewish, fled from Holland during the invasion in May, 1940. They have spent the last two years in unoccupied France, where their situation is now extremely difficult in view of recent political developments.

VICHY ADVISES REFUGEES TO EMIGRATE FROM UNOCCUPIED FRANCE

NEW YORK, May 24. (JTA)-- Police authorities in unoccupied France have posted official notices informing refugees that despite America's entry into the war, emigration from Marseilles to overseas countries is still possible. The notice, as released here today by the Hias-Ica Emigration Association, reads: "Despite the entry of the United States into the war aliens can, if they desire, immigrate to the American continent. Those aliens who are able to obtain authorization to proceed to the Iberian peninsula will leave French territory under normal conditions. The others must address themselves to the Prefecture which has an agreement with certain organizations, namely the Hias-Ica of 425 Rue Paradis, Marseilles, which organizes the groups and makes it possible for these refugees to proceed for overseas countries. Upon presentation of an invitation from a Consul a permit for a short sojourn in Marseilles will be issued."

60,000 JEWISH CHILDREN IN NEW YORK WILL AID WAR BOND CAMPAIGN

NEW YORK, May 24. (JTA)-- More than 60,000 children attending Jewish religious schools in New York City will observe Monday, June 15, as official "Save for Freedom Day" designated to inaugurate a city-wide educational campaign for the buying of war bonds and stamps, it was announced here today.

Principals and teachers of the Jewish religious schools met at the Hotel Pennsylvania for the purpose of organizing the campaign under the auspices of the Jewish Education Committee of which Judge Samuel I. Rosenman is president. The gathering was addressed by Frederick F. Greenman, assistant to the Acting Deputy Administrator of the War Savings Staff of the Treasury Department.

GEORGE ANTONIUS, ANTI-ZIONIST LEADER OF CHRISTIAN ARABS, DIES IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, May 24. (JTA)-- George Antonius, leader of the Christian Arabs and a bitter opponent of Jewish aspirations in Palestine, died here at the age of 50. He was author of the book "The Arab Awakening" in which the Arab argument against Zionism is presented.

In testifying in 1937 before the Peel Commission investigating the Arab disturbances of 1936, Antonius expressed the belief that no Arab-Jewish compromise could be reached. He was the secretary of the Palestine Arab delegation to the Arab-Jewish-British conference in London in 1939. From 1927 to 1930 he was Assistant Secretary to the Palestine Government.