

JTA

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY
106 EAST 41ST STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y.
VOL. IX. NO. 184 Friday, August 11, 1942

Jews in Poland Hope for Mercy Food Shipments from America to Alleviate Starvation

BERNE, August 10. (JTA)-- The eyes of the Jews in Nazi-occupied Poland are now more than ever before turned to America and England, hoping that food will be sent to them in the same manner as it is being sent to the starving population in Nazi-held Greece, it was indicated in an appeal received here today from Jewish leaders in Poland.

The appeal reveals that this Autumn Jews in the ghettos may face even greater starvation than hitherto. Dissatisfied with the prospects for this year's crop in Poland, the Nazi authorities there have threatened to further reduce the meager food rations for Jews and Poles. At the same time they also proclaimed a state of emergency under which the death sentence will be imposed upon anyone violating the food regulations.

The state of emergency, issued by the Nazis throughout Poland on August 1, will remain in power for four months, according to an official announcement. Any Jew or Pole caught securing rationed food above the amount allowed him on his ration card will be considered to be "depriving" the German armed forces of food. Polish peasants not surrendering their full crop to the German authorities will similarly be executed under the provisions of the state of emergency.

Jews in Ghettos Encouraged by Nazis to Ask for Food from Abroad

Despite the strict censorship imposed by the Nazi authorities in Poland on all outgoing mail, letters reaching here from the Warsaw, Cracow and other ghettos describe with remarkable frankness the dire food situation among the Jews there. The laxity of the Nazi censors is explained by the fact that the Nazi authorities do not object to passing "starvation letters" in order to encourage Jews abroad to send food packages to their relatives in the ghettos.

A check made by interested Jewish organizations establishes that while not all food packages sent from Switzerland, Portugal and Sweden to Jews in Poland are being delivered by the Nazi authorities, a large proportion of them reach the people to whom the parcels are addressed. This is particularly true with regard to food packages sent from neutral countries during the last six months. The articles in these packages, however, are limited mostly to canned goods and do not exceed one pound in total weight.

The appeal reaching here today from the Jews in Poland for an organized effort on the part of American and British Jews to secure "mercy" food shipments for the starving people in the ghettos also reveals that religious feelings are stronger among the Jews in the ghettos. The synagogues in Warsaw are crowded as never before and Pisha B'Ab this year was observed with a religious fervor equalling only the observance of Yom Kippur, the appeal states.

35,000 JEWISH ENTERPRISES IN FRANCE ALREADY "ARYANIZED" NAZIS ANNOUNCE

LONDON, Aug. 10. (JTA)-- About 35,000 Jewish-owned enterprises in occupied and unoccupied France have already been "aryanized" and liquidation of these businesses is proceeding rapidly, it was announced today by a Nazi broadcaster on the Paris radio.

The announcement disclosed that 31,700 Jewish-owned firms have been taken over by the German authorities in the occupied zone, 24,914 of which were in Paris. In the unoccupied area, the Vichy Government has "aryanized" 5,000 enterprises. In addition, 298 parcels of land belonging to Jews have been sold to Aryans by the Nazi authorities.

Sequestration of Jewish businesses continues, while liquidation of those already seized has started in Paris following the re-opening of the Bourse, the broadcaster stated. The Jewish properties are sold at periods when normal activity on the exchange has slackened. All monies realized through these sales are placed in blocked accounts. The former Jewish owners of the property may withdraw only sums not exceeding 15,000 francs monthly.

Meanwhile, Andre LaBarthe, a Fighting French leader and editor of "La France Libre," which is published here, broadcast to the people of France over the British Broadcasting Company today attacking the recently intensified anti-Semitic persecutions in France. "Hitler wants to mobilize hatred in France," La Barthe declared, "but it will never happen. Frenchmen are not anti-Semites, they are anti-Boches and anti-traitors. If Frenchmen accept for one moment the Nazi racial theories, they will be subscribing to Hitler's statement in "Mein Kampf" that 'the French are bastards.'"

CHRISTIANS IN BELGIUM AID JEWS; NAZIS IN HOLLAND MULCT JEWS

STOCKHOLM, Aug. 10. (JTA)-- An ingenious device by which Belgians are aiding Jews in the country, the majority of whom are impoverished as a result of being barred from most trades and professions by the Nazi occupation authorities, was revealed here today in reports received from underground circles in Belgium. Many Jewish children roam the streets of the larger cities selling photographs of Jews wearing yellow stars. Belgian passersby buy the cards, paying large sums for them as a means of giving financial assistance to the needy Jews, the report states.

An equally ingenious device being used by German real estate agents in Holland to defraud Jews of their houses was also reported here today. These agents sell Jewish houses to Aryans without even consulting the owner. The prospective purchaser is taken to a special office established by the Nazis where an eviction order is secured forcing the Jew to sell his house at any price designated by the German agents. When the house is sold, the Jew is forced to place the money obtained in a special blocked account in a German-controlled bank, after first being forced to pay a commission to the agent.

HAIFA HAS FOUR AIR RAID ALARMS IN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS; ONE IN TEL AVIV

JERUSALEM, Aug. 10. (JTA)-- Four air raid alarms have sounded in Haifa and one in Tel Aviv within the past forty-eight hours but no incidents have been reported, it was stated today. "Round defenses were in action in Haifa during the first alarm.

CONFERENCE ON POST-WAR HEALTH PROBLEMS OF JEWS IN EUROPE PLANNED IN AMERICA

NEW YORK, Aug. 10. (JTA)-- A conference to discuss the effects of the war, persecution, famine and epidemics on the health of the Jewish population in European countries will be held this Fall in America, it was announced today by the American Committee of the OSE, Jewish Health Society. The conference will be attended by leading Jewish physicians interested in studying the health problems facing European Jews after the war.

The question of the public health needs of the Jewish population in Latin American countries and the initiation of systematic public health work there may also be included on the agenda of the conference, it was indicated. Dr. A. Rongy, chairman of the American OSE executive committee, has been authorized to set up a special Conference Committee of eminent physicians who, jointly with the executive committee of the OSE, will undertake the organization of the conference which is to discuss the following reports:

1. War, persecution, starvation, epidemics and their disastrous effects on the health of the Jewish population of the European countries.
2. The ghetto as a new phenomenon in Jewish life and its effects on the psycho-neurotic health of the Jewish population.
3. Lessons of the First World War and the aims of public health work in the post-war world.
4. Public health work among Jews in various European countries in the period between two wars.
5. Epidemiologic problems in the post-war period; Health problems of children and adolescents; New tasks in connection with emigration and colonization problems.
6. The consequences of poor nutrition and the means of improving health through nutrition.
7. The fate of the Jewish physicians in Europe -- their economic uprooting and dispersion.
8. The role of American Jewry in medical aid to the Jewish population of Europe and its tremendous future tasks.

NAZI-CONTROLLED BALKAN GOVERNMENTS INTENSIFY ANTI-JEWISH ECONOMIC RESTRICTIONS

GENEVA, Aug. 10. (JTA)-- Reports reaching here today from the Nazi-dominated Balkan countries indicate intensification of the drive to purge Jews from the economy of these nations.

Premier von Kallay of Hungary, addressing a group of peasants in the trans-Danubian area seized from Yugoslavia, promised them that under the recently adopted anti-Semitic land laws large tracts of land would be "restored" to the peasants.

In Bulgaria, the Ministry of the Interior has decreed that all land purchased by Jews from local communities, but not yet officially registered as the property of the Jews, must be returned to the communities, without the purchasers receiving any compensation.

The Rumanian Government has issued a new series of decrees which bar an additional 1,327 Jewish workers from continuing in their trades.

NAZI PUPPET STATE OF CROATIA MAKES ANOTHER CITY "JUDENREIN"

ZURICH, Aug. 10. (JTA)-- The town of Ruma, Croatia, is now "judenrein" following the expulsion of its last 156 Jewish inhabitants on July 27, the Zagreb radio reported today. The pro-Nazi puppet government of Croatia ordered the removal of the 156 Jews from Ruma to a concentration camp near Vincovic, the broadcast announced.

ARAB SHEIKHS JOIN JEWS IN FESTIVITIES AT ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW JEWISH COLONY

JERUSALEM, Aug. 10. (JTA)-- Arab guests at a new Jewish settlement were advised by an Arab District Officer not to content themselves with merely exchanging calls with their Jewish neighbors, but to study their agricultural methods.

The occasion was the establishment of "Doroth," a new settlement in the South of Palestine. Sheikhs and Mukhtars from neighboring villages, and settlers from other cooperative settlements joined in a festive lunch to mark the occasion, the District Officer, Aref effendy el Aref, taking the chair.

Among speakers who congratulated the new settlement was the Sheikh of the neighboring Atanna tribe, who observed that the expansion of Jewish settlement in the region would bring hope for greater progress for the Arabs. Addressing the gathering, the chairman said: "Do not be content with lunching with your Jewish friends, if you desire progress ask your Jewish friends how they drill wells, and learn from them."

LIST OF JEWISH CASUALTIES IN CANADIAN ARMED FORCES DURING 1941 PUBLISHED IN MONTREAL

MONTREAL, Aug. 10. (JTA)-- A statement released by the War Efforts Committee of the Canadian Jewish Congress reveals that the total number of Jewish casualties (killed or missing only) in the Canadian armed forces during 1941 was 52. This number includes members of the Royal Canadian Navy, the Canadian Army and the Royal Canadian Air Force. Fully three-quarters of the Jewish casualties occurred among the members of the air force. A number of Jews have been killed or are missing in Hong Kong.

DELEGATION INFORMS LITVINOV CONCERNING AIMS OF MOVEMENT FOR JEWISH ARMY

LONDON, Aug. 10. (JTA)-- The case for the establishment of a Jewish Army in Palestine was presented to Maxim Litvinov, Soviet ambassador in Washington, by a delegation of the Committee for a Jewish Army in America, it was announced here today.

The announcement by a representative of the Committee for a Jewish Army here emphasized that the delegation stressed the importance of such an army to the strategy of the United Nations. It did not indicate Mr. Litvinov's reaction on the subject.

SYNAGOGUES AND CHURCHES OF 15 CREEDS WILL HOLD JOINT DRIVE FOR FUNDS

NEW YORK, Aug. 10. (JTA)-- Synagogues and churches of fifteen communions and creeds will hold a joint campaign for financial assistance on a nation-wide basis for the first time next fall and winter, it was announced here yesterday by the United Church-Canvass Committee. The Synagogue Council of America, representing leading rabbinical and congregational organizations, is to participate in the national drive which is scheduled to open on November 15.

MEMORY OF PROF ISRAEL FRIEDLAENDER HONORED IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, (JTA - By Air Mail)-- A stone bench was unveiled in the Friedlaender Memorial Grove on the Hebrew University grounds in memory of the late Professor Israel Friedlaender of New York, who was murdered in the Ukraine in 1921, while on a relief mission for the American Joint Distribution Committee. Addresses were delivered by Dr. J.L. Magnes and Mrs. Friedlaender.

The Grove is the gift of the Israel Friedlaender Classes of the Jewish Theological Seminary of New York. Among those who planted the first trees in May, 1941, were the late Mr. M. Ussishkin and the late Professor David Yellin.