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SWITZERLAND GRANTS SANCTUARY TO 2,000 JEWS WHO ESCAPED FROM FRANCE

BERN, Oct. 4. (JTA)-- More than 2,000 Jews who entered Switzerland illegally in order to escape deportation from France to Nazi-held territory have registered with the Swiss police authorities and appealed for permission to remain in the country, it was reported in the press here today. Hundreds of Jewish refugees from France have so far failed to report to the police, or have not been found, the report stated.

The opinion that a rapid increase in the number of illegal immigrants can be expected in spite of the efforts of the Swiss authorities to prevent such a development, is expressed by some newspapers reviewing the refugee situation. Not a day passes without Jews from France slipping into Switzerland, they point out. They publish accounts of how aged Jews are being frozen to death in the snows of the mountains around Geneva and Chamonix, trying to cross the Franco-Swiss frontier.

The snow and the cold weather do not prevent the fugitives from hiding in the mountains with the hope of eventually reaching Switzerland. One of the Swiss newspapers writes. American relief agencies in Switzerland are concentrating on caring for children of the refugees.

U.S., Dominican Republic Reported Ready to Admit Refugee Children

American quarters in Bern today indicated that the United States is willing to accept 1,000 children and that the Dominican Republic is ready to admit another 1,000 children whose parents have been arrested in France for deportation to German-occupied territories. At the same time Federal Councillor Edward de Steiger, head of the Department of Justice and Police in Switzerland, today announced that the United States has granted only 30 visas in 1942, Brazil granted 31, and Argentina, 5.

"Since the United States, Brazil and Argentina have practically ceased giving visas, Switzerland is no longer able to serve as a transit land for short-term residents," Mr. de Steiger said. He added that there are at present 23,000 foreigners in Switzerland and the country, therefore, could not accept many more without endangering national security.

In reviewing the question of admitting refugees from France who try to escape deportation to Nazi-held lands, the Swiss press today reports that the Swiss Federal Council has carefully re-examined the refugee problem and has decided on a course which will continue Switzerland's traditional policy of limited sanctuary. For the time being, however, there will be no further easing of restrictions, which recently were relaxed to permit some new admissions and to allow persons who entered illegally before August 13 to remain here.

FRENCHMEN BOYCOTT VICHY'S ANTI-JEWISH REGULATIONS, AMERICAN RELIEF WORKER REPORTS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4, (JTA)-- Anti-Semitic regulations in unoccupied France are being nullified by a consciously forgetful public, Henry S. Harvey, representative of the American Friends Service Committee in Vichy, declared here today upon his return from unoccupied France where he was conducting relief work.

"One certain opportunity which every visitor gets to check the anti-Semitic adherence is in hotel admittance," Mr. Harvey said. "While there is a prohibition on the acceptance of Jewish customers at hotels, only one - the Grand Hotel at Perpignan - of the 15 at which I stayed abided by the order. The procedure is to ask each desk registrant a direct question: 'Are you Jewish?' The typical hotel, such as the Capoul and de Paris at Toulouse and the Picux at Albi, blithely omitted it. Numbers of Jews were found in the hotels living in defiance of Hitler with the assent of the proprietors."

A second instance of this condition was encountered by Mr. Harvey in his contacts with the universities. The Nazi command is that no Jewish student is to be matriculated unless he has had five successive generations of French antecedents; what is more, these ~~ancestors~~ must have contributed acceptably to what is vaguely defined as "the welfare of France." Such qualifications, if enforced, would virtually have eliminated all Jewish students. The university authorities politely file the Nazi directions, Harvey said, and go right on admitting Jewish students.

Official Dismissed for Flouting Anti-Jewish Laws

Very often, and this is becoming more true, the infractions of the anti-Semitic code are discovered, and those found guilty are dealt with harshly. Mr. Harvey particularly recalls an official in the Department of Tarn, whose name he withheld, who had told him frankly that he was doing all in his power to hamstring the anti-Semitic rules. By the time the Quaker representative left, the official had been deposed, and replaced with one more devoted to Nazi interests. Continuation of such a trend toward further infiltration of Nazi puppets may immeasurably tighten the screws on Jews in France, and ironically defeat the objective of the tolerant officials, he pointed out.

Not all regulations against the Jews are so unyielding or so impolitic that violators can escape immediate Nazi crack-down, Mr. Harvey said. Professional quotas are rigidly applied. A two percent maximum has been placed on the number of Jewish lawyers, physicians and other professional men who may practice in any community. One Jew, eminent in his field, has been forced to do farm work, even though he is partly crippled.

Perhaps the most widespread discrimination against the Jews is the ban on their leaving work camps for detached service, the name given to jobs in private industry engaged in work of vital concern to the regime, the Quaker representative stated. The wives of interned Jews likewise are treated harshly and are told in which town they may live, and instructed to shift for themselves. For these couples life is increasingly dark; they are often stationed long distances apart, and there seems to be no escape from their confinement.

Most active in ignoring anti-Semitic edicts, are those interested in the Jews and those antagonistic to the Nazis. Most active in enforcing the restrictions, are Frenchmen who have political ambitions. The future of the Jews in what survives of France will brighten or blacken in proportion to the fortunes of the Vichy Regime, Mr. Harvey concluded.

GERMANS DEPORT MORE JEWS FROM PARIS AREA TO OCCUPIED EASTERN COUNTRIES

LISBON, Oct. 4.(JTA)-- The deportation of 6,000 persons, the majority of them Jews, from occupied France to German-held countries is reported here today from Paris. Mass-arrests of Jews for deportation were resumed during the last few days after a short interval, the report said.

It was learned here today that Admiral Darlan addressed a letter to Fernand de Brinon, Vichy's ambassador at Paris, stating his opposition to the anti-Semitic measures in France. Replying, de Brinon wrote to Darlan that his attitude had been brought to the attention of Hitler and "produced a very bad impression."

Mayors of a number of cities in unoccupied France are reported today to have appeared before Laval, warning him not to yield any further on the question of Jews whose deportation Germany demands. A majority of these mayors have been among Laval's supporters in the past.

JEWSH SHOEMAKER SAVES RUSSIAN BATTALION FROM FALLING INTO NAZI TRAP

KULIBYSHEV, Oct. 4.(JTA)-- The story of how a former Jewish shoemaker saved a Russian battalion from falling into a Nazi trap at the front is reported in the Russian press today.

The shoemaker, Loib Rossin, who has been serving in the Red Army since the outbreak of the Russo-German war, noticed a fallen pine tree in the woods near where his battalion was stationed. There was nothing unusual about this, but Rossin suspected that a Nazi trick might be behind it. "I am sure that the Germans cut down this tree for a purpose," he reported to his commanding officer. Upon investigation, it was found that the tree had narrowed the path across which it fell. Both sides of the narrow opening which remained had then been mined. If the battalion had passed through this narrow path, it would have been annihilated.

Russian sappers immediately rendered the Nazi mines harmless, and the battalion proceeded to its destination attacking a German position and taking it. "Thus," one Russian paper points out, "Rossin not only saved his battalion, but must be credited with making it possible for his comrades to gain another position from the Nazis." The former Jewish cobbler, who was decorated for this act, has participated in numerous battles and has been wounded. He returned to the front, however, as soon as the doctor permitted him to leave the hospital.

CONCRETE FISHING VESSEL "JONAH" LAUNCHED IN TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, Oct. 4.(JTA)-- The second concrete fishing vessel to be built here in recent months slid down the ways today at the yards of the Palestine Concrete Shipbuilding Co. It was named "Jonah."

The builder of the ship is a Serbian Jew named Kretner, whose war-time building program includes twenty-five such trawlers, in order to make Palestine self-sufficient as regards the supply of fish.

NEWBURGH JEWS SEND TORAH TO AMERICAN JEWISH SERVICE MEN IN BRITAIN

NEWBURGH, N. Y., Oct. 4.(JTA)-- An impressive ceremony here on Friday night marked the dedication by Temple Beth Jacob of a Torah which will be sent to Jews serving in the U.S. armed forces in Britain. The Scroll was accepted for the Jewish Welfare Board by Rabbi William Rosenblum.

AMERICAN ZIONISTS OPPOSE MAGNES PLAN FOR BI-NATIONAL STATE IN PALESTINE

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4.(JTA)-- The Zionist Organization of America today officially went on record as opposing the reported plan of Dr. Judah L. Magnes, President of the Hebrew University at Jerusalem and a leader of the new Iehud party in Palestine, advocating the formation of a bi-national State in Palestine, in a statement of policy adopted at a special meeting of its National Executive Committee held under the chairmanship of Judge Louis E. Levinthal, president of the organization.

Characterizing the views that have been credited to Dr. Judah L. Magnes, in reports to the American press concerning the future of Palestine, as "wholly at variance with the American Zionist position," the statement warns against "unauthorized political negotiations by Dr. Magnes and his associates." It asserts that the "crux of the issue is the large scale immigration of European Jews after the war, their right of free entrance into Palestine and their settlement there under self-governing conditions," and reaffirms the resolution of the Extraordinary Zionist conference held in New York, May 8, 1942, which demanded that the "gates of Palestine be opened to Jewish immigration and that Palestine be established as a Jewish Commonwealth integrated in the structure of the new democratic world."

In a cable, containing the gist of the resolution, sent to the Jewish Agency for Palestine, the ZO's Executive declared that "no plan or complicated political frameworks which do not clearly and effectively insure the objectives set forth in that resolution, can be acceptable to American Zionists."

AMERICAN FUND FOR PALESTINE INSTITUTIONS SEEKS \$250,000 FOR 1942 NEEDS

NEW YORK, Oct. 4.(JTA)-- The sum of \$250,000 will be sought this year in America by the American Fund for Palestinian Institutions, the funds to be allocated to fifteen institutions in Palestine, it was announced here today.

The American Fund for Palestinian Institutions has been formed as a single appeal to replace the separate appeals of educational, cultural, and social service institutions in Palestine which are not included in any other nation-wide united appeal in this country. Among these institutions are the Hebrew Institute of Technology, Palestine Symphony Orchestra, Hechalutz of America, Hebrew Teachers College of Jerusalem, Habimah Theatre, Haifa Technical High School, Haifa Nautical School and others.

"Each of the beneficiary institutions is investigated thoroughly by the American Fund for Palestinian Institutions, with the aid of its Palestine Advisory Board, and is finally passed upon by its Board of Trustees," Edward A. Norman, president of the Fund, stated. "Any institution receiving support from the American Fund agrees not to solicit welfare funds in America."

46,374 B'NAI B'RITH AND AZA MEMBERS SERVE IN CIVILIAN DEFENSE, SURVEY FINDS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4.(JTA)-- There were 46,374 B'nai B'rith men and women and members of Alaph Zadik Alaph, B'nai B'rith youth organization, actively serving in all branches of civilian defense throughout the United States, according to a survey completed on September 10, the results of which were made public today by B'nai B'rith's National War Service Committee.

This figure includes air raid wardens, auxiliary police and firemen, plane spotters, messengers, members of decontamination, demolition, emergency and utility repair squads, nurse's aides and members of medical and motor transport and emergency feeding units.