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JEWS, AS NATION, WILL NOT BE SEATED ON UNITED NATIONS' COMMISSION ON NAZI ATROCITIES

LONDON, Oct. 22, (JTA)-- Jews as such will not be given a place in the commission which the United Nations is setting up for the purpose of gathering evidence of Nazi atrocities against the civilian population in occupied countries, but various governments which will be represented on this commission are free to appoint Jewish citizens as their representatives, if they so desire.

This is the essence of a statement made in the House of Commons today by Richard K. Law, British Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in reply to a written question on the subject. Queried by David Adams as to whether the Jews, in view of their being persecuted by the Nazis and other Axis war criminals, will be given a seat in the United Nations' Commission on Nazi Atrocities, the British official replied:

"The commission will collect evidence of atrocities committed against Jews and non-Jews. It is therefore contemplated that the members of the commission should be nationals of the United Nations."

NAZI AGENCY REPORTS VICHY WILL HOLD JEWISH CHILDREN AS HOSTAGES

ZURICH, Oct. 22, (JTA)-- While a Vichy report yesterday stated that the French Government has decided to issue 1,000 exit visas, allowing refugee children to emigrate from France to the United States, the Nazi Transocean News Agency reports today that "Vichy may not allow these children to leave unless inimical propaganda against France and Germany ceases in America."

Indicating that the idea of holding the Jewish children as hostages emanates from Berlin, the Nazi news agency states that the negotiations between France and the United States with regard to the question of permitting refugee children to proceed from France "have been disturbed by anti-French and anti-German propaganda." It adds at the same time that "even the American Government itself admitted the existence of transportation difficulties."

Jewish groups here in contact with interested institutions in unoccupied France were surprised to read the Nazi report. No information has reached them from Vichy which would substantiate the Nazi allegation that the French Government has changed its intentions with regard to permitting the first 1,000 refugee children to emigrate from France.

The Berlin radio today reported that Jacques Doriot, leader of the anti-Semitic Popular Party in France, issued a demand that the sale of tobacco in all forms should be prohibited to Jews throughout France. Doriot is quoted as saying that "it is much more important to provide French war prisoners in Germany with tobacco than to permit the Jews to consume it."

JEWS IN TRANSNISTRIA SEND S.O.S. THROUGH INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS

TEL AVIV, Oct. 22.(JTA)-- A number of Rumanian Jews here today received cables, through the International Red Cross, from their relatives deported from various sections of Rumania to the Axis-occupied part of the Ukraine known as Transnistria, asking them for immediate aid.

The messages, apparently approved by the Rumanian censor, all had the same text which read: "Starving. Appealing with last strength for help."

This is the first time that direct messages from Jews deported to Transnistria have reached the outside world. Official regulations issued by the Rumanian administration in this occupied section of the Ukraine which borders on Rumania, strictly prohibited the Jewish deportees from communicating with anyone, even with Jews in Rumania.

It was estimated here today that at least 400,000 Jews have been expelled by the Rumanian authorities from various sections of Rumania into Transnistria. Information smuggled out previously from Transnistria indicated that more than 200,000 of the Jews there either have died of starvation or of torture. The fact that the Rumanian administration in Transnistria has permitted Jews there to send drastic appeals for relief to Jews in Palestine is taken as an indication that the hitherto desperate position of the Jewish deportees has become so aggravated that the Rumanian Government has found it necessary to relax its regulations.

PALESTINE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES FORMATION OF A LABOR DEPARTMENT

JERUSALEM, Oct. 22.(JTA)-- Formation of a Labor Department in the Palestine Government was announced today in the Official Gazette. The functions of the department as outlined in the Gazette will be to:

- "1. Safeguard and promote the general welfare of the workers and the maintenance of good relations between workers and employers.
- "2. Supervise and investigate the conditions of employment in Palestine and ensure enforcement of any ordinance affecting the workers' welfare or the terms of their employment.
- "3. Administer the laws relating to trade unions, labor exchanges and industrial relations.
- "4. Contribute to the settlement of trade disputes between workers and employers, or between workers themselves and help to prevent industrial accidents."

The Gazette today also announced that the Postmaster-General has been authorized to withdraw telephone service from any person or category of individuals when such action is necessary for the defense of the country or for the efficient prosecution of the war.

Publication today of the Palestine Government's budget for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1943 reveals that it is the largest in Palestine's history. It will total about \$45,000,000.

JEWISH-MADE FURNITURE WILL ADORN PALACE OF REGENT OF IRAQ

JERUSALEM, Oct. 22.(JTA)-- Jerusalem-made furniture and parquet flooring will adorn the Iraqi Regent's new 12-room palace on the outskirts of Baghdad, it was learned here today. During the Regent's stay in Jerusalem, following the Rashid Ali uprising, he had visited the "Cultivated Home" shop and examined the furniture and designs. He later revealed his identity and invited the Jewish proprietor of the shop to Baghdad to make designs for the decoration of the palace.

NAZI GENERAL ORDERS MINSK JEWS TO BUILD GHETTO WALLS WITH THEIR OWN MATERIAL

KUIEYSHEV, Oct. 22.(JTA)-- The ancient barbaric methods of the Pharaoh who forced the Jews in Egypt to build cities without supplying them with straw for bricks was emulated by the Nazis in Minsk who ordered the Jews there to build ghetto walls without supplying them with materials, Russian guerillas returning from Minsk, where they operated in the rear of the German armies, reported here today.

The Russian partisans related that General von Kube, the Nazi commissar for Minsk, when ordering the Jews to build the walls of the ghetto, addressed them as follows: "We have no intention of furnishing you with the materials for the construction of the walls. We shall compel you to follow the example of your ancestors in ancient Egypt by immuring your children if you get no other material." The Nazi general then ordered a group of German soldiers to hunt up some Jewish children "in order to teach the Jews how the building of the ghetto walls can be accomplished."

Jews Wreck Their Homes to Save Their Children

Driven to despair by the brutal order of the Nazi leader, one of the Jews who was in the group addressed by von Kube, turned to his fellow-Jews and shouted in front of the Nazi general: "Brothers, let us demolish our living quarters for building material and save our children from death!" The Jews then left for their homes and, under the taunts of German soldiers, wrecked a number of houses in the ghetto area, thus securing enough material to erect the ghetto walls without endangering the lives of their children.

The Russian press today also reports that a Russian worker in Minsk was shot on the spot by Nazi soldiers when he offered to take the place of the Jewish professor Sitorman whom the Nazis were torturing by harnessing him, in lieu of a horse, to a watercart and compelling him to deliver water every morning to local Nazi institutions. Prof. Sitorman, who was one of the most famous physicians in Russia, saved thousands of lives when he served in the Minsk hospital prior to the Nazi invasion of that city. He was loved and highly esteemed by the entire non-Jewish population. The Russian man who offered to replace him was one of the patients whom the Jewish professor cured of a severe illness. He was deeply moved to see the professor being tortured publicly every morning and paid with his life for his act of mercy, which proved to be in vain. The professor died from the torture inflicted upon him.

U.S. JEWS WARNED AGAINST IMPOSTERS PRETENDING TO COLLECT FUNDS FOR LONDON SYNAGOGUE

LONDON, Oct. 22.(JTA)-- Leaders of the United Synagogue of England today cabled to the American Jewish Committee in New York asking the Committee to make public the fact that no one has been authorized to collect any funds in America for the rebuilding of the Great Synagogue in London which suffered damage from Nazi bombs.

"Our attention," the cable reads, "has been drawn to an appeal sent out on the stationery of the Religious Emergency Council of the Chief Rabbi of Great Britain inviting contributions for the rebuilding of the Great Synagogue in London. No one has any authority from us or from the Chief Rabbi to make such an appeal."

POLISH TROOPS RECEIVE BOOKLET ON JEWISH ACHIEVEMENTS IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, Oct. 22.(JTA)-- An illustrated Polish-language booklet depicting the military, civil and agricultural achievements of the Jews in Palestine, was distributed among the Polish troops stationed here today.

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FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF FELIX WARBURG'S DEATH MARKED BY GATHERING OF SOCIAL WORKERS

NEW YORK, Oct. 22, (JTA)-- The sum of \$24,000 was contributed by Jewish social workers of this city to the New York and Brooklyn Federations of Jewish Charities at a dinner last night at the Hotel Commodore, marking the fifth anniversary of the death of Felix M. Warburg, founder and first president of the New York Federation.

Tribute to the memory of Mr. Warburg was paid by Dr. Maurice B. Hexter and Joseph Willen, executive vice-presidents of the New York Federation and by Norman S. Goetz, chairman of the 1942 campaign of the two Federations. Dr. J. J. Golub, director of the Hospital for Joint Diseases, was chairman of the meeting. Mrs. Felix M. Warburg was present and expressed her appreciation for the tributes paid to Mr. Warburg.

Dr. Hexter, who worked hand-in-hand with Mr. Warburg as a member of the Executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, stated that social workers owe a special debt of gratitude to his memory. "By his respect for learning and trained skill, he did much to foster social work, and to give to our profession its status and its opportunity for service," he said. Mr. Willen stated that "Mr. Warburg was the only man he knew with a real claim to the title, 'Jewish Leader.' Other Jewish leaders were, in the main, men with influence in certain groups. Felix M. Warburg, however, was one man whose leadership was recognized by all Jewish groups and factions."

NATION-WIDE PROGRAM FOR ADULT JEWISH EDUCATION WILL BE LAUNCHED IN AMERICA

NEW YORK, Oct. 22, (JTA)-- In order to enlist tens of thousands of American Jews for basic training in Judaism and Jewish culture so that they shall be strengthened for the responsibilities which a world at war imposes, the National Academy for Adult Jewish Studies, under the auspices of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, will launch a nationwide program of Adult Jewish Education beginning November 1, it was announced here today.

This is the third year of the activities of this agency for adult Jewish education, of which Doctor Louis Finkelstein, president of the Jewish Theological Seminary, is the head. The work of the National Academy for Adult Jewish Studies will reach into thirty states of the union, and into more than one hundred communities.

The courses in basic Jewish training will be in the fields of Jewish Religion, Biblical Literature, the Talmud, Post-Biblical Literature, Modern Jewish Literature, Hebrew Language, Jewish History, Contemporary Jewish Life, Palestine and Zionism, and Problems of Jewish Family Living. In the nearly one hundred institutes affiliated with the National Academy, more than three hundred separate courses of study will be offered. The National Academy awards credits and certifications for achievements in Jewish cultural studies.

DR. YAHUDA APPOINTED PROFESSOR AT NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH

NEW YORK, Oct. 22, (JTA)-- Dr. A. S. Yahuda, noted orientalist, has been appointed research professor at the New School for Social Research here, for "Middle and Near Eastern Civilization," it was announced today. Professor Yahuda will be engaged in two new fields of research: 1. The study of the Bible in its relation to the languages and civilizations of the Assyro-Babylonian's, the ancient Egyptians and other neighboring peoples of the Land of Israel. 2. The study of the Arabic culture and science of Islam in its various ramifications.