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NORWEGIAN CHURCHES PRAY FOR JEWS; CLERICAL LEADERS PROTEST TO QUISLING

STOCKHOLM, Nov. 22.(JTA)-- All Norwegian churches today offered special prayers for the persecuted Jews of Norway, the majority of whom have been placed in concentration camps or deported, it was reliably reported here today.

At the same time it was learned that organized Norwegian church leaders have submitted a vigorous protest to Premier Vidkun Quisling against the current anti-Semitic measures. Representatives of the Norwegian established church, of major religious societies and theological faculties signed a letter to Quisling denouncing the arrest of all Norwegian Jewish men and boys over 15 as "legalized injustice, contrary not only to the Christian spirit of charity but to the simplest command of law."

The letter added: "The government has broken the Christian faith and profession. We make our appeal out of the profound demand of conscience. Silence would be tantamount to assenting to this legalized injustice. The church cannot be silent when the Lord's demand is trampled under foot."

Student demonstrations in Oslo protesting the mass-arrests of Jews are also reported to have taken place. The report says that many students are also helping Jewish women and children whose husbands and fathers are now held in internment camps for deportation. The non-Jewish population in Norway is completely in sympathy with the persecuted Jews, the report emphasizes.

JEWS IN FRANCE HELD AS HOSTAGES FOR NAZIS AND FRENCHMEN INTERNED IN NORTH AFRICA

LISBON, Nov. 22.(JTA)-- Jews in France will be held as hostages to guarantee the safety of Germans or pro-Vichy French officials interned by the American military authorities in North Africa, the Paris radio announced today.

From Vichy it was reported that a French official speaking in the name of Laval stated that "there are more than twenty Jews in France for every Frenchman who may be maltreated by the Anglo-Saxons in North Africa."

In announcing that the Jews will be held as hostages in France, the Paris radio stated: "We must defend all French nationals who are exposed today in North Africa to the brutalities of the English and the Americans and to the vindictiveness of Israel. There are still more Jews in France. They should become the best guarantors of security for the French national revolutionaries who are at present unable to return from our colonies."

Polish consulates in North Africa, it is reported, have been granted official recognition for the first time since the collapse of France in 1940. Polish consular officials in Algiers, Oran and Casablanca immediately contacted the headquarters of the American forces in North Africa for the purpose of securing the release of Polish citizens, Jewish and non-Jewish, who have been interned by the Vichy regime in remote parts of Algeria.

LEHMAN PREPARES TO ASSUME NEW POST AS DIRECTOR OF RELIEF FOR LIBERATED POPULATIONS

NEW YORK, Nov. 22. (JTA)-- Governor Herbert H. Lehman is returning to Albany tomorrow to clear up details in connection with his position as chief executive of New York State in preparation for resigning next week to assume the post of Director of Foreign Relief and Rehabilitation to which he was named yesterday by President Roosevelt.

In a statement issued last night the Governor said that his first job when he gets to Washington will be to set up an organization to carry out a program of relief and rehabilitation for the peoples in liberated countries in the far-flung sections of the world. Although his headquarters will be in Washington, he will "gladly go to any part of the world where I am needed," the Governor added.

"In accepting the appointment, I have a full realization of the scope and importance of the work and the great responsibilities involved," Governor Lehman said. "The President's program of relief and rehabilitation is another step which will make it possible for the United States, in association with the other United Nations, to render an immediate and effective further contribution to the winning of the war and to the solution of post-war problems."

The official announcement released by the White House yesterday, in which Governor Lehman's appointment was first made public, read:

"It was announced at the White House today that Governor Herbert H. Lehman of New York will resign as Governor on or about Dec. 3, next, in order to become associated with the Department of State as Director of Foreign Relief and Rehabilitation Operations.

"Governor Lehman will undertake the work of organizing American participation in the activities of the United Nations in furnishing relief and other assistance to the victims of war in areas reoccupied by the forces of the United Nations.

"This is a step in the President's program of mobilizing the available resources of this country in food, clothing, medical supplies and other necessities, so that it may make an immediate and effective contribution to joint efforts of the United Nations in the field of relief and rehabilitation.

"Governor Lehman's appointment assures that this country will play its part in such efforts."

LEAGUE OF NATION'S UNION CANNOT AGREE ON POST-WAR SOLUTION OF JEWISH PROBLEM

LONDON, Nov. 22. (JTA)-- A discussion on post-war Jewish problems which was on the agenda of the annual meeting of the General Council of the League of Nations Union which is now taking place here has been "postponed indefinitely," it was announced today by the chairman of the Council.

The postponement, it was explained, is due to the "diametrically opposing views" which have developed among the members of the sub-committee which is reported to be making "a careful study of the problems." As a result of the disagreement prevailing in the sub-committee with regard to the suggested solution of the Jewish question after the war, the members of the sub-committee will continue their study of the issue and bring their report to the next meeting of the General Council if they reach an agreement by that time. The disagreement in the ranks of the sub-committee was stated today to center around the argument advanced by some of the members that the Jewish problems need no international action for their solution. These members favor local Jewish assimilation among other peoples.

JEV RISKS LIFE TO SAVE TORAHS IN BOMBED STALINGRAD SYNAGOGUE

KUIBYSHV, Nov. 22, (JTA)-- A dramatic story of how a Russian Jew risked his life to save the Torahs in a Stalingrad synagogue when the building was hit by a Nazi bomb, was reported here today by the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee on the basis of a report given by Moshe Feigin, chairman of the Jewish Community in Kuibyshev.

"One Saturday in September," the report states, "a German bomb fell on a synagogue in Stalingrad and enveloped the building in flames and smoke. Mendel Matlin, a fifty-year-old Jewish refugee from the Ukraine, rushed into the burning synagogue and, risking his life, rescued the Torahs. Disregarding his burning clothes and hands, he ran in and out of the synagogue until he had removed all the Torahs. Matlin comes from the city of Piriatin, near Poltava, where he was the manager of a Soviet mill. When Piriatin was bombed by the Nazis a year ago, he also rescued several Torahs from a burning synagogue and brought them safely to Stalingrad."

The rescued Torahs have been brought from Stalingrad to Kuibyshev on two barges escorted by a group of religious Jews. Mendel Matlin reached Kuibyshev on one of the barges with his right hand seriously burned. One of the Torahs which caught fire was buried with religious ceremonies in Kuibyshev in accordance with Jewish tradition. A crowd of religious Jews followed the procession. Mendel Matlin recited "Kaddish" at the burial, the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee reported.

The Soviet authorities announced today that beginning this week the Kuibyshev radio station will have broadcasts in Yiddish on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

DR. BENZION MOSSINSOHN, ZIONIST LEADER AND HEBREW EDUCATOR, DIES IN JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, Nov. 22, (JTA)-- Dr. Benzion Mossinsohn, noted Hebrew educator, Zionist leader and a member of the Jewish National Council, died in the Hadassah hospital here today at the age of 64 after a long illness. Dr. Mossinsohn was the founder and head of the Herzlia Gymnasium in Tel Aviv, the leading secondary school in Palestine, and during the past few years was director of the education department of the Jewish National Council. It was announced that the Hebrew schools throughout Palestine will be closed during his funeral.

Dr. Mossinsohn has been associated with Jewish development in Palestine since 1907. He was a member of the Zionist Actions Committee, a leader of the General Zionist party and was a delegate to most of the world Zionist congresses. In 1937 he visited the United States to study American educational methods. Dr. Mossinsohn's son, Dr. David Mossinsohn, was killed by the explosion of a land mine in 1938 during the Arab disturbances in Palestine.

WISE THANKS ROOSEVELT FOR ABROGATION OF ANTI-JEWISH LAWS IN NORTH AFRICA

NEW YORK, Nov. 22, (JTA)-- Gratification at the action of President Roosevelt in requesting the "abrogation of all laws and decrees inspired by Nazi governments or Nazi ideologists in North Africa" was expressed in a message sent by Dr. Stephen S. Wise to the President in behalf of the American Jewish Congress and the World Jewish Congress which he heads, it was announced here today.

EMIGRATION OF REFUGEES THROUGH PORTUGAL CONTINUES, HIAS ANNOUNCES

NEW YORK, Nov. 22.(JTA)-- The number of refugees in Spain and Portugal has substantially increased since the Nazi occupation of the whole of France, it was reported today by the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society on the basis of cabled advices received from the Lisbon office of the Hias-Ica Emigration Association.

"Several days after the occupation of southern France, the number of refugees in Spain and in Portugal increased because many families fled across the Spanish frontier in the hope of reaching safety and ultimately finding a haven overseas," the report states. "In addition, thousands are now awaiting rescue through emigration from North Africa to where the Vichy regime deported about 25,000 refugees for slave labor or confinement in concentration camps. The camps in North Africa, including Sidi bel Abbes, Minsour, Berguent and Sidi el Hayachi par Azemmour, as well as Djelfa, Bou-Arfa and Morand par Bohari are expected to be cleared soon by the American Military Administration, in accordance with an order issued by President Roosevelt."

AMERICAN ZIONIST LABORITES PLEDGE FULL SUPPORT TO DR. WEIZMANN'S PROGRAM

NEW YORK, Nov. 22.(JTA)-- A delegation of the Zionist Labor Party of America visited Dr. Chaim Weizmann and presented to him a resolution adopted at the recent convention of the Zionist Laborites in Syracuse, N.Y., pledging the fullest support of the American Zionist Labor movement to all his undertakings for Palestine, it was announced here today.

The delegation included Hayim Greenberg, editor of the Jewish Frontier; David Wertheim, general secretary of the American Zionist Labor Party, and Isaac Hemlin, director of the Gewerkshafte Campaign. Dr. Weizmann intends to resume his conferences on Palestine with leading Americans, it is reported. His physicians have advised him, however, not to deliver any public addresses for some time.

NATIONAL JEWISH BOOK WEEK OPENED IN HUNDREDS OF INSTITUTIONS

NEW YORK, Nov. 22.(JTA)-- Hundreds of synagogues, Y.M.H.A.'s, religious schools, Jewish Centers, libraries, and branches of youth and adult organizations throughout the United States are sponsoring mass and group programs in connection with the 16th annual celebration of Jewish Book Week which opened today.

For the first time in the history of this project, Hebrew and Yiddish Cultural Divisions were established as integral parts of the national committee which is promoting the Book Week and are participating in this year's observance, Dr. Mordecai Soltes, chairman of the committee, announced.

REHAVIA LEWIN-EPSTEIN, AMERICAN ZIONIST, DIES IN CAIRO EN ROUTE TO PALESTINE

CAIRO, Nov. 22.(JTA)-- Rehaviah Lewin-Epstein, well-known American Zionist and a representative of the American Economic Committee for Palestine in Tel Aviv for many years, died here from blood poisoning while en route to Palestine on an important Zionist mission for the American Emergency Committee for Zionist Affairs and the American Economic Committee. It is believed that he contracted blood poisoning as a result of injections he received before leaving the United States to immunize him against malaria and other diseases prevalent in the Near East.