

# JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK CITY

VOL. X, NO. 16

Wednesday, January 20, 1943

## ALLIED NATIONS DISCUSSING MEANS OF AIDING JEWS ESCAPING FROM NAZI TERRITORY

LONDON, Jan. 19. (JTA)-- The British Government is now conferring with other governments of the United Nations on the problem of finding means of aiding Jews who succeed in escaping from Nazi countries, it was announced in Parliament today.

"The measures under discussion are necessarily confidential and it would not be in the interest of the refugees to enter into any Parliamentary discussion on them at the present time," Major Clement R. Attlee, Deputy Prime Minister, said in making the announcement. He added that "the share of the British Government in admitting Jewish refugees from Nazi lands has already been most substantial, but the Government is now working on certain practical proposals which, if carried out, would constitute a further contribution to the effort which the United Nations are making in this direction."

Major Attlee's statement came in reply to questions raised at today's session by several members of the House of Commons who asked the Government what action it intends to take to assist Jewish refugees from Nazi territories to reach countries where they can find safety. "The Government," Major Attlee stated, "intended to bring about an end to Hitler's mass-extinction of Jews when it associated itself with the declaration of the Allied Nations on December 17. The Government is conscious of the fact that an Allied victory is the only real remedy for racial persecution."

The assurance that "the British Government is examining all possible means of bringing relief to the victims of German terror" was expressed in a letter addressed by the secretary of the British Embassy at the Polish Government-in-Exile, to Samuel Zygelboim, who is one of the two Jewish members of the Polish National Council.

## Jewish Refugees in Portugal and Spain Appeal to Archbishop of Canterbury

The Archbishop of Canterbury today received an appeal from the Refugee Relief Committee in Lisbon asking him to intervene on behalf of "thousands of refugees in Spain and Portugal" in order to make possible their entry into Palestine. A similar appeal, signed by Isaac Weisman, president of the Refugee Relief Committee, was received here by Lord Wedgwood, Lord Nathan, Arthur Greenwood and other members of Parliament.

"The undersigned," the appeal to the Archbishop reads, "want to express their profound gratitude for the exemplary manner with which you have demanded succor for the unfortunate and helpless Jews in Europe. May we call your attention to an immediate possibility to aid thousands of refugees in Spain and Portugal by giving them entrance visas to Palestine, thus helping them to return to a normal and productive life. We urgently request intervention and all possible support."

JEWS PESSIMISTIC OVER APPOINTMENT OF PEYROUTON AS GOVERNOR OF ALGERIA

LONDON, Jan. 19.(JTA)-- The appointment today of Marcel Peyrouton to the post of Governor General of Algeria has provoked great misgivings among Jews here who claim that he tolerated anti-Jewish propaganda when he was Secretary General of the Government General in Algeria in 1930. Peyrouton was subsequently dismissed by Leon Blum for his fascist tendencies.

Jewish refugees from France who witnessed Peyrouton's activities as Minister of Interior in the Vichy government of Marshal Petain doubt whether the Jews of Algeria will have their rights fully restored under Peyrouton's administration. They point to the fact that Peyrouton has always favored the Arabs in North Africa, over the Jews there, and predict that he will utilize his powers to keep the anti-Jewish regulations in Algeria in effect on the pretext that their abolition may cause Arab disturbances.

The attitude of Peyrouton on the release of political refugees interned by the Vichy regime is also questioned here, not only because he was one of the members of the Vichy cabinet responsible for the internment of refugees, but also because it was on his orders that all the leaders of the French Republic, including Leon Blum, Reynaud, Mandel, Daladier and Gen. Gamelin, were arrested.

CONTINUED SHOOTING IN WARSAW JEWISH GHETTO REPORTED TO LONDON

LONDON, Jan. 19.(JTA)-- The Polish Government late today received a wirelaid report from a neutral country stating that the sound of shooting was heard coming from the Jewish ghetto in Warsaw during all of Sunday night and extended through Monday evening. It is assumed that the Nazis have machine-gunned a large number of Jews, though details of the shooting cannot be established as yet.

ALL CHRISTIANS MUST HELP JEWS PERSECUTED BY NAZIS, LORD HALIFAX SAYS

ROCHESTER, N.Y., Jan. 19.(JTA)-- "The sympathy of all Christians must go out to the persecuted people, the Jews," Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States, declared here yesterday in an impromptu address delivered at the Temple B'rith Kodesh before an Institute of the Christian Clergy of Rochester, attended by 125 clergymen. Lord Halifax was introduced to the gathering by Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein who presided at the meeting.

"No greater appeal has ever been made to the thought and to the soul of man than in that courage and sacrifice which are required in fighting the evil that we are facing today," the British Ambassador said. "You see it expressing itself in deeds that are vile, in foul bestiality that the human mind finds it almost impossible to accept. I especially think that we should not permit our consciences to become dulled by all this. We must try to keep aflame with indignation against the cruel indecencies. Or otherwise, we are in danger of losing ourselves too. And in regard to this the sympathy of all Christians must go out to the persecuted people, the Jews. Everyone of us must seek to lend every measure of help that is in our power to the people who has suffered and is suffering such a grievous wrong. This is a direct challenge to free men to those who search for and seek to live by truth. The most precious heritage of man is his will to think and worship in freedom," Lord Halifax concluded by stating that "our Christian civilization has received much from the old Hebrew Prophets."

VARIED RELIEF PROBLEMS DISCUSSED AT CONFERENCE OF JEWISH WELFARE LEADERS

CLEVELAND, Jan. 19.(JTA)-- Problems of Jewish relief and rehabilitation as well as services for Jews in the armed forces, were discussed here at round-table conferences at the 10th General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds which closed its three-day meeting last night.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, national president of the United Palestine Appeal, disclosed that the Jewish Agency for Palestine has undertaken to arrange the settlement in Palestine of 6,000 Jewish refugee children now in North Africa. Details of the assistance which Jewish men in the American armed forces in North Africa are receiving from the Jewish Welfare Board were reported by Frank L. Weil, president of the JWB and vice-president of the USO. He declared that the Jewish Welfare Board is extending its service program to men in the armed forces in England, Ireland, Australia and in many areas in the Pacific.

Joseph C. Hyman, executive vice-president of the Joint Distribution Committee, revealed that the JDC aided 795,000 Jews in all corners of the world in 1942, adding that even a larger number will require assistance this year. William Rosenwald, president of the National Refugee Service, pointed out, in his address, that "refugee boys who once benefitted from the assistance of American Jews are now serving in the country's armed forces."

At a symposium on post-war Jewish problems held at the Assembly the speakers urged post-war equity for European Jews, to be guaranteed by an international covenant and the relaxation of immigration restrictions, especially the opening of the gates of Palestine to Jewish immigration. Max Gottschalk, director of the Research Institute on Peace and Post-War Problems of the American Jewish Committee, envisaging a large post-war migration, said that in addition to Palestine other outlets must be sought, particularly in South American republics which need both manpower and capital in order to develop socially and economically. Jacob Robinson, director of the Institute for Jewish Affairs of the American Jewish Congress, said that there is no assurance that anti-Semitism will automatically disappear at the end of the war. World leaders, he stated, must come to a decision concerning the re-migration of the people uprooted by the war.

Emanuel Neumann, a member of the American Emergency Committee for Zionist Affairs, speaking at the round table conference, characterized the attempts to freeze the Jewish population of Palestine as a minority as "a continuance of pre-war appeasement." Charles Sherman, of the Jewish Labor Committee, said that "not only must Jews be guaranteed equal rights after the war, but conditions must be created to carry these rights into practice."

AMERICAN ZIONISTS SEND HELLER AND SZOLD TO PALESTINE TO STUDY SITUATION THERE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.(JTA)-- Two leading American Zionists hope to leave soon for Palestine to survey the situation there and to inform Palestinians of the progress of the Zionist movement in this country, it was learned today. They are James G. Heller, chairman of the National Administrative Council of the ZOA, and Robert Szold, former president of that organization. The delegation will be the first to visit Palestine from this country since the beginning of the present war, more than three years ago. The two Zionist leaders will make a first hand study of the wartime and post-war problems of Palestine, and bring back a detailed report on conditions there.

NRS BUDGET FOR 1943 IS \$2,100,000; COMMUNITY LEADERS APPROVE IT

NEW YORK, Jan. 19.(JTA)-- The budgetary requirements of the National Refugee Service for 1943 are \$2,100,000, it was announced here today by William Rosenwald, president of the NRS. The budget was approved by a Financial Planning Committee composed of community leaders representing ten leading campaign communities in the country.

"Thousands of the 208,000 newcomers who have found haven here from Nazism, are proving to be a positive asset to America's war effort, due in large measure to the constructive efforts of NRS," Mr. Rosenwald said. "But it must be realized that a very large scale task remains. For the refugees here in the United States, needs of relief, family problems and employment must be alleviated. Help must be given to effect economic stability and adjustment to the American way of living. Special problems like those of the refugee physician and the full use of refugees in the war effort continue to need the attention of all of us. In 1943 as in 1942 it is vitally important that NRS continue to aid America by aiding America's newcomers."

The budget for 1943 is a minimum one based on the assumption that economic conditions will continue to favor refugee employment and adjustment, that Government restrictions affecting refugees will not be increased, and that refugee immigration will remain close to the level of 1942. Should any of these assumptions fail to hold, more funds may be required to meet emergencies.

In the field of financial assistance and personal services the NRS direct relief services, in 1942, constituted the largest of any agency in the country not supported by Government funds and this promises to remain true in 1943. Food, clothing and shelter must be supplied to several thousand refugees dependent upon NRS. For the coming year it is estimated a monthly average of 3,300 persons will continue to need direct cash relief while family services will be required by an additional 2,000. In 1943 these services will require \$1,268,185.

To continue to meet the wartime needs of industry, NRS anticipates it will match the 6,450 job and professional placements it made in 1942. Through its retraining program, whereby men and women learn to become skilled in war industry work, NRS plans to retrain 800. To carry on this vital work in 1943, \$172,490 will be required. It is expected that NRS will also help establish 500 doctors in 1943. The minimum amount to carry out this task is \$114,790.

In 1943 NRS expects to provide 24,000 services in filling out visa applications, filing papers in Washington, guiding sponsors on making visa appeals, aiding refugees here on temporary visas, \$54,340 is needed. To aid in the integration of the refugees who wish to establish themselves in self-supporting enterprises the agency, in 1943, will grant loans totaling \$62,685. For 1943, \$64,625 is allotted. To help in the work of the Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced Foreign Scholars, the Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced Medical Scientists and the European-Jewish Children's Aid \$135,000 for 1943 is required. For general administration, including executive accounting, statistical division, and unallocated office expenses, the agency will require a minimum of \$122,830.

A minimum of \$167,300 is required to finance national resettlement, field service and community relations work, Mr. Rosenwald said. Since the inception of the resettlement program 14,200 persons have been removed to cities and rural areas away from crowded ports of entry, he added. The field service staff kept communities advised of enemy alien regulations and developments in addition to aiding the communities in solving certain problems in connection with resettlement migration.