

# JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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## 5,400 JEWS PERMITTED TO ENTER PALESTINE UNDER NEW THREE-MONTHS QUOTA

JERUSALEM, March 19.(JTA)-- An immigration quota providing for the admission into Palestine of 5,500 immigrants during the three-month period which began January 1 and which ends March 31, was announced in the Official Gazette today. The new quota permits the entry of 5,400 Jews and 100 non-Jews. The wives of immigrants and their children under 18 years of age will be admitted in addition to the quota.

It was learned here today that the 5,400 immigration certificates assigned to Jews include the 4,000 originally allocated by the Palestine Government for Jewish refugee children from the Balkan countries and from France. This leaves only 1,400 certificates for distribution by the Jewish Agency. The majority of these certificates will probably be granted to Jews of Yemen.

The Jewish Agency today reported that 75 Jewish children from Rumania have reached Turkey en route to Palestine.

## Hope Not Abandoned for Emigration of 4,000 Children from Bulgaria

LONDON, March 19.(JTA)-- The British Government has not given up hope of transporting 4,000 Jewish children and 500 adults from Bulgaria to Palestine, Capt. Oliver Stanley, Colonial Minister, declared in the House of Commons today. The Government is making every effort possible to overcome the practical difficulties which stand in the way, he said.

It was learned here today from reliable sources that the Bulgarian Government has issued instructions to its officials to extend all facilities possible to Jews desiring to emigrate from the country. On the other hand, it has been established that the ships assigned by the Bulgarian authorities for the transportation of the 4,000 Jewish children are unseaworthy and the Red Cross, which is to supervise the transportation, definitely refuses to assume any responsibility for passengers carried on these vessels.

## TWO MONTHS REQUIRED TO WIPE OUT ALL ANTI-JEWISH LAWS IN NORTH AFRICA

WASHINGTON, March 19.(JTA)-- It will be two months before all the anti-Jewish and other Vichy laws abrogated this week by Gen. Giraud are completely wiped out, it was stated today in a Morocco broadcast heard by Federal Communication Commission monitors. This gradual cancellation of the decrees is necessary "in order not to disturb the economic and social life of the people and to avoid the possibility of anarchy," the broadcast stated.

Announcing that "all distinctions affecting the status of Jews have been abolished," Radio Morocco added that "measures will be taken by the governors and the resident-generals for the restoration to Jews of their offices and rights." The broadcast emphasized that the Cremieux decree has been abrogated by Gen. Giraud because "this decree favored Jewish natives as compared with Moslems as far as securing French nationality was concerned."

"Under pressure from the invader, the people have been instilled with doctrines based on the enemy's ideology," Radio Morocco said. "However, this legislation, brought about by a regime of occupation, was without legal foundation."

JEWS FLEEING FROM NAZI POLAND TO RUMANIA; ONLY 500 LEFT IN LWOW

SOMEWHERE IN EUROPE, March 19.(JTA)-- Jews in Nazi-occupied Poland are trying to save themselves from extermination by fleeing across the Rumanian frontier, it was reported here today. If apprehended by the border guards, they are shot on the spot, it was indicated. ✓

The report, which comes from reliable sources in Poland, said that the extermination of Jews by the Nazi authorities continues unabated throughout the occupied territory. Not a single Jew has been left in the entire region of Galicia bordering on Rumania. In the city of Lwow, capital of Eastern Galicia, only five hundred Jews remain at present.

"The only cities where Jews can still be found in comparatively large numbers are Cracow and Lodz," the report declares. "There are still about 5,000 Jews in Cracow. The exact number of Jews in Lodz is not known at present."

HUNGARY CONFISCATES SYNAGOGUE ORNAMENTS; PROHIBITS BAKING OF MATZOHS

ZURICH, March 19.(JTA)-- Jews in Hungary will be without matzoys this Passover as a result of an order issued by the Hungarian Ministry of Food, forbidding the Jewish population to bake matzoys, it was reported here today.

The report also disclosed that the Hungarian Ministry of the Interior has ordered the confiscation of gold, silver and copper ornaments in all synagogues throughout the country. Church leaders intervened with the government, protesting against both measures, but their protests were ignored, the report stated.

The German Ministry of Propaganda is utilizing the Purim holiday, which will be observed this Sunday, for anti-Jewish propaganda through posters placed in the streets of Berlin and other cities in Germany. The poster shows Mordecai and Esther, the Jewish heroes of the Purim legend, riding on a horse led by the notorious Haman who wanted to annihilate the Jews. "The fate of Haman will befall the Aryans should Germany lose the war," the inscription on the poster reads.

Nazi newspapers reaching here today from Germany report that all the remaining synagogues in Latvia have been converted into moving picture theatres, clubs and swimming pools. The Great Synagogue in Riga has been turned into a Nazi club named after Alfred Rosenberg, the notorious Nazi leader who hails from Riga.

RABBIS CALL "TOKEN STRIKE" IN PALESTINE; ASK FOR HIGHER SALARY

TEL AVIV, March 19.(JTA)-- More than 120 rabbis and other employees of the Jewish religious administration today called a two-hour "token strike" demanding higher living allowances in view of the sharp increase in the cost of living in Palestine.

The "strikers" assembled in the office of the Chief Rabbinate where they conducted a sit-down strike for two hours. They pointed out that while some employees of the Jewish community have been given salary increases to meet the higher prices on basic commodities, those serving in the religious department of the community had been neglected.

In recent months there have been numerous strikes by Palestine government, educational and municipal employees as a result of the sky-high food prices. In most cases they have been settled within a short time by the employees being granted wage increases.

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BRITISH-AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON REFUGEES MAY NOT BE HELD IN OTTAWA

WASHINGTON, March 19.(JTA)-- Failure to inform the Canadian Government of Secretary of State Cordell Hull's proposal to hold an Anglo-American refugee conference at Ottawa appeared today to have delayed plans for the talks. There is now some doubt whether the representatives will meet in Canada at all.

Canadians here said that their government felt slighted at having been designated as a conference ground without having been invited to send representatives, and without even prior consultation. The failure to consult Canada was explained here as a slip. No one doubted that Ottawa would be glad to receive the conferees, whether invited to send its own representatives or not.

Canadian Premier William Mackenzie King told the House of Commons that his government had not been consulted in advance regarding the projected conference. "If we are invited to attend the conference," he said, "I have not the least doubt that our government is prepared to accept. But I do not think it would be either right or proper for Canada to extend an invitation to the United States and Britain to meet in Canada in regard to a matter about which they themselves are conferring at this time." The Canadian Premier further disclosed that the British and Canadian governments had also been conferring on the refugee problem.

Details are now being worked out between the British Foreign Office and the State Department with regard to the projected British-American conference. But the date and place of the meeting remain undecided, nor have the names of any proposed conferees been publicly mentioned. Since the British have accepted the proposal, it is not believed that the conference itself will be discussed during Eden's current visit here, although the refugee problem in general may well be on his agenda.

HISTADRUTH WANTS REPARATIONS COLLECTED FROM GERMANY TO BE SPENT IN PALESTINE

TEL AVIV, March 19.(JTA)-- The hope that damages collected from Germany for confiscated Jewish property in Nazi-held Europe will be invested in Palestine was expressed here today at the conference of the Histadruth, the Jewish Federation of Labor.

Speakers at today's session emphasized that post-war Palestine will need adequate capital to absorb the Jews of liberated Europe who will seek to settle in the Jewish national home. They also emphasized the necessity of securing political conditions which would help to solve the problem of the Jews in post-war Europe by bringing as many of them as possible to Palestine.

A conference of the General Zionists, group B., attended by 170 delegates from all over Palestine, today adopted a series of resolutions asking for the transfer to Palestine of the largest part of the Jews in Europe, for the establishment of a Jewish State on both sides of the Jordan; for the return of the Zionist-Revisionists to the ranks of the Zionist Party; and for disciplinary action against the Ichud group and the Hashomer Hazeir party which advocate closer cooperation with the Arabs through the establishment of an Arab-Jewish state in Palestine.

NAZI PRESS ATTACKS DUTCH JEWS FOR PRAYING FOR ROYAL FAMILY

BERN, March 19.(JTA)-- Jews in Holland are attacked in Nazi newspapers reaching here today for offering prayers in the Amsterdam synagogues for Crown Princess Juliana baby born recently in Canada. The Nazi press says that the prayers were a "provocation" since Germany has severed relations with the entire dynasty of Queen Wilhelmina.

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION TO COMBAT BRITISH ANTI-SEMITES REJECTED

LONDON, March 19.(JTA)-- A suggestion by Rev. R.W. Sorensen, Laborite, that the House of Commons adopt legislation providing for legal penalties for persons engaging in anti-Semitic agitation was rejected yesterday by Home Minister Herbert Morrison. "While we are alive to the potential dangers of anti-Semitic prejudice, it would be contrary to the Government's policy to afford preferential treatment and protection to one section of the community," Morrison said.

Replying further to Rev. Sorensen's proposal, which was motivated by the recent increase in anti-Semitic propaganda in Britain, the Home Minister stated that "appropriate action will be taken against law-breakers."

Earlier, Brenden Bracken, Minister of Information, had opposed a suggestion by Commander Oliver Locker-Lampson, Conservative, that "the case for the Jews be broadcast over a weekly B.B.C. program for domestic consumption, since they are the one minority which the Nazis and Fascists have specifically designated for attack and persecution." Mr. Bracken declared that "the Jewish citizens of Great Britain need no defense against these stale lies," adding that they are playing a large part in the war effort.

SOUTH AFRICAN JEWS HOLD PLEBISCITE TODAY ON PALESTINE ISSUES

JOHANNESBURG, March 19.(JTA)-- South African Jews will cast their ballots on Sunday in a plebiscite arranged by the Zionist Federation in order to obtain a clear-cut indication by the Jewish community of its stand on basic demands for Jewish rights in Palestine. Voters will be asked to approve a declaration demanding the annulment of the White Paper, the opening of Palestine for unlimited Jewish immigration, the creation of a Jewish Army and the creation of a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine after the war.

Announcing the plebiscite, which will be held in the Union of South Africa, Kenya, and the Congo, the Zionist Federation here issued a manifesto deploring the White Paper policy. It demands that Jewish homelessness be ended by the creation of a Jewish State in Palestine and expresses the hope that Zionist groups in other countries will hold similar plebiscites in order to manifest a united Jewish demand for such a state.

"DAVID YELLIN" PRIZE FOR BEST HEBREW NOVEL OF YEAR AWARDED IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, March 19.(JTA)-- The first "David Yellin" prize for the best Hebrew novel of the year was awarded today to Ibn Zhav for his "Beggars at the Wailing Wall." Attending the presentation ceremonies were prominent writers, professors of the Hebrew University and other notables. Isaac Ben-Zvi, president of the Jewish National Council, presided.

In his acceptance speech, Mr. Zhav paid tribute to Yellin, who died last year, for his pioneer efforts in developing Hebrew literature and education in Palestine. He announced that he would distribute the funds awarded him among needy writers. Dr. Judah L. Magnes, president of the Hebrew University, announced that the award would be made annually.

SENATE HEARS PLEA FOR JEWISH ARMY IN PALESTINE

WASHINGTON, March 19.(JTA)-- Sen. William Langer, North Dakota Republican, spoke today in favor of a separate Jewish Army in Palestine.

He told the Senate that since Jews had been singled out for persecution, it was only fair that they should be represented as Jews in the fight against the Axis.