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DEMONSTRATIONS IN SOFIA AGAINST DEPORTATION OF JEWS; POLICE RAID SYNAGOGUE

STOCKHOLM, May 26.(JTA)-- Street demonstrations are reported today to have taken place in Sofia, capital of Bulgaria, in protest against the decree ordering the 25,000 Jews in the city to leave their homes "voluntarily" and move to specially designated provincial districts within three days or face deportation.

The demonstrations broke out on Monday noon, as soon as the news of the expulsion order spread throughout the city. Crowds gathered in various parts of Sofia shouting "we want the Jews to remain" and charging the Bulgarian Government with being a tool in the hands of the Nazis. Strong police reinforcements were used to disperse the angry crowds. Several hundred demonstrators were arrested. Police also raided a synagogue where Jews had gathered to pray before leaving the city.

With the expulsion order expiring today, it was assumed here that the pro-Jewish demonstrations brought about no change in the situation. No news has reached here as yet as to how the Jewish exodus from Sofia is being carried out. The Bulgarian demonstrations were reported today by the Nazi news agency, DNB, which estimated that there are 60,000 Jews at present in the whole of Bulgaria.

NO TRACE OF 50,000 DEPORTED SALONICA JEWS, BRITISH CORRESPONDENT REPORTS

LONDON, May 26.(JTA)-- No trace can be found of 50,000 Jews deported by the Nazis from Salonica, it was reported today by the London Times' Istanbul correspondent.

The correspondent confirms that of fifty-five thousand Jews who resided in Salonica when the Axis forces occupied the city, only five thousand remain, because they hold foreign passports. These Jews are mostly of Turkish and Spanish nationality. All the other Jews were deported to Nazi-occupied Poland and nothing has been heard of them since. All that is known is that they reached Cracow, but are no longer there.

The British journalist who sought to establish the whereabouts of the deported Greek Jews through various channels in neutral Turkey, also interviewed a number of people who witnessed the mass-deportations from Salonica. He reports that these people, all of whom are non-Jews, stated that the men were separated from their wives and children during the deportations. Transports of men and transports of women and children were confined in cattle trains, with eighty adults in each car standing pressed against each other like sardines. None of the victims was permitted to take along more than one loaf of bread for the entire trip. No sanitary facilities were provided.

"After traveling for several days," the correspondent writes, "many of the deportees died. The remainder reached a place in Yugoslavia where they had to undergo special disinfection prior to being transported to Poland. The heads of all the men and women were shaved."

THOUSANDS OF BALTIC JEWS "DISAPPEAR"; SWEDISH PRESS THINKS THEY WERE EXECUTED

STOCKHOLM, May 26.(JTA)-- Thousands of Jews who still remained alive in ghettos in Latvia and Lithuania under Nazi occupation suddenly "disappeared" following the recent announcement by Nazi Minister Goebbels that no mercy will be shown to Jews, the Swedish press reports today.

The Afton Tidningen, a Stockholm newspaper, publishes a lengthy report "from a private correspondent" describing how certain towns in the Nazi-held Baltic countries where Jews were confined have become "judenrein." It is believed here that the Nazis, fearing a possible Russian re-occupation of the Baltic territory during a Summer offensive, have decided to clear this territory of the remaining Jews after having massacred thousands of them in Riga and Kaunas. Some of the Swedish newspapers, in reporting the "disappearance" of the Jews, express the opinion that the majority of them were executed.

NEW TAXES WILL BE IMPOSED ON JEWS IN HUNGARY; JEWS WARNED BY HUNGARIAN MINISTER

ZURICH, May 26.(JTA)-- New special taxes will soon be imposed upon Jewish property in Hungary, it was reported today by Stefani, an Italian news agency, in a dispatch from Budapest.

The German news agency D.N.B. today reported that Jews in Hungary were warned in speeches by members of the cabinet about "their exasperatingly provocative behaviour." Speaking at a meeting in Debrecen, Bela Lukacz, minister without portfolio, is reported to have stated that in their own interests the Jews in Hungary should live as modest a life as possible "otherwise the Government will be forced to take sterner anti-Jewish measures."

PALESTINE, SYRIA, LEBANON REACH TRADE AGREEMENT; PALESTINE EXPORTS TO RISE

JERUSALEM, May 26.(JTA)-- Following the official announcement yesterday that Palestine will be asked to produce commodities for export to neighboring countries, it was learned here today that an agreement was signed this week by representatives of the Palestine administration, Syria and Lebanon, under which Palestine will export manufactured products to Syria and Lebanon and receive raw materials in return.

The agreement was reached at a conference held in Jerusalem for the purpose of discussing trade relations between the three neighboring countries. The conference was a sequel to the recent meeting in Cairo of the Middle East Supply Council which studied the possibilities of utilizing the surplus productive capacity of Palestine and where a detailed scheme of production, including the provision of an ample supply of raw materials was outlined.

JEWISH AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE REACHES SPAIN TO CHOOSE IMMIGRANTS FOR PALESTINE

LONDON, May 26, (JTA)-- The office of the Jewish Agency for Palestine today received information that its representative, together with a representative of the Hias-Ica Emigration Association, has left Lisbon for Spain to select a number of Jewish refugees for whom Palestine visas have been secured.

The selection of the refugees will be carried out in accordance with specific instructions from the immigration department of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem which allocated a number of Palestine immigration certificates to Jews who succeeded in escaping from France to Spain. It is expected that the persons chosen will have no difficulty in reaching Palestine by way of North Africa.

POLISH JEWS IN PALESTINE SEND ENVOY TO INDIA TO SECURE FOOD FOR REFUGEES IN RUSSIA

TEL AVIV, May 26.(JTA)-- A meeting of the Representation of Polish Jews in Palestine today decided to send a special envoy to India for the purpose of arranging uninterrupted shipment of food parcels from India to Polish Jews in Russia. A shipment of 4,000 parcels will be sent by the envoy when he reaches India shortly.

Parcels of food are also being sent from India through an arrangement between the Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Agency executive in Palestine. The cost of each parcel sent by the J.D.C. under this arrangement is about twenty-eight dollars and includes advance payment of the Russian customs duty.

The meeting decided to dispatch a number of cables to prominent persons in England expressing disappointment at the results of the Bermuda Conference.

GREEK ORTHODOX PRELATE IN BRITAIN SCORES DEPORTATION, MASSACRE OF GREEK JEWS

LONDON, May 26.(JTA)-- A sharp denunciation of Germany and Bulgaria for their mistreatment of Jews was issued here today by Archbishop Germanos of Thyateira, head of the Greek Catholic Church in Great Britain. Assailing the Nazi racial theory as a whole, the Archbishop specifically condemned the deportation and massacre of thousands of Jews in the Bulgarian-occupied sections of Greece.

In condemning the Nazi actions, the Archbishop said, he was only following the course of action laid down by the clergy within Greece, which has manifested violent opposition to the persecution of Jews by the Germans and Bulgarians. He expressed the hope that the United Nations will soon triumph and bring to an end the "insane extermination of the Jewish race."

BEN-GURION RECOVERING FROM ILLNESS; WILL LEAVE HADASSAH HOSPITAL SOON

JERUSALEM, May 26.(JTA)-- David Ben-Gurion, chairman of the Jewish Agency executive, who was recently taken ill, is recovering and will soon leave the Hadassah hospital, it was announced here today.

Chief Rabbi Herzog today asked the Jewish Telegraphic Agency to deny a report carried by a Palestinian news agency that he had consented to "declare war" against the Zionist organization and the Zionist national funds as a result of the disagreement between the orthodox groups and the Jewish Agency arising out of the question of religious education for refugee children reaching Palestine.

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL RAISES \$4,000,000 IN CURRENT NEW YORK DRIVE

NEW YORK, May 26.(JTA)-- More than \$4,000,000 - a record total for this time of the year - has already been raised in the current drive of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York, Alexander E. Arnstein, campaign chairman, announced at a rally held last night at the Harmonie Club.

ARGENTINE CONVENTION SEEKS UNITY IN ZIONIST RANKS

BUENOS AIRES, May 26.(JTA)-- The convention of the Zionist Federation of Argentina closed today after adopting a number of resolutions demanding free immigration into Palestine. The meeting took place in Santa Fe.

The convention, which was attended by 90 delegates, devoted the largest part of its sessions to discussing unity within the Zionist ranks. As a result, a committee was appointed to negotiate with the leaders of various Zionist groups in Argentina for a united Zionist front. Nathan Gesang was re-elected president of the Federation.

JEWS IN ALGERIA REFUSE TO APPLY FOR FRENCH CITIZENSHIP AS INDIVIDUALS

NEW YORK, May 26.(JTA)-- Native Jews in Algeria, deprived of their French citizenship by Gen. Giraud's abrogation of the Cremieux Decree, are refusing to apply for citizenship individually in protest against the order, it is reported in France-Amerique, a French newspaper published in New York by supporters of Gen. de Gaulle.

"We learn from Algiers," the paper writes, "that the Jews, deprived of their French nationality by the arbitrary act of Gen. Giraud, energetically refuse to seek, individually, reinstatement as French citizens, not recognizing the legality of the measure taken against them and preferring to wait until the Republic repairs this injustice."

Pour la Victoire, another French newspaper published in New York, carries an article by Henri de Kerillis, former French Nationalist deputy, in which he asserts that the time has come, since the Germans have been chased from North Africa, "to begin the liquidation of anti-Semitism" and to eliminate certain collaborationists.

De Kerillis, who left France the day after Marshall Petain demanded an armistice and after having been an ardent supporter of General de Gaulle became no less an ardent partisan of General Giraud, declared that "as long as German guns thundered on the African soil I deliberately abstained from dwelling upon certain particularly delicate topics connected with General Giraud's political conduct." Today, de Kerillis demands re-establishment of the Algerian Jews as French citizens and full abrogation of all anti-Semitic laws and ordinances,

"Surely enough, General Giraud has abolished the Nuremberg laws. Unfortunately, the Nuremberg laws were not the only anti-Semitic instrument in Algeria... They had been carried further by the abrogation of that famous Cremieux law... which extended French citizenship to all Jews born in Algeria. And General Giraud did not re-establish the Cremieux law."

Mr. de Kerillis says further that it is easy to understand General Giraud's reasons for acting as he did. He points to the danger of stirring up the allegedly traditional Arab anti-Semitism "considerably increased through German propaganda" and asserts that the situation in Algeria might be compared to that in Palestine. He concludes:

"Nevertheless, the circumstances seem favorable for an immediate re-establishment of the Cremieux law - unless there be considerations which are not known to us. The moral and political significance of a radical elimination from French territory of all traces of anti-Semitic legislation is self-evident. If it is true that the Cremieux law is not altogether equitable since it favors a Jewish minority as compared to a Moslem majority, the political status of Arabs may be raised so as to give them satisfaction..."

JEWISH EDUCATION COMMITTEE GAVE \$227,000 FOR EDUCATIONAL WORK

NEW YORK, May 26.(JTA)-- The Jewish Education Committee of New York gave \$127,000 in financial grants to schools and educational groups and \$100,000 for pedagogical services during the last year, according to its annual report issued at a meeting of its members last night at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria. The gifts covered 117 schools and institutions.