

Published by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency

106 East 41st Street, New York, N. Y.

VOL. X. NO. 140

Thursday, June 17, 1943

RUMANIA ACTS TO PREVENT POST-WAR RESTORATION OF ECONOMIC POSITIONS TO JEWS

ZURICH, June 16.(JTA)-- The Rumanian authorities, foreseeing the defeat of the Nazis, are now acting to prevent the Jews in Rumania from being restored to the economic positions from which they have been ousted since the outbreak of the war.

The Deutsche Nachrichten Bureau, official Nazi news agency, today reports from Bucharest that special schools have been established by the Rumanian Ministry of Labor to train Rumanians to replace Jewish employees in enterprises which up until now have been staffed mainly by Jews. At the same time it is reported from Bucharest that the authorities there "hope to complete the elimination of Jews from trade before the war ends."

Rumanian newspapers reaching here today report that Premier Ion Antonescu has received from Labor Minister Danulescu a report on the progress being made in ousting Jews from commerce and industry.

GERMAN SOLDIER REPORTS GASSING OF JEWISH WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN DUSSELDORF

LONDON, June 16.(JTA)-- The Belgian Government-in-Exile today reported that a German soldier stationed in Herve, Belgium, has informed local non-Jews that the Nazis have been using poison gas on Jews in Dusseldorf.

"I shall never forget the tragedy which I witnessed when 100 Jewish women and children were assembled in a Dusseldorf hall," he is quoted as saying. "I was among the soldiers who were ordered to release the poison gas and was forced to be present when the women and the children were dying."

The Vienna radio today broadcast, for internal consumption, an article from the local edition of the Voelkischer Beobachter calling upon the "Aryan" population in Austria "to remember" that Jews are responsible for the Allied bombing of Germany. "A frenzy of hatred must seize every German when he sees and hears what the sadistic Jews have inflicted upon western German towns," the article said.

Radio stations in Germany today also carried a broadcast attacking the Social Democratic Party in Hungary for its outspoken pro-Jewish attitude. The broadcast claimed that the Nepszawa, Social Democratic newspaper in Budapest, has gained 15,000 new Jewish readers. It also accused the Nepszawa of striking out the word "Jew" from a dispatch disseminated by the official Nazi news agency, DNB, reporting the assassination of Janakiev, a Gestapo agent in Bulgaria. The Nazi report stated that the assassination was committed by a Bulgarian Jew.

PALESTINE GETS AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY FROM U.S. UNDER LEND-LEASE PLAN

JERUSALEM, June 16.(JTA)-- Expecting early delivery of tractors, combines and other agricultural machinery from the United States under Lend-Lease terms, the Palestine Government has cancelled numerous private import licences for agricultural equipment, it was reported here today. Regional offices will be established by the Palestine administration to allocate the machinery to Jewish and Arab settlers when it arrives.

RESISTANCE OF JEWS IN WARSAW GHETTO HAILED AT BRITISH LABOR PARTY CONFERENCE

LONDON, June 16.(JTA)-- The resistance put up by the Jews in the Warsaw ghetto, during a three-week battle with Nazi extermination squads, which began towards the latter part of April, was hailed today as "the outstanding example of underground resistance in Europe" in an address before the annual conference of the British Labor Party by Camille Huysmans, veteran Belgian Socialist.

Huysmans, who was at one time president of the Belgian Chamber of Deputies, stressed that "the resistance of the 40,000 Jews, remnants of a Jewish population of 500,000, has been looked upon with admiration throughout the world." He asserted that the fight was directed mainly by members of the Jewish Socialist Party "Bund."

Lucian Blitt, a member of the "Bund," who was the first of a series of speakers representing the labor movements of the occupied countries, pointed out that the extermination of the people of Europe by the Nazis actually began in 1933, "when the world still considered the persecution of the Jews in Germany a domestic affair." He also paid tribute to the heroism of the Warsaw ghetto, and appealed to the British Labor movement to increase its efforts to hasten the liberation of the oppressed peoples.

ARMED RESISTANCE AGAINST DEPORTATION OF JEWS IN SLOVAKIA, OFFICIAL REPORT SAYS

LONDON, June 16.(JTA)-- Armed resistance was offered by the populations in a number of townships in Slovakia in an attempt to prevent the deportation of Jews, it is reported in a survey prepared here by the Czechoslovakian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The survey also discusses the position of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia, pointing out that at the end of 1942, no Jews were left in these two provinces. "Out of the 90,000 Czech Jews," the survey states, "more than 72,000 have been deported. All the provincial towns in Bohemia which once had large Jewish communities have been cleared (the last ones were Tabor, Pelhrmov and Mlada Boleslav, whence the remaining Jews were expelled in February, 1943.)"

Stressing the peaceful relations which for many centuries existed between the Czech and Jewish populations in Bohemia and Moravia, the survey describes the efforts made by the Czech authorities to delay and mitigate the anti-Jewish measures forced upon Czechoslovakia by the German overlords. It gives an account of successive restrictions and oppressive decrees leading up to the complete extinction of Jewish life in the Protectorate.

"In June, 1942," it says, "deportation to Poland began on a large scale. The Gestapo was instructed to prepare by every Monday and Thursday contingents of a thousand Jews each. Those to leave were given a day or two notice. The Nazi records of the Jewish registration were out of date, and it often happened that call-up cards were addressed to persons who had died years ago, had left the country or had already been deported. In such cases the daily rota of a thousand was made up by people simply picked up from the streets, or at night time dragged from their beds. The Gestapo took a delight in so selecting the deportees that families were split, wives separated from their husbands and small children from their mothers. Those left at home were never allowed to bid farewell to their relatives or friends. But sometimes their Czech friends could watch those gloomy processions of the outlawed marching to the railway station and passing for the last time through the streets of Prague."

ARAB-JEWISH RELATIONS IN PALESTINE TENSE, AMERICAN CORRESPONDENT REPORTS

BOSTON, June 16.(JTA)-- Arab-Jewish relations in Palestine have deteriorated recently, it is reported in the Christian Science Monitor today in a cable from Jerusalem by Joseph G. Harrison, Monitor correspondent with the United Nations forces in the Middle East, who claims that "the uneasy Arab-Jewish truce which has existed in Palestine during the last several years is now beginning to show signs of cracking."

"Although there appears to be no immediate prospect of recurrence of widespread disorders and bloodshed which disgraced the Holy Land during the middle 1930's, shrewd British, Jewish and Arab observers here admit the situation has deteriorated during the past six months, and all sides are agreed that some way must be found to ease tension," the American correspondent writes.

Emphasizing that both the Arabs and the Jews are determined not to compromise, Harrison points out that "the extent of the feeling aroused throughout the Arab-speaking world by this issue is indicated by the statement of one spokesman in Jerusalem that, even if Palestinian Arabs are inclined to acquiesce in Jewish demands, other Arab countries would do everything in their physical power to prevent it." He adds:

"One most regrettable aspect of the impasse is widely attested by the fact many persons on both sides, especially among the youth, appear willing to accept open armed conflict as the 'best means of settling the thing once and for all.' This attitude of part of the population obviously greatly increases danger of incidents which both sides are ready to seize upon and magnify."

ARAB LEAGUE IN AMERICA LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN AGAINST JEWISH CLAIMS ON PALESTINE

WASHINGTON, June 16.(JTA)-- Members of the Senate and of the House of Representatives are being flooded with anti-Zionist propaganda by an Arab group in America styling itself "League of American-Arab Committees for Democracy" which is considered a pan-Arab "front" organization in this country.

In a letter circulated among senators here and dated Flint, Michigan, Wajoab R. Samra, secretary of the League, claims that American Arab groups "have made several attempts to persuade Zionists to suspend their damaging activities, for the duration at least, but without any apparent success." He attaches a copy of a communication allegedly sent to Dr. Chaim Weizmann on April 21, 1941, by Faris Malouf and Shukrey Khoury, president and secretary of the Arab National League, respectively.

Deploping the persecution of Jews in Axis-held Europe, the Arab letter to the Congressmen states that, nevertheless, the Arabs "can never countenance such a miscarriage of justice as the rape of Palestine by a group of people claiming that their ancestors once occupied the country some thousands of years ago." It asserts that "political Zionism must concede to the people of Palestine the free exercise of self-determination," adding that "any form of imperialism, be it Zionist or not, is detrimental to the interests of the United States and to the future peace of the world."

The letter charges further that "it is decidedly contrary to the best interest of the United States to deliberately antagonize some sixty million Arabs and two hundred and fifty million Moslems by permitting political Zionism to consummate its audacious ambition in Palestine." It concludes by declaring that the Arabs have "contributed far more than their share towards the rehabilitation of Jewish refugees from Europe, since they have already accepted more than half a million of them in a country about the size of Vermont."

JEWISH COLONIZATION ASSOCIATION GRANTS \$100,000 FOR REFUGEE CHILDREN IN PALESTINE

NEW YORK, June 16.(JTA)-- The Jewish Colonization Association has decided to make a grant of \$100,000 for the maintenance of the 850 Jewish refugee children from Poland who have reached Palestine, it was announced here today.

The children who will benefit from the JCA contribution came to Palestine from Russia by way of Persia and India a few months ago under an arrangement between the Jewish Agency and the Palestine Government.

ORTHODOX CONGREGATIONS IN BRITAIN ARE NOT ANTI-ZIONIST, ANNUAL MEETING TOLD

LONDON, June 16.(JTA)-- The Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations, which opened its annual meeting here last night, is not anti-Zionist but wishes to build a religious Palestine, it was stated in an address at the opening session by Rabbi Solomon Schoenfeld, one of the leaders of the Union.

Agudas Israel leader H.A. Goodman told the meeting that orthodox Jewry will participate to the fullest extent in solving problems of post-war rehabilitation and "would never permit the doors of Palestine to be barred to Jewish immigration because Palestine is a part of the Torah itself." The conference adopted resolutions protesting "attempts to deprive Jewish refugees in Palestine of religious education."

"ANOTHER COHEN DOES IT," WRITES BRITISH PRESS LAUDING JEWISH HERO

LONDON, June 16.(JTA)-- Under the heading "Another Cohen Does It," the London papers today feature the announcement that Capt. Henry G. Cohen, a Melbourne-born Jew who resides in London, has been awarded the George Medal for gallantry in North Africa.

The official citation states that Capt. Cohen, who is attached to the Pioneer Corps, showed "constant disregard for personal danger." The reference in the newspapers to "another Cohen" was occasioned by the fact that over the week-end the press was filled with the story of Sgt. Sidney Cohen, who inadvertently secured the surrender of the Italian island of Lampedusa when his patrol plane was forced to land there when it ran out of gas.

(From American headquarters in North Africa today came the report of still another Cohen being cited for heroism. This one is Capt. Moses Cohen, a New York City physician, who has been awarded the Silver Star for a daring nine mile dash into enemy territory to secure medical supplies.)

MRS. SAMUEL BRONFMAN TENDERED RECEPTION MARKING HONOR BY KING GEORGE

MONTREAL, Canada, June 16.(JTA)-- Mrs. Samuel Bronfman, prominent Canadian Jewish leader, was tendered a reception here yesterday in honor of her having been made an officer of the Order of the British Empire by King George VI for her signal contributions to Jewish and non-Jewish philanthropic and war causes in the Dominion.

Hundreds of persons, including representatives of the Canadian Jewish Congress, the Canadian Red Cross, Hadassah and other groups with which Mrs. Bronfman is connected, crowded the YMHA here to congratulate her. A gold plaque was presented to Mrs. Bronfman on behalf of Montreal women.