

Published by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency

106 East 41st Street, New York 17, N. Y.

VOL. X. NO. 221Wednesday, September 22, 1943JEWISH AGENCY COMPLETES PLANS FOR POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION OF PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, Sept. 21.(JTA)-- Plans for the post-war economic reconstruction of Palestine on which the Jewish Agency has been working during the past few months, are nearing completion, it was learned here today. They may be submitted to the forthcoming session of the Large Zionist Actions Committee which is the supreme Zionist body between Zionist Congresses.

The plans, prepared by the Institute for Economic Research, are based on the possibilities of large Jewish immigration to Palestine after the war and on the normalization of the transition period from war to peace time. Special attention is paid to the absorption of demobilized Jewish soldiers.

It was disclosed here today that the convocation of the Large Zionist Actions Committee is encountering serious obstacles due to transportation difficulties. Nevertheless, it is expected that delegates from the United States and England will arrive on time. It is also hoped that Dr. Chaim Weismann will come to Palestine before the winter.

The transportation difficulties also make it impossible, for the time being, to use the Palestine immigration certificates allotted to Jewish refugees in Lisbon, Teheran and Mozambique. Efforts, however, are being made to overcome these obstacles.

It was learned here today that the Palestine Government expects to announce this week the immigration schedule for the three-month period from July to September. Most of the Palestine visas under this schedule will be issued to Jews now in Turkey and Aden.

STATE DEPARTMENT WARNS NEUTRALS AGAINST ACQUIRING LOOT FROM NAZIS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.(JTA)-- Britain and the United States struck today at a plan for safeguarding Nazi loot by fake transfers to neutrals.

In a statement issued simultaneously here and in London, the State Department and Foreign Office said that "the two Governments reserve the right to treat as invalid any transfer to neutral ownership of any enemy-owned rights or interests in property in Italy." It emphasized that "nationals or firms in neutral countries acquiring or purporting to acquire such rights or interests render themselves liable to all sanctions at the disposal of the Governments of the United States of America and the United Kingdom."

The Nazis have regularly acquired choice property of all kinds - from sculptures to securities - in occupied countries, following "strictly legal" forms, but using extra-legal pressures including torture and threat of torture of the property's owner. This system was first applied in Germany itself to Jews and anti-Nazis, who were thoroughly looted before they were driven from the country or imprisoned.

SLOVAKIA CONSIDERS BILL TO ALTER LEGAL POSITION OF JEWS

ZURICH, Sept. 21.(JTA)-- A bill altering the legal position of the Jews in the Nazi puppet-state of Slovakia was considered at a joint session of representatives of the constitutional, economic and budget committees of the Slovakian Government, it is reported in the newspaper Slovak reacling here today from Bratislava.

The joint session also considered another bill offered by the Government which suggests modification of the decree under which a special tax is levied on Jewish property. The session adopted a decision to have the two bills re-drafted, after which they are to be submitted again for final approval by a joint session of officials representing the three government branches interested in the measures.

Meanwhile, the office in charge of administering confiscated Jewish property in Slovakia published an announcement in the Slovak newspapers inviting offers by persons interested in buying nine estates confiscated by the Government from Jewish owners. The announcement stipulates that those intending to purchase these estates must be members of the anti-Semitic Hlinka Party.

The Swiss press reports that Count Bela Teleki, chairman of the Transylvanian Party in Hungary, addressing a public meeting in Budapest stated that the Jewish question is "a question of third-class importance for Hungary." No factors of foreign policy should determine its solution, he declared, emphasizing that in the face of the capitulation of Italy maximum unity within the Hungarian nation is necessary.

JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE SENDS RELIEF AIDE TO NORTH AFRICA

NEW YORK, Sept. 21.(JTA)-- Max S. Perlman, former New York City relief supervisor, will leave shortly to engage in relief and rehabilitation activities for native Jews and refugees in North Africa and Europe, it was announced today by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

Mr. Perlman will participate in the development of a long-range program of reconstruction to reestablish the Jewish communities of Tunisia, which were stripped of all their possessions by the Nazis, and to assist in the repatriation of large numbers of refugees from the battle areas of Tunisia and Tripolitania. Later assignments may take him to Italy or the Middle East as the Joint Distribution Committee's relief and rescue plans expand in those areas.

CONGRESS ASKED FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION TO SAVE VICTIMS OF NAZIS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.(JTA)-- Immediate action to save "such victims of the Nazis as can still escape destruction," was urged on the House floor today by Rep. Samuel Dickstein, New York Democrat

Rep. Dickstein introduced a resolution last Tuesday calling upon the Attorney General and the Secretary of State to permit entry into this country for temporary stay of those refugees who can now be brought here. He has also written to each of the members of the House and Senate, and to the Governors of all 48 states asking their reaction to the resolution.

ALEXANDRA BELKIND, FIRST WOMAN DOCTOR IN PALESTINE, DIES AT 72

JERUSALEM, Sept. 21.(JTA)-- Dr. Alexandra Belkind, first woman doctor in Palestine, died here today at the age of 72. She was among the first Jewish pioneers to arrive in Palestine from Russia as members of the Bilu group in 1882. She left \$24,000 for a Home for Old Physicians in Rishon Lezion, the first Jewish colony in Palestine.

FIFTY JEWISH CHAPLAINS WILL CONDUCT ROSH HASHONAH SERVICES AT OVERSEAS POSTS

NEW YORK, Sept. 21.(JTA)-- Fifty Jewish chaplains, regularly assigned to overseas stations, will be conducting services on Rosh Hashonah and Yom Kippur on every front from New Guinea to Italy, it was announced today by the Jewish Welfare Board. Last Rosh Hashonah there were only thirteen Jewish chaplains serving overseas.

"Supplies for the High Holy Day services have been sent overseas by the Jewish Welfare Board to the fifty Jewish chaplains and to fifty-seven Christian chaplains in centrally located points for distribution in their area," the announcement said.

The Jewish Welfare Board began its preparations as far back as last November when the first shipment were made to overseas points. Since that date the following supplies have been shipped: 175,000 abridged prayer books for New Year and Day of Atonement, 30,000 complete mahzorim, 450,000 New Year greeting cards, 150,000 educational leaflets describing the significance of the High Holy Days, 10,000 voice records for New Year greetings and a quantity of prayer shawls, shofroth and other religious articles.

A cabled request from General Eisenhower's office for an additional 3,000 mahzorim, 10,000 greeting cards, and 20,000 greeting cards has also been met by the JWB.

Jewish chaplains carrying JWB supplies will also be on hand in bivouac and maneuver areas in this country as well at ports of embarkation and transports to conduct High Holy Day services. All USO clubs and their staffs are cooperating in the High Holy Day arrangements. The congregation of the Methodist Church of Norman, Oklahoma, has offered its facilities to the local JWB Committee for Jewish services. It is expected that other churches will do likewise in small towns where there is no synagogue or temple.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE SURVEY DISCLOSES INCREASED COST OF LIVING IN PALESTINE

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.(JTA)-- A survey of retail food prices in the principal cities of Palestine has disclosed that the cost of living has risen to unprecedented heights, according to a report appearing in the current issue of the Foreign Commerce Weekly, an official organ of the Department of Commerce.

The survey, which was taken in Jerusalem, Jaffa and Haifa, indicates that prices in Jewish markets have increased by 152.9 percent, while prices in Arab markets have risen by 211.8 percent. Chief causes for the inflation are a decrease in the supply of consumer goods as a result of the war, increased purchasing power because of military spending and the smaller civilian food supply which has resulted from purchases by the armed forces, the Commerce Department report says. It points out that families with fixed incomes, especially in the lower income brackets, are suffering extreme hardships.

Some attempt has been made to alleviate the situation by the appointment of a Wages Committee which recommended "cost-of-living allowances." These allowances are sums above the basic wage paid to the employee on the basis of the current price index. However, since such allowances have not been made mandatory, they have not improved the situation much, the survey adds.

YOUNG JEWISH CAPTAIN HOLDS ELEVEN DECORATIONS FOR DARING RAIDS ON ENEMY

NEW YORK, Sept. 21.(JTA)-- Capt. Edward Rothkrug, 21, of Brooklyn, a participant in the famous American raid on the Floesti oil fields of Rumania, is one of the most frequently-decorated Jewish fliers in the American Air Corps, the Jewish Welfare Board reported today. He holds the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Silver Star, the Air Medal and eight Oak Leaf Clusters.

Now back in the United States after 300 hours of combat flying, Captain Rothkrug has been navigating a Flying Fortress in the Mediterranean area for the past nine months. He had already been grounded preparatory to being shipped home, when he heard of the plans to bomb Floesti and volunteered for that vital mission.

On his way home Captain Rothkrug visited Palestine and Egypt. He has been in the Air Corps three years, enlisting right after his graduation from high school, and was sent overseas immediately after receiving his navigator's wings, the youngest officer in his squadron. On one mission his plane was shot up so thoroughly it had to make a forced landing on bomb-ridden Malta. He saw service with the British Eighth Army and helped drive Rommel from El Alamein to Tripoli.

Another Jewish flyer, Lt. Charles Lazin, 24, of Lebanon, Pa., one of the first pilots to land troops in Sicily from an Army Air Transport, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal, and an Oak Leaf Cluster, the JWB reveals. With other members of his Troop Carrier Command, Lt. Lazin was lauded by Lt. Gen. Spaatz for "a brilliant job" in the Sicilian landing, depositing hundreds of paratroopers in the same spot under extremely hazardous conditions and without the loss of a single transport.

DR. JACOB KLATZKIN, NOTED JEWISH PHILOSOPHER, PUBLISHES BOOK ON ART OF LIVING

NEW YORK, Sept. 21.(JTA)-- "In Praise of Wisdom," by the noted Jewish philosopher Dr. Jacob Klatzkin, who is now residing in the United States, was published here today by the L.B. Fischer Publishing Corporation.

The book is concerned with the large and small aspects of everyday life and the art of living. It contains reflections on science, art, politics, philosophy, psychology and religion. Dr. Klatzkin, who is known as the creator of an original widely acclaimed Biophilosophy, is the author of many books on philosophy and psychology which have been published abroad. He is a biographer of Spinoza, author of a dictionary of philosophy and an editor of the Encyclopedia Judaica.

PIONEER WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION CHOOSES MRS. ALEXANDER KAHN AS PRESIDENT

NEW YORK, Sept. 21.(JTA)-- The Pioneer Women's Organization today announced the election of Mrs. Alexander Kahn to the post of president. The announcement added that the organization has raised \$20,000 this year for vocational training schools for girls in Palestine and \$20,000 for the Child Rescue Fund. In addition, the organization contributed \$7,500 to the Jewish National Fund for land purchases and \$3,500 to the Palestine Federation of Labor.

PHILADELPHIA MAN TO HEAD THE B'NAI B'RITH VOCATIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON, D.C., Sept. 21.(JTA)-- Leon J. Obermayer, Philadelphia attorney, educator and civic leader, has been appointed chairman of the National B'nai B'rith Vocational Service Committee, which supervises local programs of group vocational guidance for Jewish youth and adults, it was announced here today by Henry Monsky, president of B'nai B'rith.