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AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE LAUDS RESTORATION OF CREMIEUX DECREE

NEW YORK, Oct. 22.(JTA)-- The American Jewish Committee, through its president, Judge Joseph M. Proskauer, today congratulated the French Committee of National Liberation for its restoration yesterday of the Cremieux Decree, giving the native Jews of Algeria full French citizenship.

Terming the act a "courageous rectification of an error and humane righting of a wrong," the statement issued by Judge Proskauer also expressed the appreciation of the American Jewish Committee for the sympathetic attitude which the United States Government took on the issue, emphasizing that its attitude probably helped to bring about the restoration of the decree. The text of the declaration reads:

"My colleagues of the American Jewish Committee and I were greatly cheered by the report of the restoration in Algiers of the Cremieux Decree in 1870 which conferred the rights of French citizenship on the Jews of Algeria who had declared their willingness to accept the correlative duties of adherence to French law and social customs. Immediately after learning of the repeal of the Cremieux Decree, the American Jewish Committee filed protests with the State Department and took steps to enlighten public opinion in the United States regarding the significance of this action. The Committee also joined with other organizations in making representations to our government.

"We congratulate the French Committee of National Liberation on their courageous rectification of an error and humane righting of a wrong. We also express our grateful appreciation of the sympathetic position taken by the government of the United States, which we believe had much to do with this fine achievement. This action is a hopeful augury for the prompt restoration of democracy in all Nazi-occupied territories upon their liberation from the Hitler yoke."

Full Text of French Official Statement Released in New York

The French Information Bureau in New York today released the full text of the official statement on the reaffirmation of the Cremieux Decree issued yesterday in Algiers by the Committee of National Liberation. The text reads:

"The Committee, examining the situation of Algerian Jews, noted, in view of existing texts - on the one hand, the abrogation of all acts discriminating against Jews, on the other hand, abrogation of the Cremieux decree effectively subordinated to the definition of conditions of application which were not issued - that the Cremieux decree is now in vigor. This declaration leaves the French authorities free to take definite decisions in the future regarding the status of Algerian Jews and of other categories of the Algerian population."

Another cable received from Algiers by the French Information Bureau stresses that Jewish officials who have been deprived of their posts as a result of the law of March 14, 1943 (the date Giraud abrogated the Decree) will be reinstated.

EGYPT AND SAUDI ARABIA FAIL TO REACH UNDERSTANDING ON STATUS OF PALESTINE

CAIRO, Oct. 22.(JTA)-- Differences of opinion on the status of Palestine prevented the representatives of Egypt and Saudi-Arabia from coming to a definite understanding on the project of Arab unity discussed here at a special conference which concluded this week, the Cairo press reports today.

A joint communique issued here in behalf of the Egyptian Premier Mustafa Nahas Pasha and the acting Foreign Minister of Saudi-Arabia Youssef Yassin, announces that the talks between the two statesmen have been suspended, indicating that they would be resumed after Yassin reports to King Ibn Saud on the results of his efforts to impress the Egyptian Premier with Ibn Saud's desire to have the Palestine problem solved immediately. It is understood that Yassin failed to convince Nahas Pasha, apparently because the Egyptian Premier has promised the British Government to leave the Palestine question open until after the war.

While unable to reach an agreement on the Palestine issue, the two Arab statesmen emphasized in their communique that "perfect accord has been reached on general principles which His Majesty King Abdul Aziz (Ibn Saud) had instructed his faithful delegate to transmit." The Premier of Egypt and the representative of Saudi Arabia conferred on four occasions prior to issuance of this short official statement.

The demand of King Ibn Saud that Arab countries seek an immediate solution of the Arab-Jewish question in Palestine is one of his major conditions for Saudi-Arabia's participation in a pan-Arab congress which the premier of Egypt is anxious to convoke in Cairo in order to plan the establishment of a Pan-Arab Federation. The talks between Sheik Yassin and Premier Nahas are the third in a series of cordial discussions on the wide issues of Pan-Arabism that the Egyptian Premier has held. The first was with the Premier of Iran, Nuri es Said, and the second with the Premier of Transjordan, Tewfik el Hada Pasha. Recently, in token of its interest in a possible Arab Federation, the Egyptian Government sent a delegation to King Ibn Saud which resulted in the visit to Cairo of Sheik Yassin.

BRITISH JEWS OPEN TRAINING CAMP FOR JEWISH RELIEF WORKERS FOR LIBERATED EUROPE

NEW YORK, Oct. 22.(JTA)-- The Representation of Polish Jewry in the United States today reported that the Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad in Great Britain has organized a training camp for sixty Jewish relief workers who will serve the Jewish communities in liberated countries in Europe. Half of the students in the camp are British subjects and half are citizens of countries occupied at present by the Germans.

The camp is conducted under the supervision of the Board of Deputies of British Jews. About 400 volunteers have already enrolled with the Board for relief work on the European continent. The average age of the sixty men and women students is 22. Preparations are being made by the Board of Deputies to accommodate more of the registered volunteers.

The curriculum of the students includes not only lectures on various subjects dealing with the problem of displaced populations but also physical training. A staff of experts on social work, nutrition, relief activities, health, children's care and physical culture lecture at the camp.

INTER-AMERICAN CONGRESS EXCLUDES RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN POST-WAR IMMIGRATION

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 22.(JTA)-- The Inter-American Demographic Congress called for the purpose of discussing post-war immigration to countries of the Western Hemisphere closed here last night after adopting a decision to exclude racial discrimination in immigration, but leaving a loophole by suggesting that each country on the American continent is entitled to practice selective immigration and admit people with "preferred characteristics." Seventy delegates from 19 countries, including the United States, participated.

The congress was greatly impressed by the statement made by one of the United States delegates, Howell Reed, who announced that President Roosevelt is determined to outlaw racial discrimination. The delegation from Argentina was the only group which stressed that the immigrants must be chosen on a racial basis.

The congress established an interim committee of seven members which will function until an Inter-American Demographic Institute is established. The Institute may possibly set up a branch in Europe to handle the "shipping end of the immigration. A study of how post-war immigration to the American continent is to be financed will be prepared by the interim committee which will meet in Mexico on March 1, 1944. The committee has no executive powers and its functions are mainly technical. It was the opinion of all delegates at the congress that post-war mass immigration from Europe to countries in the Western Hemisphere will be possible only if plans for regulating this immigration are drawn up in advance.

GESTAPO TORTURES 200 RABBIS IN POLISH CONCENTRATION CAMP

LONDON, Oct. 22.(JTA)-- More than 200 Polish rabbis, including many of the "miracle rabbis," are imprisoned in the Oswiecim concentration camp in Poland and are being subjected to the most humiliating and barbarous tortures, according to reliable information reaching Polish-Jewish leaders here today.

The rabbis, among whom are the spiritual leaders of the towns of Sechaczew, Pila, Zychlin, Sambor, Slonim and Jablona, are kept in a separate enclosure within the camp precincts which is supervised by hand-picked guards. Some of the rabbis have been imprisoned since the occupation of Poland in 1939, the report says.

The report cites the following instances as indicative of the treatment to which rabbis in Poland are subjected: Rabbi Silberstein of the Warsaw rabbinical court was forced to dance in the streets dressed in his prayer shawl and phylacteries. Rabbi Segal of Kodz was compelled to do likewise. Rabbi Mendel Morgenstern of Wengrow was made to walk on all fours and was shot when he fell to the ground exhausted.

The chief of the Cracow rabbinical court, Rabbi Kornicer, was forced to climb trees with German soldiers prodding him with bayonets and was shot when he eventually fell from a tree. The rabbi of Sanok was arrested, together with his two sons-in-law, while they were praying and were lined up against a wall until their entire family had been assembled to see them executed.

Synagogues and Jewish religious material have been desecrated in fiendish ways by the Nazis, the report states. Many synagogues have been burnt to the ground, and others have been converted into stables or lavatories. Almost invariably, the Germans force the Jews in a town to destroy the scrolls of the law in the local synagogue. In Plonsk, while the Jews were cutting up the scrolls, in

accordance with Nazi orders, a German officer fired bullets into the Torah, shouting: "I am destroying the Jewish God." Persons refusing to destroy the scrolls are shot. In Krasnik a Jewish butcher defied the Germans and shouted: "Kill me if you will." He was shot.

Nazi newspapers gleefully report the destruction of prayer books and synagogues, the report adds. One paper published the following report by a German officer of the destruction of the famous Lublin Yeshiva, the largest in Poland: "We threw all the books into a pile and set them on fire. The fire lasted for 20 hours as the Jews gathered around and wept wildly. Their wailing grew so annoying that we called on a military band to drown out their cries."

#### BOSTON INVESTIGATION OF ANTI-SEMITISM WILL BE EXTENDED TO ALL OF MASSACHUSETTS

BOSTON, Oct. 22.(JTA)-- The investigation instituted by Governor Saltonstall of anti-Semitism in various sections of Boston will be extended soon to other cities in Massachusetts, it was learned here today following a conference of Boston Jewish leaders with the governor.

Dissatisfaction with the composition of the five-man committee appointed by Gov. Saltonstall to advise him on measures to stamp out attacks by hoodlums on Jews was expressed here today by State Senator Murray Goldman, who represents the Dorchester and Roxbury sections where the worst anti-Jewish terror has occurred. The senator complained that the committee is not representative of his constituents, including 100,000 Jews.

The five-man committee is composed of prominent Bostonians representing the Protestant, Catholic and Jewish faiths. Its members are: Judges Harold P. Williams and Abraham L. Pinansky of the Supreme Court; Judge Jacob J. Kaplan, retired special justice in the Roxbury district court; Rabbi Joshua L. Liebman and Rev. Robert P. Barry, Catholic pastor.

#### CONGRESSMAN ATTACKS JEWS DURING DEBATE IN HOUSE ON CHINESE IMMIGRATION

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.(JTA)-- An attack against Jews was made on the floor of Congress yesterday when the House voted to wipe off the legislative books the act which excludes Chinese from immigrating into the United States, and to permit 105 Chinese to enter the country yearly.

In opening the debate on the measures, Rep. William P. Elmer, a Missouri Democrat, stated that the repeal of the act would mean "a blitzkrieg of sympathetic eloquence over the plight of the Jews." He added that "nearly every nation of Europe has chased out the Jews" and concluded that "there must have been compelling reasons for their actions."

#### JEWSH COLONISTS IN ARGENTINA WIN AGRICULTURAL AWARDS

NEW YORK, Oct. 22.(JTA)-- Thirty of the forty Jewish colonists from the Jewish Colonization Association's settlements at d'Entre-Rios and Santa Fe in Argentina won awards at two recent produce and cattle exhibitions in Buenos Aires and Palacios, it was reported today by the ICA office here.

The colonists won eight first prizes, four second prizes and 18 honorable mentions. The exhibits of the Jewish farmers aroused favorable comment from the Argentine authorities, the public and the press.