TA DAILY NEWS BULLEGIN

Published by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency
106 East 41st Street, New York 17, N. Y.

VOL. XI. NO. 35 (26th year)

Friday, February 11, 1944

JEWISH GUERRILLAS CUT GERMAN RAIL LINES IN FOLAND; NAZIS MASSACRE ALL JEWS IN PINSK

LONDON, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The chief rail artery through which the Germans were supplying hard pressed Nazi troops in the Ukraine was cut 11 times between last April and August by a band of Jewish partisans operating in an undisclosed section of Poland, the Polish Government reported today. Many carloads of vital war materials were destroyed when military trains were derailed.

At the same time, the Polish Telegraphic Agency here reported that the entire Jewish population of the city of Pinsk, which is menaced by the Russian forces advancing through the Pripet Marshes, has been messacred by the Germans together with Jewish inhabitants of surrounding villages. There were more than 30,000 Jews living in Pinsk before the outbreak of the wars. Since the German occupation of the city, thousands of Jews had been sent from Pinsk to forced labor in the Pripet Marshes.

The Jewish guerrillas, who are composed of representatives of various molitical factions, issued the following manifesto: "We have started activities on our own account, although we are in no doubt as to the outcome of our fight - we know it is hopeless but we want the world to know that we are determined to die with arms in our hands. We hope that our sacrifice will find an echo in world opinion."

The Jewish partisans do not confine their activities to sabotaging rail transportation, but also attack German patrols, bomb German cafes and have demolished the machinery in a large dairy and performed acts of sabotage in several factories and labor camps, the report says, adding that it is not possible to disclose the exact regions where the group operates nor the names of those who have fallen.

ORGANIZATION ASSISTING JEWS TO ESCAPE TO HUNGARY DISCOVERED IN SLOVAKIA

ZURICH, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The Berlin Radio reported today that an organization engaged in helping Jews from Slovakia to cross the Prontier into Hungary has been discovered in the Slovakian city of Kosice. All members of the group are now under arrest, the broadcast said. The organization was uncovered when nine Slovakian Jews who attempted to cross the Slovak-Hungarian frontier and three Slovak railway workers who helped them, were arrested the announcer said.

The Nazi Transkontinent agency, in a German-language dispatch to European countries today said that preparations had been begun in Bratislava, capital of Slovakia, for the sale of houses taken from the Jews. "The total value of these houses, requisitioned in 1941, was assessed at 1,500,000 browns," the broadcast said. "The state may purchase for its own purpose real estate to the value of 100,000,000 crowns. The remainder of the property will be sold to private buyers."

The Gardista, the organ of the Hlinka Guard, Slovakian stoym troop organization, reports that the Association of Public Employees of Slovakia has demnded that preference be given its members in purchasing houses taken from Jews. The group says that present regulations, which provide that the purchase price be paid within 45 days after the date the property is "Aryanized," have made it impossible for state employees to buy any houses. It demands that a fund be set up to enable to assist these employees to secure "aryanized" property.

J.T.A. NEWS -2- 2/11/4

RUMANIAN JEWISH YOUTHS ORDERED TO LABOR CAMPS; NEW ANTI-SEMITIC DRIVE SEEN

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The Antonescu Government has issued a decree ordering all Jews in Rumania between the ages of 17 to 27 to report to labor camps, the Stockholm newspaper Dagens Nyheter reports today,

The correspondent of the paper points out that since Rumanian labor camps for jews differ little from concentration camps, the new measure must be taken as an indication of a new anti-Semilio trend.

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON PALESTINE RESOLUTION ADJOURNED UNTIL TUESDAY.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The House Foreign Affairs Committee hearings on the resolution calling for free Jewish immigration into Palestine and "the ultimate establishment" of a Jewish Commonwealth there, adjourned yesterday evening until next Tuesday.

Prior to closing the committee heard a statement on behalf of Fhilip Murray, president of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, endorsing the resolution. "We are particularly proud of the outstanding achievements of Jewish labor in Palestine," In. Murray said. "We believe that the progress of the Jewish National Home should be permitted to continue unimpeded and unimpoired, particularly in view of the tragic plight of hundreds of thousands of Jews in Europe, and the necessity of providing for them a place of resettlement and rehabilitation after the war."

Rabbi James G. Heller of Cleveland said 85 or 90 percent of American Jews favor the resolution, the opposition constituting a very small minority. Zionists want so theocratic state in Palestine, he added, and have no intention of disfranchising the Arabs. He stressed that establishment of the Jewish state would in no way impair the loyalty of American Jews.

ARGENTINE ACADEMY BEGINS STUDY OF POST-WAR IMMIGRATION; WILL CONDUCT A POLL

BUENOS AIRES, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- A study of post-war immigration problems has been launched by the Argentine National Academy for Moral and Political Science. The Academy is preparing to take a public opinion poll on the issue, which will contain these questions:

"Do you think it possible for great masses of people to immigrate to Argentina after the war, What circumstances would favor or hinder such immigration? Would it be to Argentina's interests to receive great numbers of immigrants? Should the entry of foreigners be stimulated, limited or forbidden?"

Aiding in the study are Dr. Alfredo Palacios, former Socialist Senator, and Bishop Miguel de Andreas, well-known prelate. Aim of the study is to formulate general principles on immigration so that last-minute improvisations will be avoided after the war.

CHURCHILL LAUDS BEADERSHIP OF LATE BRIGADIER KISCH; MEMORIAL DRIVE LAUNCHED

LONDON, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The "outstanding leadership and the splendid achievements" of the late Brigadier Frederick Kisch, were praised today by Prime Minister Churchill in a message sent to a luncheon launching a drive for the Kisch Memorial Settlement in Pelestine. Brigadier Kisch was killed by the explosion of a mine in Tunisia.

Viscount Samuel, first High Commissioner of Palestine, who presided at the luncheon, announced that \$60,000 have already been subscribed. Lord Samuel praised the Jewish contribution to the war effort and hailed Jewish developments in Palestine. Other speakers included Sir Arthur Wauchope, former Palestine High Commissioner and Chief Chaplain Rabinowitz of the Eighth Army with which Kisch served.

7.T.A. NEWS 2/11/44

SHOLEM ASCH'S STATEMENT ON JESUS STIRS JEWISH PRESS; CLARIFICATION DEMANDED

NEW YORK, Feb. 10. (JTA) - Sharp criticism of Sholem Asch, noted Jewish writer, is toiced in all leading Jewish newspapers for the opinions on religion he expressed in an interview given to the Christian Herald, during which he was asked why a man of his background should write on Jesus and Paul and why he didn't choose to tell of Moses or Abreham.

An editorial in today's issue of The Day, a Jewish daily, discloses that Asch was invited by the paper to state whether he repudiated the contents of the interview to which the other Jewish papers had taken objection. Asch's reply by telegram was: "I take responsibility for my written works only." The editorial entitled "Whither Sholem Asch" expresses dissatisfaction with the writer's evasive reply and declares that "Jewish public opinion will be compelled to issue a verdict that Sholem Asch, through his own words and behavior, has put himself outside the Jewish camp." Similar sentiments are expressed in articles in the Jewish Morning Journal and in the Jewish Daily Forward.

"I couldn't help writing on Jesus," Mr. Asch is quoted in the interview as telling Frank S. Mead, editor of the Christian Herald. "Since I first met Ham, He has held my mind and heart. I graw up, you know, on the border of Poland and Russia, which wasn't exactly the finest place in the world for a Jew to sit down and write a life of Jesus Christ. Yet even through those years, the hope of doing just that fascinated me. I floundered a bit, stifrist; I was seeking that something for which so many of us search - that surety, that faith, that spiritual content in my living which would bring me peace and through which I might help bring some peace to others. I found it in The Mazarene.

"For Jesus Christ, to me, is the outstanding personality of all time, all history, both as Son of God and as Son of Men. Everything He ever said or did has value for us today, and that is something you can say of no other man, alive or dead. No other teacher - Jewish, Christien, Buddhist, Mohammedan - is still a teacher whose teaching is such a guidepost for the world we live in. Yes, it is true that Euddha influenced millions, but it is also true that only about - shall we say - five percent of Euddha's teaching has besic value for the Twentieth Century. One or another of these teachers may have something basic for an Oriental, or an Arab, or an Occidental, depending upon where his teaching is best preserved; but every act and word of Jesus has value for all of us, wherever we are. He became the Light of the World. Why shouldn't I, a Jew, be proud of that?

"No other religious leader, either, has ever become so personal a part of people as the Nazarene. When you understend Jesus, you understand that he came to save you, to come into your personality. It isn't just a case of a misty, uncertain relationship between a worshipper and an unseen God; that is abstract; Jesus is personal!"

Says Palestine Inspired Him to Write About Jesus

Explaining that it took him 35 years to write the books "The Mazgrene" and "The Apostle," Mr. Asch is quoted in the Christian Herald as declaring:

"I suppose the final inspiration to write, the insistence that I write, came to me in Palestine. I saw that I could never write about Jesus until I went to his homeland. So I went, in 1907. Then the story really came alive. The whole landscape of the Holy Land held His footprints; every bush and tree and stone was afire with Christ. I made more pilgrimages to Palestine, later, but if you want a date, it was in 1908 that the real writing began.

The beginning was tedious and hard. He man can write swiftly and easily of Jesus Christ, for no man can generalize about Him. There is no easy middle-ground to

-4-

stroll upon. You either accept Jews Christ, or you reject Him. You don't 'analyze' Him. You can analyze Mohammed and Mohammedanism, Buddha and Buddhism, but don't try it with Christ or Christianity. You can't be impartial about either; you accept or you reject.

Announces He Will Write No More, Except on Jesus and Paul

Asked whether he plans to write on Peter or James, Mr. Asch replied: "Mr. I have written what was in me to write. I have made my contribution, and I think I shall write no more." He added that if he did choose to write again, he would write further on Jesus and Paul.

"I think it is time that we Jews and Christians found a closer kinship with each other," he is quoted at stating. "Jews should know more, much more, about Christianity, and Christians need know more, much more, about Judaism. It is one of the most hopeful signs of times that both progressive Jews and Christians seem to be moving toward understanding. Who knows - maybe, some day, we shall be worshipping under one roofs"

ROOSEVELT RECEIVES CONGRESSMAN CELLER; DISCUSSES QUESTIONS OF JEWISH INTEREST

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Rep. Emanuel Celler of New York had a half-hour interview with President Roosevelt this morning during which they discussed questions of Jewish interest. Celler said that he had come away from the visit very hopeful. "I feel that the President will be the new Moses that will lead the children of Israel out of the wilderness," he stated.

The President, in a letter addressed today to Reuben Guskin, chairman of the United Hebrew Trades, which represents the Jewish Labor unions, declared that everything possible will be done to save Jews from occupied Europe. The letter came in reply to a telegram thanking the President for the establishment of the War Refugee Board and promising full cooperation of the United Hebrew Trades with the Board.

"I am very grateful for the interest of your organization in my new program to help the persecuted minorities in Europe," President Roosevelt wrote. "I assure you that we shall do everything in our power to see to it that constructive action be taken to carry out the policies of our government to resoue the victims whose life is in danger under the persecution of the enemy."

I. J. SINGER, NOTED WRITER, DIES OF HEART ATTACK IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- I. J. Singer, noted Yiddish novelist whose works, including "The Brothers Ashkenasi," were published in English, died here today from a heart attack. He was 51 years old. His play "The Family Karnovsky" is now being produced on Broadway by the Yiddish Art Theatre.

Born in Poland, he was educated in Warsaw. He started to write at the age of 22 and soon won recognition not only in Europe but also in the United States. He became the correspondent of the Jewish Daily Porward, a New York newspaper, and held this post until 1939, when he emigrated to the United States, where he continued to work for the Forward. Among Singer's works which have been translated into English are "The River Breaks Up," "East of Eden," and "The Sinners." Translations of Singer's works appeared also in Hebrew, Polish, Spanish, Swedish and other European languages.