

# J T A D A I L Y N E W S B U L L E T I N

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## RABBINICAL SEMINARY PLANNED IN RUSSIA; WILL GRADUATE ORTHODOX RABBIS FOR U.S.S.R.

JERUSALEM, March 10. (JTA) -- Negotiations for the establishment of a rabbinical seminary in Russia to graduate orthodox rabbis for service in all parts of the U.S.S.R. are now being conducted by the Moscow Jewish Community and central Soviet authorities, it was reported here today by the Vaad Leumi, the Jewish National Council of Palestine.

Vaad Leumi officials stated that their information was based on advices received here from Moscow. They added that the Moscow Jewish Community is now recognized by the Russian Government as the official spokesman on religious affairs for the Jews of Russia. They also revealed that the projected rabbinical seminary, if established, will receive from the Russian Government the same facilities given to seminaries of other religions.

## WEIZMANN MADE IMPORTANT SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTION TO U. S. WAR EFFORT, WALLACE REVEALS

WASHINGTON, March 10. (JTA) -- Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency who, as a chemist of international distinction, made important scientific contributions to England during World War I, was credited here last night by Vice-President Wallace with making an important contribution to the present American war effort.

"I know it from my own definite personal experience that Dr. Weizmann made it possible for us to avoid a very very serious mistake in terms of the war effort," Vice President Wallace revealed. "Dr. Weizmann came over to this country because he saw us on the point of making some very serious mistakes with regard to our rubber program and because he felt that oil could not do by itself. And so he brought in alcohol to do the job."

Vice President Wallace made this revelation during his brief address last night at the dinner of the American Palestine Committee attended by 800 Christian leaders from all walks of life, including members of the House and the Senate. While not mentioning Palestine by name, the Vice President expressed the hope that "the day will come when there will be established a Jordan Valley Authority which will make the desert blossom for the interests of the common man both Jewish and Arab." He emphasized that "the Jewish people deserve greatly" and voiced the hope that they would get what they deserve, and would make what they get "a blessing for all mankind."

## Four Freedoms Mean More to Jews Than To Anyone Else, Wallace States

"The Four Freedoms" the Vice President stated, "mean more to the Jewish people than to anyone else, because they began fighting for these freedoms 3000 years ago, and have never stopped. No people have suffered so continuously for freedom of religion and for freedom of expression as the Jew. No people have longed so passionately for freedom from fear and freedom from want. In their age-long search for freedom and toleration they have sought a haven among every people. They have fought the intolerant fascist gang-spirit ever since the time of Christ. The vast Hitler-

program of recent years is merely a continuation on a vast scale of that which has gone on in a smaller way in a thousand ghettos for a thousand years.

"Small wonder the Jews were the first to recognize Hitlerism for what it really was. For their keen perception of the Fascist danger, I say the Jews are deserving of the undying gratitude of all friends of democracy everywhere. Naturally they want that debt paid in terms of the welfare of those who have suffered most on the continent of Europe - the remnant which have suffered a worse captivity than that of Egypt or Babylon. Even as Hitler surpasses in his barbarity Nebuchadnezzar of old, so may the modern deliverer too, on equal degree surpass in his wisdom, bravery and charity, Cyrus and Nehemiah." (Cyrus was a King of Persia who, in 539 B.C., conquered Babylonia and issued a proclamation allowing the captive Jews to return to Palestine.)

Senator Taft, addressing the dinner, said: "It is now stated in some high quarters that the opening of Palestine to immigration and even the consideration of the present resolution by Congress, will interfere with progress of the war, presumably by antagonizing the Arab people. But today from higher sources - from one who has just returned from Cairo and Casablanca - I am informed that either we shall not antagonize the Arab people by the resolution, or else it does not matter if we do."

#### Roosevelt's Statement is Set-Back For Anti-Zionists, Dr. Silver Says

WASHINGTON, March 10. (JTA) -- "The conspiracy of silence which existed in connection with Palestine has been definitely ended by the statement authorized by the President yesterday indicating that the Zionist cause will be dealt with justly," Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Committee, said today.

"The sense of bewilderment on the part of American Jewry has been removed," Dr. Silver declared. "The statement showed that our Government is not tied to the policy of the Colonial Administration in London and that it is eager to cooperate in the just solution of the Jewish problem in keeping with international covenants."

Those who want to thwart the resolution and stifle Zionism, he said, have received a decisive set-back. "It is significant," Silver continued, "that the President made the statement after the protests from the Arab governments. There will be little jubilation when the statement reaches them. It is the first time in the five-year history of the White Paper, that the leader of this country mentioned the White Paper by name. It seemed to have been the official policy up to now that everything that happened in Palestine was of no concern to the American Government except insofar as it concerned American nationals."

#### ARAB EXPECT BRITISH STATEMENT ON PALESTINE; FEAR STATUS QUO WILL BE MAINTAINED

JERUSALEM, March 10. (JTA) -- Behind the intensified political activity of the Arab world is the expectation that the British Government early next month will issue a statement on the future of Palestine which in effect will maintain the status quo until a permanent solution can be sought.

Protest by the Arab states on U. S. Congressional discussion of the Palestine issue was the first step in reaffirmation of their claim to a special position with regard to Palestine. This position was first officially recognized in 1939 by the then Colonial Secretary, Malcolm MacDonald, when he invited them to send representatives to the parallel Arab and Jewish conferences with the British Government in London.

The Arab press in Egypt and elsewhere continues to devote considerable attention to the alleged menace to the Arab world constituted by the presence in Palestine of a Jewish national home, expressing fears that the Jews will manage to secure economic domination of the entire Middle East. The Arab press likewise continues to demand that the humanitarian question of helping Jewish refugees should be entirely divorced from the question of Palestine.

16,000 PRISONERS, MOSTLY JEWS, EXECUTED BY GERMANS IN THREE-DAY MASSACRE IN ROVNO

MONSIEUR, March 10. (JWA) — More than 16,000 persons, most of them Jews, were massacred by the German occupation authorities in the city of Rovno which was recently retaken by the Russian Army, it was announced over the radio here today.

The Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee today revealed that the entire Jewish population of the Ukrainian town of Sighet were massacred by the Germans after being confined without food for three days in several small cellars. After being stripped of their clothing the men, women and children were lined up before large trenches, with some of their number were forced to dig, and were machinegunned.

The Rovno massacre lasted for three consecutive days, the broadcast said, getting testimony signed by the vicar of the Rovno Cathedral and by other persons who witnessed the executions. The victims, who included women and children, were driven by German units to the main square of the city and then there taken to the cellars and shot.

"Many of these people awaited execution for nearly two days unclothed and without sleep. The fascists forced them to sleep in the pits already crowded with corpses. The Germans threw people into them alive and then threw hand grenades at them," the broadcast reported.

NEW POSSIBILITIES OF SAVING BALCAN JEWS; PALESTINE LAUNCHES \$1,200,000 DRIVE

TEL AVIV, March 10. (JWA) — New possibilities of saving Jews in the Balkan countries have arisen recently, it was indicated here today. It is believed that they are a result of the recent visit to Turkey of Chief Rabbi Isaac Haimov who conferred with high Turkish officials on rescue problems. To finance the rescue of the Balkan Jews, the "Jewish Needs Fund" today proclaimed a drive to raise \$1,200,000.

Mr. Leo Haimov, executive secretary of the Hagan Hagavot, today left for Cairo to represent the Jewish rescue organizations of Palestine at the Council of Voluntary Organizations existing at the Middle-East Relief Administration.

RUMANIAN COLONEL ARRESTED FOR TRYING TO INTERVENE FOR JEWS; SAVES TRIAL

ZURICH, March 10. (JWA) — For trying to intervene in behalf of Jews, Col. Alexandru Dobru, a high Rumanian military official, was arrested this week and sent to a concentration camp, it is reported today from Bucharest by the German news agency Deutsche Nachrichten Bureau.

The German report said that an official announcement in the Bucharest press today stated that the Rumanian colonel will be tried soon "for insulting civil servants." He is charged with "insulting" officials of the Commissariat for Jewish Affairs and with allegedly stating that he acted on orders of Marshal Antonescu, the report stated.

OVER 1,000 JEWS ARRESTED IN BELGIUM THIS WEEK BY GERMAN OCCUPATION AUTHORITIES

LONDON, March 19. (JWA) — More than 1,000 Jews, including women over 80 years of age and children, were arrested by the German occupation authorities in various parts of Belgium this week, according to a report received by official Belgian circles here today.

WAR REFUGEE BOARD URGED TO CALL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON REFUGEE AID

NEW YORK, March 10. (JTA) -- The War Refugee Board was called on today to secure the admittance into the United States, on temporary visas, of refugees able to flee from occupied Europe, in a memorandum submitted by the National Council of Jewish Women in response to an invitation by John W. Pehle, acting director of the Board, for suggestions as to how the Board might best accomplish its task.

The Council memorandum also suggested that other of the United Nations throw open their doors to refugees and urged the calling of a United Nations conference for the purpose of obtaining immediate and concerted action for the rescue of Jews still in Nazi-held countries. The facilities of the Council's branches in 215 cities were offered to the Board.

U. S. SOIL EXPERT PROPOSES PROJECT FOR PALESTINE TO ABSORB 4,000,000 IMMIGRANTS

NEW YORK, March 10. (JTA) -- A proposal for the creation of a Jordan Valley Authority -- a counterpart of TVA in Palestine -- which would be the largest reclamation project in history, is set forth in "Palestine, Land of Promise" by Dr. Walter C. Lowdermilk, published today by Harper and Brothers. Dr. Lowdermilk's plan would make possible the absorption in Palestine of at least 4 million immigrants in addition to the 1,800,000 people in that country now.

Dr. Lowdermilk is the Assistant Chief of the Soil Conservation Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. "Palestine, Land of Promise" is the result of a survey made on-the-spot which was undertaken at the request of the Department in the interests of land conservation in the United States. Dr. Lowdermilk found that the Valley of the Jordan possesses a combination of natural features and a concentration of resources which offers a splendid opportunity for this great project. Some of the foremost consulting engineers of America, who have seen the plans of the project, have pronounced it workable.

Britain's Obligation Regarding Palestine Part Of International Law, Says Smuts

LONDON, March 10. (JTA) -- Britain's obligations to the Jews in regard to Palestine are a "part of international law" and a "matter for the conscience of mankind," Prime Minister Jan Christian Smuts of the Union of South Africa declared in a message addressed to the United Palestine Appeal here on the occasion of the opening of its 1944 drive to raise \$4,000,000.

Premier Smuts, who substituted for Prime Minister Churchill as head of the War Cabinet during the latter's illness, described the UPA as "another reminder of the profound suffering endured by the Jewish people and of the setback to their cause in Palestine. Twenty-seven years ago," he added, "the Allies renewed the ancient promise to Israel that a national home would be founded for them in their ancient homeland. It is part of international law of the world."

It was announced here today that contributions of \$300,000 have already been received for the UPA although the campaign does not open officially until March 15. The Marks family, which is prominent in Jewish life here, contributed \$200,000 of the \$300,000 already received. This is the first year that Zionist fund-raising groups in Britain have combined in a united appeal.