

# JTA

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## Daily News Bulletin

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### JTA ESTABLISHES FATE OF JEWISH LEADERS IN FRANCE; MANY DEPORTED BY GESTAPO

LYON, Sept. 9 - Delayed - (JTA) -- Many prominent French Jews succeeded in eluding the Gestapo and continued to direct the activities of the Jewish community during the Nazi occupation, but scores of others were either murdered or deported to unknown fate in Polish concentration camps, the correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned today. Among the latter were:

Isaye Schwartz, Grand Rabbi of France, who was arrested by the Gestapo in Lyon last December. It was reported subsequently that he had escaped, but his fate is unknown.

Jacques Heilbroner, 74, a member of the Council of State, highest administrative body in the French Government, who was arrested last November after sending a letter to Petain sharply condemning Vichy's treatment of the French Jews. Just prior to his arrest, he had undergone a major operation. His whereabouts are not known.

Prof. Victor Basch, 80, president of the League for Rights of Man, was killed, together with his wife, in woods near Lyon last December.

David Rappaport, president of the Federation of Jewish Societies of France, was arrested, together with his wife in June, 1943, and deported. Rappaport had refused to leave Paris in order to stay behind to organize relief for Jews.

Raoul Lambert, of the Jewish Consistory, was deported from Marseille in Oct., 1943, together with his wife and four children, after a personal protest to Laval against Vichy's betrayal of the Jews.

Andre Baur, also of the Consistory, was deported from Paris, with his wife and five children, shortly after Lambert, after making a similar protest.

Leo Glaser, Jewish labor leader, who wrote under the name of Nussbaum, disappeared about a month ago. He left his house one evening and has not been heard from since. It is assumed he was picked up by the Vichy militia.

Leon Bernheim, president of the Zionist Organization of France, was deported in Nov., 1943. Also deported were three other members of the central committee representing all Zionist groups; David Freedman of the Left Poale-Zion; Nahum Herman, director of the Keren Hayesod; and Wolf Benjamin Alter.

On February 17, 1943, the Gestapo raided the headquarters of the Federation of Jewish Societies in Lyon and seized all records. At the same time, they arrested all the people there, including Esther Greenberg, daughter of Rubin Greenberg, president of the federation; Relie Gottlieb, an artist; Andre Deutsch, head of a

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local organization; Benjamin Adler, a nephew of Victor Adler; and Jacob Peskin an old member of the Polish Jewish Socialist Bund. All were deported.

#### Forty-One Rabbis Missing; Twenty Known to Have Been Deported

Of the 50 rabbis with established congregations in France, only nine remain. Twenty, including Rabbi Schoenberg of Lyon and Rabbi Hirschel of Strasbourg, are known to have been deported.

Julian Weil, the Grand Rabbi of Paris, remained in the capital all during the occupation, and is reported to be safe.

Rabbi Jacob Kaplan, who assumed the duties of Grand Rabbi of France after Rabbi Schwartz disappeared, is safe in Lyon. Others who are here are Leon Meis, who became president of the Jewish Consistory after Heilbroner was deported; Rubin Greenberg, Josef Fischer, general secretary of the Zionist Organization and Zvi Levin, vice-president of the Federation of Jewish Societies.

Aaron Kramer of the Yiddish newspaper "Pariser Haintz" was arrested in July, 1942 and deported. Safe here, however, is M. Spero, a contributor to the New York Yiddish Communist daily "Freiheit," who was one of the six directors of the Lyon Jewish defense committee.

#### HIAS-ICA RESUMES ACTIVITIES IN FRANCE; LEADERS PROCEED FROM ALGIERS TO PARIS

NEW YORK, Sept. 13. (JTA) -- The resumption of Hias-Ica activities in liberated France was announced here today by Max Gottschalk, president of the Hias-Ica Emigration Association, who reported that a provisional committee for work in France was established recently in Algiers, headed by Robert Levy, son of the late Chief Rabbi of France.

Several members of the Hias-Ica committee have already left for Paris, the announcement said. They include Rene Mayer, Commissioner of Communications and Public Works of the French Government, and Prof. Rene Cassin, president of its Juridical Committee. Others will follow shortly.

#### BULGARIANS RESPONSIBLE FOR ANTI-JEWISH MEASURES WILL BE PUNISHED, MINISTER SAYS

ISTANBUL, Sept. 13. (JTA) -- Members of the ousted pro-Nazi Bulgarian Government who were responsible for the introduction of anti-Jewish measures in Bulgaria will be "severely punished," Foreign Minister Staynov of the new Bulgarian cabinet today stated in an interview with representatives of the Turkish press.

Turkish newspapers also carry a report from Budapest stating that the Hungarian Government has issued a decree, published in the official gazette, providing for speeding up the transfer of confiscated Jewish land, and setting November 13 as the final date for any changes that may be requested in the legal formalities covering the sale of Jewish land by the state to private non-Jewish citizens.

#### LUXEMBURG JEWS WELCOME TO RETURN HOME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, SAYS FOREIGN MINISTER

LONDON, Sept. 13. (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Joseph Bech of Luxembourg, which was liberated this week by the Allied armies, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that Jews, in common with all other residents of the country, are welcome to return home as soon as possible. There has never been any anti-Semitic feelings in the Duchy, he said.

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DEMOCRATIC WORLD CHARGED WITH "NOT EVEN TRYING" TO RESCUE JEWS FROM EXTERMINATION

JERUSALEM, Sept. 13. (JTA) -- The charge that leaders of the democracies have not even attempted to rescue Jews from extermination in German-held countries was voiced here last night by David Ben-Gurion, chairman of the executive of the Jewish Agency, addressing the opening session of the newly-elected Assefath Haniycharim, the Jewish National Assembly of Palestine.

The session was greeted in Hebrew by District Commissioner Newton in behalf of the Palestine Government. Chief Secretary Shaw of the Palestine Administration sent a message to the session emphasizing the statutory recognition which the Assembly enjoys under the Palestine rules covering the functions of the Jewish community in the fields of education, social welfare, public relief, religious needs and other community services. He stressed the fact that sixty-six per cent of the voting Jewish population in Palestine participated in the elections to the Assefath Haniycharim as compared with fifty-six per cent of the voters in the last elections held thirteen years ago.

Speaking in behalf of the Jewish Agency, Ben-Gurion said that even in the war years the Jews in Palestine continued to build up and develop their homeland. He stressed the contribution which the Yishuv has made to the Allied war effort in men and in industry and declared:

"Victory is near. But those of our brothers and sisters who were exterminated will not be resurrected even when the world is liberated. We don't know as yet the extent of our tragedy, but when millions of our brethren, aged and young, mothers and daughters, were carried away to death, the world's rulers - those who proclaim slogans of democracy and Socialism stood aside and did not rescue them. They did not even try to rescue them. At the end of the war we will have paid the heaviest price of any nation. Yet we have no share in the victory. We must expect a bitter fight for the final solution of the Jewish problem and the Jewish homeland."

Ben-Gurion concluded his address by calling for Jewish unity and for strengthening of relations with neighboring countries. He also urged a strenuous fight for the establishment of a Jewish State. Chief Rabbi Herzog addressing the session also appealed for unity in Palestine and regretted the fact that some groups boycotted the elections to the Assefath Haniycharim. He called on the leaders of the democratic countries "to do justice" to the Jews.

GERMAN-JEWISH REFUGEE CHEMIST IN ENGLAND HELPED DEVELOP MAJDANEK "DEATH GAS"

LONDON, Sept. 13. (JTA) -- "Cyclone Gas," which was used to asphyxiate Jews in the Majdanek extermination camp in Poland, was originally designed as an insecticide, according to Dr. Martin Schaaf, German-Jewish refugee chemist who was associated with the German company producing the gas.

Dr. Schaaf, who heads the research department of the Atomised Food Products Co. here, said today that his brother and many friends had been killed at Majdanek with the gas on which he had experimented for many years. The chemist left Frankfurt in 1933 after his dismissal by the German chemical company because he was a Jew.

1,000 JEWS FOUND ALIVE IN CAMP AT LUCCA, I.D.C. AIDE IN ITALY REPORTS

NEW YORK, Sept. 13. (JTA) -- Approximately 1,000 Jews from Poland, Austria and Germany were found alive in the former Nazi concentration camp at Lucca, a few miles above Pisa, when the area was liberated on Sept. 1, Arthur D. Greenloigh, representative of the Joint Distribution Committee in Rome, reported today.

POLITICAL PARTIES PLEDGE TO KEEP ELECTION CAMPAIGN FREE FROM RACIAL CONTROVERSY

NEW YORK, Sept. 13. (JTA) -- The national chairmen of the Democratic and Republican National Committees today pledged their parties to keep the election campaign free of racial and religious controversy and denounced the injection of such issues. Both party leaders expressed their abhorrence of disqualifications and hatreds based upon differences in race or religion.

Declaring that the 1944 national election will "some day be looked upon as one of the greatest historical measures of the hardihood and integrity of our democratic way of life," Democratic Chairman Robert E. Hennegan said, "The election itself, and the campaign that precedes it, must be a consistently democratic performance. It must be kept free of the very taint that we are engaging in war to remove from the world. This means that racial and religious differences, and the hatreds which our fascist enemies have erected upon them, can be given no expression among us. To this resolve, we of the Democratic Party pledge ourselves in letter and in spirit."

Republican National Chairman Herbert Brownell, Jr. declared that, "Our political system can justify itself only if we are ever alert against any doctrine or practice which seeks to exploit differences of race or religion. Consistent with this fundamental thought are the forthright statements of Governor Dewey in denunciation of political adventurers who, in the hope of personal aggrandizement, have tried to stir up religious and racial bigotry in its various forms. The party platform takes a vigorous position pledging itself to uncompromising battle against intolerance and discrimination. Its candidates are committed by faith and deep conviction to comity and understanding among the various faiths and to the equality and dignity before man and government of all people of whatever creed or origin."

Both statements were secured by the National Conference of Christians and Jews, an agency which has for over 17 years worked to promote better intergroup relations and respect for the dignities and rights of all groups of the American people.

DEVELOPMENT OF FELLOWSHIP WOULD END RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, SCIENTISTS BELIEVE

NEW YORK, Sept. 13. (JTA) -- Only the development of a sense of fellowship among all peoples in this country will bring an end to group tensions and racial and religious discrimination, the fifth annual Conference on Science, Philosophy and Religion declared yesterday in a statement adopted at its closing session. Group antagonisms, the statement asserted, cannot be solved by destroying all deviations.

Prof. Louis Finkelstein, president of the Jewish Theological Seminary, was re-elected president of the conference, and Lyman Bryson, Prof. of Education at Teachers College, Columbia University, was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

LIQUIDATOR OF CONFISCATED JEWISH PROPERTY IN NORWAY SHOT DEAD IN STREET

STOCKHOLM, Sept. 13. (JTA) -- The Swedish News Service today reports that Sigvard Caspar Knutsen, a member of the Norwegian Quisling Party, who was in charge of the office for liquidation of the property of Jews deported from Norway, was shot dead in the street in front of his home.