

JTA

VOL. XI. NO. 290 (26th year)

Sunday, December 10, 1944

Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

WEIZMANN CALLS ON PALESTINE JEWS TO LOWER LIVING STANDARD; URGES INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION

TEL AVIV, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, today told the Jews of Palestine that they will have to lower their standard of living if they are interested in the expansion of the Jewish industry in the country.

Other prerequisites to industrial expansion of Palestine are the establishment of normal relations between industry and labor, and free access to raw materials, Dr. Weizmann said. He spoke at the biennial meeting of the Jewish Industrial Association before an audience of 200 industrialists and many high government officials.

Dr. Weizmann praised the contribution which local industry has made to the war effort. "Palestine industry," he said, "has done comparatively more than the industries of bigger, richer and more developed countries." He stressed the urgent need for close cooperation between the government, industry and labor "for a painless transition from war to peace time" and emphasized that lower wages and a lower cost of living are essential for the acquisition of new markets.

"It is argued," Dr. Weizmann declared, "that Palestine does not possess raw materials. But Switzerland is in the same position. Nevertheless, Swiss products are spread all over the world because of the experience of the Swiss people and their aspiration to produce the best quality. We can do the same, because we have such a good school being on important crossroads. In addition, England's post-war industry will be concentrated on the African continent which is rich with raw materials, and we, too, must get part of them."

Government Speaker Also Asks Lowering of Living Standard

Chairman Ralph Crosbie of the Palestine War Economic Board addressing the gathering also stressed the necessity of lowering the living standard in order to enable Palestine products to enter foreign markets. The president of the Industrial Association, Arieh Shenkar, stressed the difficulties of industrial transition from war to peace time production. He revealed that Palestine's clothing industry, alone, has a turn-over of fifty million dollars yearly.

Special attention to the reconversion of Palestine industry during the transition period was asked at the meeting by Dr. Emil Shmorak, head of the economic department of the Jewish Agency. He emphasized that the economic policy of the country is not decided by the British Government in London but by the Palestine Government in Jerusalem and expressed the hope that "with the arrival of Field Marshal Gort as High Commissioner of Palestine, the Jews can expect far-reaching changes to enable them to build up their homeland."

Eliezer Kaplan, treasurer of the Jewish Agency, said that every industrial plan that fails to take into account Jewish immigration is not a Jewish plan and is harmful to the interests of the country.

12/10/44

1,300 JEWS FROM HUNGARY ARRIVE IN SWITZERLAND; INTERNED IN REFUGEE CAMP

GENEVA, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- A group of 1,300 Jews from Hungary has arrived in Switzerland and has been interned near Montreux. They are the first to arrive here since the pro-Nazi Szalasi Government launched its violent anti-Jewish drive.

The newspaper Fuesgetlenseg, semi-official organ of the Hungarian Foreign Ministry, reports that the government has ordered the confiscation of all supplies of fuel left by Jews in Budapest dwellings, from which they have been ousted, or any stores of fuel being held for Jews.

Slovak newspapers reaching here today report that all Jews were ordered to leave Bratislava, the Slovakian capital, for a labor camp at Sered by November 20. House owners have been instructed to report to the authorities any Jews still residing in their dwellings. The evacuation order covered all Jews, without any exception, including those previously granted exemptions by German or Slovak authorities.

RUMANIAN GOVERNMENT PLANNING TO DEPRIVE OUSTED JEWISH EMPLOYEES OF BACK PAY

BUCHAREST, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- The Rumanian Ministry of Justice is preparing the draft of a law which would deprive Jewish state employees ousted by the pro-Nazi regime of the four years back pay provided in an earlier version, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned today from a well informed source. The JTA informant said that the new law also postpones the date when Jews may reclaim their confiscated apartments until next April, instead of allowing them to move in immediately.

An organization to assist Rumanian Jews who were deported outside the borders of the country by the Germans has been formed here. It appealed to the Government today to allow it to send representatives to western Europe to investigate the situation of Rumanian Jewish deportees found in liberated territory.

Chief Rabbi Safran today sent a congratulatory message to Andre Vishinsky, Soviet Vice-Commissar of Foreign Affairs, who is presently in Rumania, on the occasion of the eighth anniversary of the promulgation of the "Stalin Constitution."

ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION VOTES TO SUBMIT ITS PALESTINE MEMORANDUM TO GOVERNMENT

LONDON, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- A general meeting of the Anglo-Jewish Association today voted approval of an amended version of the body's memorandum on Palestine and authorized its submission to the British Government.

A. Alexander, chairman of the Association's Palestine Committee, said the organization had no intention of trespassing upon the prerogatives of the Jewish Agency. Leonard Stein, president of the Association, said that if the Government requests further information concerning the views expressed in the memorandum, the council of the Association will be consulted before any commitments are made on points arising from the memorandum.

FRENCH ZIONISTS TOLD THEY CAN SEND 2,000 CHILDREN TO PALESTINE

PARIS, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- A communication from David Ben-Gurion, chairman of the executive of the Jewish Agency, announcing that 2,000 Palestine immigration certificates are available for Jewish children from France was read today at a conference of representatives of all French Zionist bodies under the chairmanship of Marc Jarblum, the Jewish Agency representative in France. The conference established a coordinating committee to supervise emigration of the children.

Jews Flee from Nazi-held Poland to Liberated Area; Communal Life in Lublin Revived

MOSCOW, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- A steady trickle of Jews continues to arrive in liberated Polish territory daily, it is reported here today. After eluding German patrols, the Jews cross the Vistula, the east bank of which is held by Russian troops. Among them are a considerable number of doctors who are now serving in the Polish units attached to the Red Army, the report says.

Meanwhile, the surviving Jews in the liberated area are beginning to rebuild some sort of communal life. The Polish Committee of National Liberation has placed at the disposal of the Jewish Committee, which is headed by Dr. Emil Sommerstein, the sum of 16,000,000 slotys (approximately \$1,333,333) to be used for relief and rehabilitation. The first appropriations made from the grant were used to establish a Jewish orphanage and to reopen the Lublin synagogue.

A Yiddish newspaper will shortly be issued in the freed areas. A provisional editorial board has already been selected consisting mainly of members of the staff of pre-war Yiddish papers. Printing equipment has been obtained from a Gestapo dump heap in Lublin. A daily half-hour Yiddish program will soon be broadcast over the Lublin radio.

The well known "Peretz House" in Lublin, which was the headquarters of Jewish cultural groups before the war, has been placed at the disposal of the Jewish community. It now houses all cultural and social institutions. The famous Lublin yeshiva has also been reopened. The Jewish committee includes representatives of several Zionist groups, members of the Jewish Socialist Bund, and Communists.

Australian Government Decides to Admit 50,000 Children from European Countries

SYDNEY, Australia, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- The Commonwealth Government has decided to bring 50,000 child migrants to Australia during the next three years. Most of them will be war-orphans from Europe.

It is expected that 34 shiploads of 500 each will arrive in Australia yearly under the program. The age groups will be six to 14 for British children and six to 12 for the children of other nationalities.

W. L. Brand, chief executive officer of the Australian Jewish Society's children committee, said: "Child migration to Australia should be left to denominational organizations. It is doubtful whether Australia will get 17,000 children yearly from Britain and European countries. Already the United States, Canada and South America have selected nearly 70,000 of these children and the Commonwealth will have to act quickly to get the pick of the immigrants."

Senate Committee Takes No Action on Palestine Resolution; Zionist Leaders to Meet

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- No action was taken today by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on the Palestine Resolution which demands the opening of Palestine to Jewish immigration and the establishment of a Jewish State there.

Hearings on the resolution were scheduled to take place this morning, and Zionist leaders were ready to testify. Meanwhile, it was reported today that Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., who appeared before the Foreign Relations Committee on Wednesday, declared that the State Department does not want action on the resolution now.

The House Rules Committee, which was to have taken action today on the plea for a rule to get the Palestine Resolution considered on the floor of the House, failed to act because it could not obtain a quorum. Zionist leaders are expected to meet here on Monday to consider the situation.

PALESTINE GOVERNMENT RELEASES FROZEN FUNDS BELONGING TO U.S. RESIDENTS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Residents of the United States who have "blocked accounts" in Palestine can, in certain instances, withdraw their funds, under new exchange control regulations published in the Palestine Government Gazette yesterday. Persons who fall into the categories listed below can apply to the Controller of Foreign Exchanges in Jerusalem for information or payments.

Remittances now transferable are those deriving from capital repayment of matured mortgages, drawn or matured securities, legacies by persons who at death resided in the sterling area, profits companies operating in the sterling area, sale of real estate or personal effects bought here by persons who have since left, the winding up of companies, the surrender of life or endowment insurance policies and withdrawals from cooperative society accounts. Similar transfers or investment are permitted for funds hitherto blocked as belonging to foreign nationals who left Palestine for countries outside the sterling area or certain categories of persons who technically are enemy aliens and now live outside the sterling area.

FRENCH JEWISH DELEGATION REPORTS 120,000 JEWS DEPORTED FROM FRANCE; 15,000 MURDERED

NEW YORK, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- About 120,000 Jews were deported from France during the German occupation and about 15,000 were murdered, it was reported by the four-man Jewish delegation from Paris which arrived in the United States on Monday. The delegation, which was to have arrived in time to attend the Emergency Conference of the World Jewish Congress last week, is composed of Capt. Guy Alphonse de Rothschild; Leon Meiss, president of the Central Jewish Consistory of France; Deputy Chief Rabbi Jacob Kaplan, and Joseph Fischer, secretary of the Representative Council of French Jewry.

"In 1943, the common suffering induced all the Jewish organizations to seek a basis of understanding in a united front," the delegation told a press conference. "This is how the Conseil Representatif des Juifs de France (Representative Council of Jews of France) was born. It consists of the Central Consistory of Jews of France which is a union of all the cultural associations, the Alliance Israelite Francaise, the social working units, the Federation of Jewish Societies of France, the Communist Party, the Poalei Zion, the Bundists, the Union of Jews for the Resistance and Mutual Help, the Zionist Organization of France and the Youth Groups.

"This," the statement continued, "was the first unification of Jews of all origins and political views - natives and immigrants, religious and non-religious Zionists and non-Zionists. This harmony bears the seed which may result in close co-operation of Jews throughout the world. Numerous steps have already been taken by the CRIF and its contacts with the Governmental organizations and those of the Resistance are permanent and fruitful."

Jewish Delegation From Paris Will Address J.D.C. Annual Meeting in New York

NEW YORK, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- The 30th annual meeting of the Joint Distribution Committee will be held at the Hotel Commodore on Sunday. Principal speakers will include Paul Baerwald, chairman of the JDC, Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, Alexander Kahn and Isaac H. Levy, vice-chairmen, Joseph C. Hyman, executive vice-chairman, and Capt. Guy de Rothschild and Leon Meiss, members of the French Jewish delegation who arrived here this week.

The meeting will hear reports on the immediate and post-war needs of the surviving Jews of Europe who are already receiving emergency relief as part of the JDC's world-wide program of rescue, relief and rehabilitation. Jewish leaders from all major communities in the United States will be in attendance.

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