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RUMANIA ISSUES DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS TO JEWISH DELEGATION; DEPORTED JEWS SOUGHT

BUCHAREST, Dec. 22. (JTA) -- The Rumanian Government today issued diplomatic passports to a Jewish delegation which is leaving for countries in Western Europe in order to arrange for assistance for Rumanian Jews deported by the Germans. The delegation is composed of Dr. Samuel Breger and Dr. Jonel Catzulescu.

The British legation in Bucharest today informed Jewish leaders that obstacles preventing the emigration of 613 Rumanian Jews who were detained last month in Bulgaria en route to Palestine have been removed, and that the Jews can now proceed to Palestine.

The unification of various Zionist groups into one body was decided upon today at a conference here of delegates from all sections of the country. The new organization will comprise the General Zionists, the Radical Zionists, the Democratic Zionists and the Zionist youth group Hanoar Hazioni.

Chief Rabbi Shafran of Rumania today cabled greetings to Marshal Joseph Stalin in Moscow on behalf of the Jewish population in Rumania on the occasion of Stalin's 65th birthday.

100,000 JEWS DRIVEN AFLOAT FROM BUDAPEST TO AUSTRIA; 25,000 PERISH IN "MARCH OF DEATH"

BERN, Dec. 22. (JTA) -- How tens of thousands of Hungarian Jews perished last month in an epic "march of death," driven from Budapest to the Austrian frontier, was told here today by one of the "marchers" who succeeded in escaping to Switzerland. His eye-witness story, as published in the Swiss press, reads:

"In the early days of November, thousands of Jews - men, women and children - were herded together in Budapest and driven afoot toward the Austrian border. For seven or eight days we marched an average of thirty kilometers daily, sometime under heavy cold rain. Before we set out, Hungarian Nazis thoroughly searched us, so as to prevent us from taking along any valuables. At the same time, our identity documents were taken away from us.

"The road leading from Budapest via Komaron to the Hungarian border town of Hegyshalom is more than 120 kilometers long. On our way we were accompanied by members of the anti-Semitic Arrow Cross party. Anyone who showed signs of a breakdown was immediately shot by the Arrow Cross guards. Wet through and through, our clothes torn to pieces, we had to spend nights sleeping along the roadside. Every two days each one of us received a plate of watery soup and this was all the food we were given.

"Of 100,000 Jews who started from Budapest only 75,000 reached the Austrian frontier. We were sent across the frontier in groups of five hundred at a time. The Germans on the other side of the frontier, however, selected only those who were absolutely fit for hard labor. The others were returned to the Hungarian side of the frontier. There they were driven into the woods where many died from disease, exposure and starvation. Thousands of corpses can still be found there as well as along the road leading from Budapest to the town of Hegyshalom."

ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL SPLIT OVER TACTICS IN WASHINGTON; SILVER AND WISE RESIGN

NEW YORK, Dec. 22. (JTA) -- Details of the strife within the American Zionist Emergency Council which led to the resignation this week of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Stephen S. Wise from co-chairmanship of the Council were revealed in the Jewish press today.

The resignations are the result of differences of opinions with regard to Zionist tactics in Washington which have arisen between leaders of the Zionist Organization of America and Dr. Wise, on one hand, and Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, on the other. These differences sharpened in connection with the recent request by the State Department that the Palestine Resolution be shelved by Congress.

The opponents of Dr. Silver claim that he exceeded his authority in his efforts to secure passage of the Palestine Resolution by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in the face of the request of the State Department. Dr. Silver claimed that the majority of the members of both houses of Congress were ready and eager to pass the resolution, and that the request of the State Department was the result of the work of only a small, but influential, group of Washington officials who seek to influence President Roosevelt and the administration against the Zionist demand for a Jewish Palestine.

At a meeting of the American Zionist Emergency Council this Wednesday, which lasted until early morning, Dr. Silver gave a lengthy report on Zionist political activities in Washington. His report was followed by a motion, introduced by one of the Z.O.A. leaders, censuring Dr. Silver. The motion was rejected. Another motion recommending that all officers of the Council resign and that new elections be held was then introduced. The Zionist Laborites urged that the motion be tabled, but their suggestion was not accepted. Whereupon Dr. Silver submitted his resignation before the motion was taken to a vote. Dr. Wise, it is reported, prepared his resignation two weeks ago, as an expression of disagreement with Dr. Silver's tactics.

The meeting of the Council was held in camera, but it has been learned that the representatives of the Z.O.A., and most of the representatives of Hadassah opposed Dr. Silver. The delegates of the Hirsch and of the Zionist Laborites supported Dr. Silver, as did Louis Lipsky. The Council is yet to decide whether the resignations of Dr. Wise and Dr. Silver will be accepted. A meeting of the Council is scheduled for Wednesday.

MAGNES PREDICTS WAR IN PALESTINE IF JEWISH STATE IS PROCLAIMED; WANTS PARITY

NEW YORK, Dec. 22. (JTA) -- Any attempt to convert Palestine into an Arab state or a Jewish state will result in warfare within the country, Dr. J. L. Magnes warns in the current issue of The Nation.

As a solution of the Palestine problem, Dr. Magnes suggests the erection of numerical and political parity between the Jews and Arabs there. Numerical parity can be obtained, he says, by the admission of an additional 500,000 Jews and political parity by the establishment of a bi-national state, which will be part of a larger federation consisting of four autonomous units: Palestine, Syria, Lebanon and Transjordan.

The tempo of the immigration of the 500,000 additional Jews would be dependent upon the absorptive capacity of the country, Dr. Magnes stipulates. After the initial parity has been reached, there would be a further steady, though limited Jewish immigration in order to make up the difference between the Arab and Jewish birthrate, he suggests. He emphasizes that he does not speak in the name of the Hebrew University of which he is the president.

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HARDLY TEN PERCENT OF GREEK JEWS SURVIVE, GOVERNMENT REPORTS; THRACE JEWS WIPED OUT

CAIRO, Dec. 22. (JTA) -- Hardly ten percent of the nearly 100,000 Jews who lived in Greece prior to the German invasion survive, according to a report issued here today by the Greek Information Office.

The report says that no more than about 20 Jews remain in Salonika which had a Jewish population of 58,000. These few were spared because they were married to non-Jews. Other Salonika Jews may still be in hiding, but no definite information has been received concerning such fugitives. About 6,000 Salonika Jews hid in Athens during the occupation, while another 2,000 were sheltered by partisans in Attica. The remaining 50,000 were deported.

Athens itself had a pre-war Jewish population of 4,000, of which about half were deported. This was swelled during the occupation by the 6,000 refugees from Salonika and a small number from other cities such as Janina, Voles and Larissa. There were several reasons why Jews attempted to reach Athens; first, was the fact that it was a large city in which it was easier to evade the Nazis; second, because the Athenians exerted themselves to save Jews from the Germans, and thousands owe their lives to Greek patriots; and, third, until the fall of Mussolini, Athens was ruled by the Italians.

The 27,000 Jews of Thrace suffered the same fate as those of Salonika. Most of them were turned over to the Germans by the Bulgars, who annexed the territory, and were deported to Polish death camps. About 900 fled to Turkey and thence to the Middle East, while 300 Spanish nationals were ultimately transferred to Spain after pressure was brought to bear on France. Before reaching Spain they spent several months in a concentration camp in Hanover, Germany. Chief Rabbi Koretz of Greece is also known to have been in the Hanover camp and is still believed to be there.

PROF. PAUL LANGEVIN, NOBEL PRIZE WINNER, NAMED PRESIDENT OF "LEAGUE FOR RIGHTS OF MAN"

PARIS, Dec. 22. (JTA) -- Prof. Paul Langevin, Nobel prize winner in physics who was jailed by the Germans, today was elected president of the League for the Rights of Man, succeeding Victor Basch, who was murdered in the woods near Lyon, together with his wife, in December, 1943.

Prof. Langevin, one of France's greatest scientists, was dismissed from his post at the College de France by the vichy government in December of 1940 for alleged "Communist activities," and was subsequently interned by the Nazis. His predecessor, Prof. Basch, was a noted philosopher, author and teacher. His assassins are believed to have been members of the Vichy militia.

The League for the Rights of Man was in the forefront of the fight against anti-Semitism and other reactionary activities and philosophies in the years before the occupation of France by the Germans.

LIBERTY SHIP - "NACHMAN SYRKIN" WILL BE LAUNCHED TODAY IN NEW ORLEANS

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 22. (JTA) -- The late Dr. Nachman Syrkin, noted Labor Zionist leader of a generation ago, will be honored tomorrow by the launching of the Liberty Ship . . . "Nachman Syrkin" here. The ship was built through a war Bond Drive by the Jewish National Workers' Alliance which netted a total of over \$2,000,000 for America's war effort. The vessel will be named and launched by Miss Marie Syrkin, daughter of the Jewish leader.

UNRRA PLANS TO ESTABLISH TRANSIENT AND SEMI-PERMANENT REFUGEE CENTERS IN EUROPE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22. (JTA) -- The United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration plans to set up two types of refugee camps in Europe, transient and semi-permanent centers, it was learned here today.

Col. Roger G. Powell, who leaves within the next two weeks to take up his duties in London as director of the refugee camps division of UNRRA's European regional office, disclosed that transient centers will house displaced persons on their way home for from five to seven days, while administrative details are attended to and transportation is arranged. Semi-permanent camps are planned for devastated areas, towns in Poland, for instance, where it will be necessary to provide shelter and food for those who still remain and for those who are returning, Powell said.

If and when UNRRA goes into Poland, it plans to set up ten transient camps there, he said, capable of housing a constant transient population of 40,000. It is expected that they will be maintained over a period of six months and that the average stay will be five days. For the internally displaced persons, including 350,000 children and United Nations nationals, semi-permanent camps in Poland will be set up, according to the plan. The two Polish governments have been asked to furnish data as to site, number, supplies and specialized needs for these.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT CALLS FOR A UNITED STATES FREE OF PREJUDICE AND BIGOTRY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22. (JTA) -- President Roosevelt in a message to the National Conference of Christians and Jews made public today declared: "It is a solemn duty for us to keep our country free of prejudice and bigotry so that when our fighting men return they may find us living by the freedom for which they are ready to give the full measure of devotion."

The President's message contained the call "In peace as in war---Teamwork" which will be used as the rallying slogan for the 1945 Brotherhood Week observance February 18th to 25th. "We worship at different altars," President Roosevelt wrote, "and express this faith in many ways. But deeper than the differences is the spiritual unity that makes us one people."

In making public the President's message, Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, president of the National Conference, said that thousands of service clubs, schools, colleges, business organizations, fraternal orders, youth organizations, veterans posts, farm organizations, women's clubs, churches, synagogues, religious schools from all over the country will hold Brotherhood Week observances. Suitable programs, Dr. Clinchy announced, will also be held in army and navy camps and stations, while in many cities community-wide celebrations are planned under the direction of committees composed of leading representatives of all religious and racial groups concerned.

ARAB WOMEN'S CONFERENCE IN CAIRO CONVERTED INTO ANTI-ZIONIST DEMONSTRATION

CAIRO, Dec. 22. (JTA) -- A farewell party to delegates attending the Arab Women's Conference today was turned into an anti-Zionist demonstration when delegates from Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, Egypt and Palestine delivered addresses calling for an independent Arab state in Palestine. One speaker pointed out that the most effective means of supporting the Arabs of Palestine was generous subscriptions to the bank which has been set up to redeem land sold to Jews.