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NAZIS LEFT NO JEWS IN LODZ; FEAR FATE OF JEWS IN REICH AS GERMAN ARMY RETREATS

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 23. (JTA) -- The Germans left no Jews in the large Polish textile center of Lodz when they evacuated the city several days ago, it was reported today by the Berlin correspondent of the Stockholm newspaper Tidningen.

There were many thousands of Jews in the Lodz ghetto working in factories which produced clothing for the German Army, the correspondent says. It was obvious that they would either be exterminated or dragged to camps in Germany as soon as the need for German evacuation of the city arose, he reports, citing an article by Dr. Joseph Goebbels, Nazi Minister of Propaganda, published in his personal organ "Das Reich" immediately after the fall of Warsaw, when it was certain that the Russian Army would soon be in Lodz.

"There is every reason to be pessimistic about the immediate fate of the Jews who are still in Germany, including half-Jews and even quarter-Jews," the correspondent says. "As the Russian Army advances deeper into the Reich, the revived anti-Jewish propaganda in the German press and radio assumes larger proportions." The correspondent quotes Goebbels' article in "Das Reich" as stating that "the peoples want a decent peace, but Jews are preventing it."

ROMANIA WILL RESTORE MINORITY STATUS TO JEWS IF UNITY IS ACHIEVED, MINISTER SAYS

BUCHAREST, Jan. 23. (JTA) -- The Rumanian Government today announced that it is ready to restore minority status to the Jews of Rumania providing that all the Jewish political parties in the country are united in demanding such a move.

The announcement was made by Ghita Pop, Minister for Religious Affairs. At present, Jews in Rumania are not considered a minority, but Rumanians of the Mosaic Religion, Jewish groups, except the party led by Dr. William Filderman, president of the Union of Rumanian Jews, are opposed to the new status and are demanding that Jews be restored to the status of a national minority, which they had until the outbreak of the war under the pre-war international pacts.

Mr. Pop also announced that the Government would be ready to introduce a special tax upon Jews, the income of which would go for the maintenance of Jewish institutions, providing the Jewish communities in the country ask for the introduction of such a tax.

King Michael of Rumania today approved the decree for punishment of war criminals. The list of criminals to be tried includes Dr. M. Ginfeld, former head of the Central Jewish Council, which was established by the pro-Nazi Antonescu regime as a central Jewish body to act as liaison between the Jews and the German and Rumanian authorities. The functions of the Council were limited chiefly to carrying out anti-Jewish orders issued by the Germans and by the pro-Nazi Rumanian regime.

Others listed as war criminals include those who ordered and initiated the establishment of Jewish ghettos, internment camps, deportations of Jews and the extermination of the Jewish population.

ANTI-SEMITISM GROWING IN LIBERATED SECTIONS OF HOLLAND, LONDON JEWISH CIRCLES HEAR

LONDON, Jan. 23. (JTA) -- Anti-Semitism, which was practically non-existent in Holland prior to the German occupation, has begun to grow in the liberated sections of the country, according to reports reaching Jewish circles here.

This report discloses that there are about 10,000 Jews in still-occupied Holland, in addition to about 1,700 children hidden in the homes of non-Jews. In the liberated area there are about 100 Jewish families plus five to six hundred children living with Christian foster parents.

Although there is little tendency among Dutch youth to emigrate, German and Austrian nationals here wish to go to Palestine, the report adds. It says that many of the Reich nationals are interned as enemy aliens "although most of them have acquaintances in the underground who would vouch for their loyalty."

Discussing the problem of the restoration of confiscated Jewish property in Holland, the newspaper "De Zuid Limburger," published in the liberated town of Kerkrade, says that all property taken from Jews must be returned to them even though the present owners were not aware when they purchased the property that it had been seized from Jews.

A plea for the complete eradication of anti-Semitism, which, it says, increased tremendously in Holland during the German occupation, is made in the youth newspaper "Blauwe Steen," published in the city of Nijmegen, a copy of which was received here today. Declaring that anti-Semitic remarks are heard frequently in Holland, the paper says that "if we want to build a new Holland, we must first put an end to the remnants of German propaganda."

PERSECUTION OF JEWS BY PRO-NAZI BULGARIAN REGIME DISCLOSED AT WAR CRIMINALS TRIAL

SOFIA, Jan. 23. (JTA) -- Detailed accounts of the suffering endured by the Jews of Bulgaria under the pro-German regimes are being disclosed here at the trial of members of the former governments as "war criminals."

One witness testified that the late King Boris made an arrangement with the Germans under which 20,000 Jews were deported to Poland, with Bulgaria bearing the expenses of their deportation. All Bulgarian Jews would have suffered the same fate but for the resistance of certain anti-Fascist members of the Sobrajne, the Bulgarian Parliament, the witness said.

Communist Deputy Dyukmedzhiev, who was expelled from the Sobrajne by the fascists, related how prior to new elections several years ago a member of the former government summoned the leaders of the Jewish Consistory and warned them of "grave repercussions" if the country's Jewish population did not vote for the government candidates.

A Jew named Cholebi Polikar described how he and his family, together with other Jewish families, were interned near Semovit. Here 120 people were crowded into one hut, which was set afire at the direction of a 20-year-old Bulgarian storm trooper. Eleven people were burned to death and 20 severely injured.

HEBREW WEEKLY NEWSPAPER RE-APPEARS IN LIBERATED HOLLAND

BRUSSELS, Jan. 24. (JTA) -- The first Hebrew publication to be published in Holland since the occupation of the country by the Germans made its appearance today in the liberated city of Eindhoven, under the title "L'Ezrath Haam" ("To the Aid of the People"). It will be published weekly. Its initial circulation is 500 copies.

SEVERAL HUNDRED NAMELESS FRENCH-JEWISH CHILDREN DISCOVERED IN BELGIAN CITIES

PARIS, Jan. 23. (JTA) -- The Brussels radio reports today that several hundred Jewish children deported from France by the Germans are now in Antwerp and Malines.

Many of the younger ones do not know their names or the names of their families. The Committee for Protection of Jews in Brussels is requesting information from persons who may have information about the young deportees.

MOSCOW WILL NOT HINDER JEWISH EMIGRATION FROM BALKANS TO PALESTINE, SOVIET EMBASSY SAYS

NEW YORK, Jan. 23. (JTA) -- Dr. Nahum Goldmann, political representative of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, today reported that the Soviet Embassy in Washington has assured him that the Moscow Government has no objection to Jewish citizens of the Balkan countries emigrating to Palestine, and will interpose no difficulties to their doing so.

The assurance was considered in Zionist circles here as being of special interest in view of recent reports that the Soviet authorities in Rumania and Bulgaria are hindering the emigration of Jews to Palestine.

ANTI-SEMITISM WIDE-SPREAD IN SOUTH AFRICA; MINISTER WARNS OF POST-WAR DANGER

CAPETOWN, South Africa, Jan. 23. (JTA) -- Wide sections of the South African community have become infested with anti-Semitism, Jan Hofmeyer, Minister of Education and Social Welfare, declared here in an address on race relations.

Pointing out that "the germ cells of Nazism have grown in virulence during the war," Mr. Hofmeyer said that intolerance constituted a grave danger to the country. "It is, perhaps, not without significance," he continued, "that in South Africa anti-Semitism comes most naturally from those who also believe that in order to save the white man you must keep down the black." He called for a war on race hatred as a dire threat to Christianity and human welfare.

The menace of anti-Semitism in South Africa was also stressed by Duncan Burnside, prominent Labor M.P., addressing a luncheon arranged by the New Zionist Organization in Johannesburg. Mr. Burnside opined that anti-Semitism will be one of the sharpest political issues in South Africa after the war. "It is tragic," he declared, "that while we send boys to fight Fascism, we remain the only nation among the Allies allowing anti-Semitic parties to exist. Unfortunately," he concluded, "we cannot intern a third of the nation."

HISTADRUTH WILL ERECT 1,000 NEW HOUSES IN PALESTINE AT COST OF TWO MILLION DOLLARS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 23. (JTA) -- The Histadruth Housing Company announced today that it will shortly begin construction of 1,000 houses, in a move toward alleviation of the acute housing shortage throughout Palestine. Six-hundred of the houses will be built in the vicinity of Tel Aviv, 300 in Haifa and 100 in Jerusalem. The total cost will be \$2,000,000.

(The 24th anniversary of the Histadruth was celebrated yesterday at a mass meeting in Paris. Greetings were received from Felix Gouin, president of the Consultative Assembly.)

