

Friday, March 16, 1945

JTA

Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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

NAZIS THREATEN TO KILL ALL CAPTIVE JEWS IN REPRISAL FOR GERMANS SENT TO RUSSIA

GENEVA, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- The Nazi Government, through its news agency DNB, today issued a warning that all Jews now in German hands, as well as Jewish war prisoners who may be captured, will be killed in reprisal for the reported plan to send Germans to Russia as laborers to rebuild the areas devastated by the German Army.

"If Roosevelt now admits that he and his accomplice Churchill undertook at the Yalta conference to surrender German war prisoners to the Soviet Union, then it is nothing but part of a devilish Jewish plan," the Nazi news agency said. Emphasizing that the Hitler government will retaliate, DNB added: "Above all, we shall make every Jew who is, or who falls into our hands pay for all others. When the war comes to an end, there will be no more Jews in Europe."

A delegation of the Council to Rescue Polish Jews has arrived in Geneva from London to negotiate with Swiss authorities and international organizations on means of rescuing the several hundred thousand Jews from Poland who are still held by the Germans. The delegation consists of Emanuel Szwerc, Jewish deputy in the National Council of the Polish Government-in-Exile, Rabbi Babad and Dr. M. Lachs.

It is learned that the delegation conferred with Prof. Karl Burckhardt, head of the International Red Cross, before he left for Germany where he is now reported to be conferring with Hitler and Himmler on the question of war prisoners and Jews held in concentration and labor camps. The delegation also saw Eduard von Steiger, President of the Swiss Confederation, who said that the Swiss authorities were doing everything possible to assist the surviving Polish Jews, but that there are a great many difficulties at present.

JEWS IN TRANSYLVANIAN CAPITAL PARADE CARRYING PLACARDS ASKING REPATRIATION OF DEPORTEES

CLUJ, Transylvania, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- Several hundred Jews of the 1,500 Jewish survivors in this Transylvanian capital participated in a parade yesterday on the occasion of the return of Northern Transylvania to Rumania.

Jewish leaders from Bucharest, including Chief Rabbi Shafren, arrived here to address the celebration in which tens of thousands participated. The Jewish marchers carried placards reading "Everything Must Be Done To Bring Back Our Jewish Deportees." They were saluted by King Michael and the Soviet representative, Andrei Vishinsky, who reviewed the parade.

The 1,500 Jews in Cluj are only a fraction of the 70,000 Jews who lived in the city before the deportation of the Jewish population by the pro-Nazi Hungarian regime. The correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, who arrived here from Bucharest to study the Jewish situation, was told today by community leaders that they believe that about 10,000 of the Jews deported from Cluj are among the Jewish internees from the notorious Oswiecim camp who were liberated by the Russian troops in Poland.

3/16/45

PALESTINE RECOGNIZED AS FULL MEMBER OF ARAB LEAGUE; WILL HAVE VOTING RIGHTS

LONDON, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- London newspapers today report that the constitution of the League of Arab Nations which was made public yesterday in Cairo recognizes Palestine as a member of the League.

The constitution contains twenty-two articles and two protocols, one of which provides that Palestine shall have a vote in the League's Council. Since the future status of Palestine is still undecided, the Council itself will nominate a Palestinian to represent his fellow countrymen as a full-fledged member of the League, with voting and other rights. The constitution will be presented for ratification to the pan-Arab congress which opens in Cairo on Saturday.

Lord Strabolgi, pro-Zionist member of the House of Lords, addressing a Zionist meeting today in Edinburgh said that the proposal to surrender the rights of the Jews in Palestine and the British interests there to "some nebulous international body" is nothing but "sheer lunacy and cowardly defeatism." He insisted that the most practical solution of the Arab-Jewish problem would be to combine Palestine and Trans-Jordan into a dominion.

HARRISON NAMED U.S. MEMBER OF INTER-GOVERNMENTAL REFUGEE COMMITTEE; SUCCEEDS TAYLOR

WASHINGTON, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- Earl G. Harrison, former Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, succeeds Myron C. Taylor as U. S. representative on the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, the Department of State announced today. Harrison is expected to proceed to London immediately to confer with officials of the committee with respect to the committee's plans to care for the racial, religious and political refugees who cannot return to their homes, according to the announcement.

"The caring for and repatriation of displaced persons who can be repatriated to their homes is one of UNRRA's functions," the State Department said. "Increasing numbers of racial, religious and political refugees are now being liberated by the allied armies and the number to be cared for by the committee may eventually exceed one million."

Asked about the present status of the Intergovernmental Committee, Secretary of State Stettinius said at his press conference that the committee had been active right along and doing every thing in its power. Our War Refugee Board, he said, has been closely in touch with the committee's activities. The secretary declined to comment on whether Herbert C. Pell will be reinstated as American representative on the United Nations War Crimes Commission.

FIVE JEWISH YOUTHS JAILED BY MILITARY COURT IN PALESTINE FOR POSSESSION OF ARMS

JERUSALEM, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- A military court here today sentenced four Jewish youths to seven years imprisonment each, and one to five years on the charge of illegal possession of arms.

The four are: David Levin, 18 years old; Daniel Katz, 19; Abraham Stashevsky, 20 and Gideon Pelei, 20. The fifth is Shlomo Milner, 17 years old.

The five were arrested on February 23 near a Jewish settlement in the vicinity of the Dead Sea. The police found six rifles and 214 rounds of ammunition on them.

BRAZIL SENDS PROTEST TO GERMANY AGAINST SEGREGATION OF CAPTURED BRAZILIAN JEWS

MEXICO CITY, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- The Brazilian Foreign Office has sent a protest to Germany against the segregation in special concentration camps of Jews among Brazilian prisoners of war captured by the Germans, the Brazil radio announced last night.

Revealing, for the first time, that the Nazi were discriminating against Brazilian Jewish captives, the broadcast said: "The Foreign Office today sent a protest to Germany through the International Red Cross against this inhuman treatment of prisoners of war."

BELGIAN JEWS IN CUBA ARE NOT EAGER TO RETURN TO BELGIUM; HEAR OF ANTI-SEMITISM THERE

HAVANA, Cuba, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- Jewish refugees from Belgium, who have done a remarkable job in the diamond industry here, employing about 1,000 Jews and 1,500 Cubans, are not eager to return to their native country.

Reports reaching them from Belgium reveal that there is a good deal of anti-Jewish feelings there due to Nazi propaganda which has left roots in certain sections of the population. One report said that a hotel in Brussels refused to admit Jews - which never happened before the war in the Belgian capital. The Belgian Jews here are also disappointed at the fact that German Jewish refugees in Belgium were interned after the liberation of the country.

At present there is a strike going on in the diamond industry here which, if not settled soon, may arouse anti-Semitic feelings. Cuban workers in the industry receive from sixty to eighty-five dollars a week, which is more than they get in any other occupation. They, however, want the same wages as the Jewish workers who have more skill and experience.

Much interest is centered on the question as to what will happen to the diamond industry here if the Belgian Jews decide to return to Belgium. Some local Jews are now financially interested in the industry and it is certain that they intend to keep it going.

ANTI-SEMITIC ATTACKS BY CONGRESSMEN SCORED IN HOUSE; FRANKFURTER DEFENDED

WASHINGTON, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- The charge that Supreme Court Justice Frankfurter was back of an alleged plot to dominate a proposed international court of justice was branded as "idle rumor and fantastic speculation" yesterday by Rep. Lathrop Kelly of West Virginia, in an address on the floor of the House.

Attacks on Justice Frankfurter have been made in recent weeks by Rep. Clare Hoffman of Michigan and Rep. Dan R. McGhee of Mississippi. Recalling that Rep. Hoffman had described Frankfurter as "born in a foreign land" and "a member of a persecuted race," Rep. Kelly said that in effect "this great and good man is a Jew." At this point Rep. Hoffman arose to deny he had ever attacked any member of the Jewish race as a Jew.

INTER-RACIAL ORGANIZATION TO COMBAT RACIAL HATRED IN CANADA FORMED IN MONTREAL

MONTREAL, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- An inter-racial Committee for Democratic Action was formed here today for the purpose of engaging in a determined struggle against the propaganda of all race hatred. Members of the committee are determined to combat all race attacks, open or covert, by every constitutional and legal means at the disposal of the citizen, and Canadians of all ethnic groups are being asked to support the movement. Officers for the newly formed group will be elected at the next meeting.

DECREASE IN RABBIS AND JEWISH EDUCATORS IN LATIN-AMERICA DEPLORED AT ZIONIST CONGRESS

MONTVIDEO, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- The "alarming decrease" in the number of rabbis and Jewish educators in the Latin-American countries was pointed out here today by speakers at the Latin-American Zionist Congress who appealed to Palestine to send teachers here. The delegates deplored the lack of Jewish schools in Argentina, which has the largest Jewish community in South America. At the same time, they lauded the training schools operated by the ORT and the OSE there.

The congress adopted a resolution calling on the World Zionist Executive in Jerusalem to establish a Latin-America section with an affiliated council on which all the Jewish communities of the Central and South American republics would be represented. Speakers urged expansion of Zionist youth, education and propaganda activities in Latin-America.

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL SESSION OF JEWISH FEDERATION LEADERS PROTESTS U.J.A. DISSOLUTION

HARTFORD, Conn., Mar. 15. (JTA) -- Opposition to the dissolution of the United Jewish Appeal was voiced in a resolution adopted here at a session of the executive committee of the New England Region of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, with forty representatives of 12 cities present. The resolution, made public today, reads:

"We object to the dissolution of the United Jewish Appeal and demand its immediate reconstitution on these grounds, for these reasons: 1. The dissolution has already created disunity, recriminations and confusion in the Jewish communities; 2. It has already, in some cases, resulted in the withdrawal of local leadership and a loss of funds; 3. That the Welfare Funds, which provide at least 90 percent of the funds raised by the former U.J.A. agencies, feel that they should have been asked, as a matter of right, for permission to dissolve the U.J.A.; 4. Finally, we object to the increased cost which will be entailed by the duplication of fund raising effort

LABOR LEADERS FORM BODY TO ENCOURAGE SETTLEMENT OF U. S. JEWISH WORKERS ON FARMS

NEW YORK, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- Leaders of the Jewish labor movement today formed an organization to support the activities of the Jewish Agricultural Society in encouraging American Jews to settle on farms.

The action was taken at a luncheon at the Commodore Hotel arranged by William Wolfport, leader of the United Hebrew Trades. Judge Jacob Penkin, one of the principal speakers, reviewed the Jewish farm movement in the United States and emphasized the possibilities for settlement on farms of Jewish workers who may find themselves unemployed after the war. Mr. Gabriel Davidson, executive secretary of the Jewish Agricultural Society, revealed that the majority of Jewish farmers today are former shop workers. Paul Abelson presided.

MERGER OF ALL U.S. ZIONIST GROUPS INTO SINGLE FEDERATION URGED BY JEWISH STATE PARTY

NEW YORK, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- A recommendation that all Zionist groups in the United States unite in a Zionist Federation of America and function through one central authority was made here last night at a public meeting sponsored by the Jewish State Party at the Hotel Malpina.

It was announced at the meeting that the Jewish State Party is convoking a national conference in New York, on April 15, to achieve this purpose. Speakers included Mair Grossman, Dr. Julius Brutzkus, Dr. S. Soskin and Leo Wolfson.