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JEWISH AGENCY WILL ASK REPARATIONS FOR DESTROYED JEWISH PROPERTY IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

JERUSALEM, Mar. 23. (JTA) — The Jewish Agency will demand, within the next few weeks, reparations for confiscated and devastated Jewish property, it was announced here today.

The announcement was made by Elieser Kaplan, treasurer of the Agency, who said that he is proceeding soon to the United States where he will establish close cooperation with the Joint Distribution Committee with regard to the rescue of Jews from European countries.

More than 100 experts are now employed by the Jewish Agency in preparing various surveys on reparations for destroyed Jewish property in Europe and on settling Jewish survivors in Palestine, Mr. Kaplan revealed. He said that the Agency considers its immediate task the bringing to Palestine and the settlement here, within the shortest possible period, of about a million Jews from Europe.

The reconstruction committee of the Jewish Agency, he continued, has almost completed its studies. Its plans lay particular stress on developing the agricultural and industrial possibilities of Palestine. Four irrigation projects - three of them prepared by Palestinian experts and one by American experts - have been submitted to the committee. All experts agree on the possibility of at least doubling the cultivable land, thus enabling the absorption of a large number of new immigrants.

The various plans for absorption of European Jewish survivors in Palestine require hundreds of millions of dollars, Mr. Kaplan emphasized. The Jewish Agency will try to secure international aid, in money, machinery and raw materials, as well as Jewish national and private capital, he stated. The demands for reparations for Jewish property will be submitted to the nations of the world, he concluded.

Rumanian Prime Minister Promises to Support Demand For Jewish State

BUCHAREST, Mar. 23. (JTA) — Prime Minister Petru Groza of Rumania today issued a statement, through the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, declaring that he will support the Zionist demands for the establishment of a Jewish State in Palestine. At the same time, he emphasized that the Jews in Rumania are equal citizens of the country.

Emphasizing that he does not believe that assimilation will solve the Jewish problem, the Prime Minister said: "No people should be sentenced to permanent wandering and to a situation of remaining a permanent minority. Therefore, I believe that the right thing to do is to secure Palestine for the Jews as their own state. Considering the Zionist ideal fully righteous, and fighting myself for justice, I will give any help possible to achieve this purpose. The Jews in Rumania are equal citizens. They also have the right to conduct propaganda for the realization of Jewish aspirations in Palestine."

JERUSALEM ARABS CALL GENERAL STRIKE TO PROTEST PROPOSAL TO ALTERNATE MAYORALTY

JERUSALEM, Mar. 23. (JTA) -- A general strike of all Arabs in Jerusalem has been called for tomorrow to protest the proposal by the Palestine Government that the Jerusalem mayoralty be filled for alternate one-year periods by an Arab, a Jew and a Christian.

The strike was called by the extremist Hussein Party and the Arab Chamber of Commerce in Jerusalem. Meanwhile, the Arab members of the municipal council have called a protest meeting for Sunday, which is also being supported by the Arab chambers of commerce throughout the country.

The proposal for alternating the mayoralty has also met with opposition among Jews. A meeting of the Jewish members of the Jerusalem municipal council stated yesterday that the scheme was unjust to Jews in that it would give a "one-third" status to the Jewish population which constitutes two-thirds of the city's population, and pay two-thirds of its taxes, and, in addition, would restrict the city's autonomy. The councillors also declared that the plan was not feasible. Similar views were expressed in the Hebrew newspapers today and yesterday.

The present Acting Mayor is Daniel Auster, who assumed the post upon the death, last year, of Mustapha Bey Khalidi. The mayor is not elected by the city's population, but is appointed by the Palestine Government.

ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION SENDS DELEGATION TO U.S. TO MEET WITH AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

LONDON, Mar. 23. (JTA) -- The Council of the Anglo-Jewish Association today announced that it has accepted an invitation from the American Jewish Committee to send a delegation to the United States for consultations on post-war Jewish problems in connection with the forthcoming San Francisco conference of the United Nations.

The delegation will be given instructions which provide that representations in behalf of the Association should be made only to the delegation of the British Government at the San Francisco conference, or other appropriate representatives of the British Government. The delegates of the Anglo-Jewish Association will not be empowered to act jointly with representatives of other Jewish groups without express authorization from the Association in London.

The Anglo-Jewish Association expressed the hope that the San Francisco conference will establish an economic and social council whose functions will include the promotion of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. The Jewish claims for restitution and for compensation should be treated on the basis of equality with other claims, but account should be taken of the results of the special measures which the Germans imposed on the Jews, the Association recommended.

With regard to Palestine, the Association reaffirmed its views which are embodied in the memorandum published last December, requesting free Jewish immigration to Palestine, but refraining from supporting the Zionist demand for the establishment of a Jewish State.

JAMES DE ROTHSCHILD NAMED PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY OF MINISTRY OF SUPPLY

LONDON, Mar. 23. (JTA) -- James de Rothschild, Liberal member of Parliament, has been appointed Joint Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Supply, it was announced today. Mr. Rothschild is president of the Palestine Jewish Colonization Association.

JEWISH CHIEF OF POLICE IN COLOGNE SAYS POST-WAR GERMANY WILL NOT BE BARREN OF JEWS

COLOGNE, Germany, Mar. 23. (JTA) -- The belief that the German people are deeply indoctrinated with anti-Semitism was expressed here today by Carl Winkler, the German Jew who was appointed chief of police in Cologne by the American military authorities. This holds good for a considerable proportion of non-Nazis, he said today in an interview with the correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

A mild little man, with small graying moustache, Winkler despairs of the revival of a German Jewish community, believing that Hitler has succeeded in his aim of wiping this out. However, he thinks that eventually many Polish and Rumanian Jews who settled in Germany and then fled to France, will some day return, and with other surviving Eastern Jews will re-build Jewish communities despite anti-Semitism. He does not believe that Germany will be barren of Jews for centuries, like Spain after the Inquisition.

"The Jews who migrated to America and England will return to claim their property, but when they see Cologne, they'll leave again," the Jewish Chief of Police predicted. "If it were possible to leave, I'd go myself, on foot, if I could." Exhibiting a yellow Jewish star, he continued: "I never went out in the street, not wanting to submit myself to the shame of wearing this. The Nazis constantly added restrictions such as forbidding Jews to ride on trams and reducing rations. Finally they placed such childish restrictions as forbidding Jews the use of electric irons. In January, 1944 we were given five days to leave our homes and assigned to single rooms for each family in designated Jewish houses.

"Last September 12, the remaining 300 Jews, all of whom were inter-married, and their families were commanded to register at Fort Mangersdorf. Half complied and they were deported, although their wives and children were freed. The other half, who had refused to comply with the order, hid and thus perhaps 150 of the original 18,000 Jews remain. Of the remaining, only a half are religious Jews, the others are converted to other religions."

Winkler came to the job although he was enfeebled by months of tension hiding in basements from the Nazis and the Allied bombings. A high civil servant since the early days of the Weimar Republic, he presided over the police in the Number One district of Berlin from 1927 to 1929. Then he went to Cologne as vice-president of police until 1933 when Jews were banished from office. Because he was married to an Aryan, Winkler was not deported to the East in 1941. He was put into forced labor, however. Since he was too ill to work in a factory, he was given buttons to sew on uniforms at home.

CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE IS ASKED TO STUDY POST-WAR IMMIGRATION TO UNITED STATES

WASHINGTON, Mar. 23. (JTA) -- A resolution authorizing the House Immigration Committee to undertake a study of post-war immigration has been unanimously approved by the House Rules Committee. It will probably be debated in the House sometime next week. The resolution was introduced by Rep. Samuel Dickstein, Chairman of the House Immigration Committee.

233 YEMENITE JEWS ARRIVE IN PALESTINE; OVER 500 OTHERS STRANDED IN DESERT

JERUSALEM, Mar. 23. (JTA) -- A group of 233 Yemenite Jews arrived here today from the Joint Distribution Committee's refugee camp in Aden, where some of them have been for years, awaiting permission to enter Palestine. The camp is now almost empty, but about 500 to 700 other Jews from Yemen are stranded in the desert, suffering from hunger and disease, because they are not able to immigrate here.

U. S. ATTORNEY GENERAL SAYS RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS BIGOTRY STILL STRONG IN AMERICA

NEW YORK, Mar. 23. (JTA) -- United States Attorney General Francis Biddle, addressing a dinner of the Liberal Party tonight at the Hotel Commodore, emphasized that more intensified measures must be taken to combat racial hatred in the United States.

The most certain test by which one judges whether a country is really free, he said, is the amount of security enjoyed by minorities. "We have met that test," he continued, "but that is not enough. Racial hatreds have not disappeared, and the cruel discriminations of race and color and religion continue here in our own democracy, even as we fight to overthrow a system in Germany based on the exploitation of these discriminations."

GEN. ARNOLD, CHIEF OF CHAPLAINS IN WAR DEPARTMENT, PAYS TRIBUTE TO RABBINATE OF AMERICA

NEW YORK, Mar. 23. (JTA) -- Tribute to the rabbinate of America is paid in a letter from Major General William H. Arnold, chief of chaplains, addressed to the National Jewish Welfare Board.

Emphasizing that "an appreciative War Department and public is eternally indebted to you," the letter, in which Major General Arnold asks the Jewish Welfare Board to procure for the U. S. armed services 36 additional chaplains at the earliest possible moment, says:

"We should like to state that even the additional thirty-six would not quite fill all the unfilled requisitions on hand for Jewish chaplains for overseas and replacements in this country. We appreciate, however, the burden which has been placed upon the rabbinate of America and the splendid manner in which it has responded to the needs of the Army. In order to avoid too great additional a strain, we are, therefore, asking for only the irreducible minimum number which we feel necessary to provide coverage of Jewish personnel. Ours has not been an easy task and might have been an impossible one were it not for the patience, understanding, wisdom and tact of groups like your own."

Frank L. Weil, president of the National Welfare Board, today stated that the decision of the JWB to increase its 1945 budget from \$1,520,340 to approximately \$1,800,000 was necessary to meet urgent requests from overseas areas for various services to Jewish members of the armed forces.

BRITISH JEWISH ARMY COMMITTEE WILL PRESS FOR ASSIGNMENT OF JEWISH BRIGADE TO FRONT

LONDON, Mar. 23. (JTA) -- Despite the dissolution, announced yesterday, of the American Committee for a Jewish Army, its British counterpart plans to remain in existence, it was announced here today.

The committee will concentrate on the following demands, the announcement said, early despatch of the Jewish Brigade to the front, guarantees that the Brigade will be among the Allied troops occupying Germany and will participate in the victory parade; and, finally, immediate assignment of special insignia and banners to the Brigade.

NICHOLA SORINE, RUSSIAN ZIONIST LEADER, DIES IN PARIS; WAS 64

PARIS, Mar. 23. (JTA) -- Nichola Sorine, well known Zionist Revisionist leader, died here today at the age of 64. He was one of the founders of the Zionist magazine "Rozsviet" ("The Dawn") in St. Petersburg.

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