

Thursday, June 21, 1946

JTA

Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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

PALESTINE WILL NEVER AGAIN BE ARAB, SAYS WEIZMANN, ASKS IMMEDIATE DECISION FROM BRITAIN

LONDON, June 20. (JTA) — The spirit of the Palestine Jews is unconquerable and Palestine will never again be an Arab country, Dr. Chaim Weizmann, leader of the world Zionist movement, declared last night, addressing a dinner in his honor given by Sir Simon and Lady Marks. Over 500 prominent British Jews attended the function.

"It may take time to make Palestine a Jewish country, but it will be done," Dr. Weizmann said. "I believe that our present relations with the mandatory power are of a passing character. Britain can be big only when it adheres to moral principles, the sanctity of promises, sympathy and humanity. God forbid that England should abandon them. I do not believe that Britain will abandon these principles, and we will soon see the blossoming of a Jewish state."

The Zionist leader said that it is wrong to say that the Jews of Palestine are anti-British. He pointed out that all his work has been based on British connections and on the assumption that justice will predominate in the relations between Britain and the Jews. Dr. Weizmann revealed that he is attempting, at present, to convince the British Government that it can no longer keep the Jews of Palestine in suspense and that a final decision must be taken now.

Willing to Accept Churchill's White Paper of 1922

He declared that it was untrue that creation of a Jewish Commonwealth would depart from the purposes of the Balfour Declaration. The Jews, Dr. Weizmann continued, were willing to accept Churchill's White Paper of 1922, although it was a departure from the Balfour Declaration, since it spoke of the absorptive capacity of the country. Such absorptive capacity, he stressed, must be created, adding "I say give me the right to create absorptivity and a Jewish state will be ready within three to five years." The Churchill White Paper, Dr. Weizmann said, must inevitably lead to a Jewish state.

He pointed out that the Arabs have already realized their highest ambitions, while the Jews, with over 1,000,000 men in the Allied armies and with 30,000 volunteers from Palestine, and with over 4,000,000 killed in Europe, are still waiting.

Admitting that the task of saving Europe's Jews had not been an easy one, Dr. Weizmann charged that if not for the calamitous policy of allowing Hitler to go ahead unchecked at a time when he could still have been halted, a much larger number might have been saved. He recalled the various conferences concerning refugees and rescue and the many governmental statements, all of which resulted in no action.

Asserting that the virus of Nazism had taken root even in countries like France and Holland, Dr. Weizmann said that "Jews cannot settle in a cemetery. We

6/21/45

must wait any longer. The blood of millions cries to Heaven. If justice has some meaning, this voice will be heard."

Reporting the impressions he gained on his recent visit to Palestine, the Jewish Agency president said that "the Yishuv, while not always a welcome ally, nevertheless harnessed all its power and resources to the war effort, created many things and showed that it can do more than even we believed. There will be difficulties during the transition of Palestine industry from peace to war," he continued, "but the unique inventiveness, ingenuity and adaptability of the Yishuv will find a way."

1,000,000 Jews Can be Settled in Negev

Dr. Weizmann pointed out that "while 36 new settlements have sprung up recently, one is amazed to find emptiness in many parts at the same time." He stated that at least one-third of the 11,000,000 dunams in the Negev (the arid southern part of Palestine), could be colonized and support 1,000,000 Jews.

Sir Simon, addressing the dinner, revealed that before Lord Gort left England to become High Commissioner for Palestine, Dr. Weizmann asked him whether he believed in the "White Paper or the Bible," and Gort replied "the Bible." A volume published to mark his 70th birthday was presented to Dr. Weizmann.

An appeal for contributions to the United Palestine Appeal made by JNF president Aaron Wright brought contributions of \$600,000 from the diners, of which \$200,000 came from Sir Simon.

ARABS IN NORTH AFRICA FRIENDLIER TO JEWS THAN EVER BEFORE, JTA CORRESPONDENT FINDS

ALGIERS, June 20. (JTA) -- Relations between Jews and Arabs in Algeria are better than they ever were, it was learned by a special correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency who arrived here to survey the position of the Jews in North Africa and the effects of the repeal of the Vichy anti-Jewish laws by the DeGaulle Government.

Although the Arabs of North Africa are becoming more and more anti-French, many of the Arabs in Algeria have come to disassociate the Jews from other Frenchmen as a result of the fact that during the time that Vichy controlled this area all Jews were called in and their passports were altered by substituting "Algerian Jew" for the term "French Citizens." After the Allied landings in North Africa in November, 1942, the passports of Jewish French citizens were changed again, but the period of anti-Jewish discrimination seems to have improved rather than worsened the attitude of the Arabs here towards their Jewish neighbors.

It is because of the fact that the Arabs in Algeria consider themselves a persecuted subject people and have come to have a friendlier regard toward the North African Jews, that in the recent disturbances in which Moslem natives killed approximately 100 so-called Europeans, they did not attack the Jews. In the riots of 1935 the Arabs committed many atrocities against Jews in the province of Constantine. At that time they sought out the Jews particularly in the course of a general outbreak against Europeans. It is noteworthy that this time Jewish communities were left untouched.

The general situation of the Jews in Algeria is gradually improving. The property rights they lost under the Vichy regime have slowly been restored. But once a person has been dispossessed of those rights, it is a difficult and tedious process to regain them. The Jews in Algeria are, therefore, not certain as to whether the feeling of intolerance and bigotry that was implanted by the Vichy regime among officials in North Africa has completely disappeared.

6/21/45

GERMANS OUSTED FROM FORMER JEWISH SHOPS IN INNSBRUCK; SOME JEWS ALREADY RETURNED

INNSBRUCK, Austria, June 20. (JTA) -- Germans who took over Jewish shops in this city during the Nazi regime have been ousted, and the people of Innsbruck hope that as many of the city's Jews as survive will return. Dr. Karl Gruber, pre-Hitler Christian trade union leader who has been named provincial governor, told a Jewish telegraphic Agency correspondent today.

The Jewish community here was never very large, but, apparently, most of them escaped across the nearby Swiss border. Although full details concerning the survivors are not available, a few have returned and reopened their former businesses. Full rights have been restored to all Jews.

TWELVE MORE TERRORIST SUSPECTS DEPORTED FROM PALESTINE TO SUDAN INTERNMENT CAMP

JERUSALEM, June 20. (JTA) -- Twelve more "persons" arrested under the defense emergency regulations have been sent to the internment camp in the Sudan, where 268 Jewish terrorist suspects are already confined, it was announced today. The action was taken for reasons of "public security," the announcement said.

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS ESTABLISHES BODY TO MAKE SCIENTIFIC ATTACK ON ANTI-SEMITISM

NEW YORK, June 20. (JTA) -- Details of a new scientific attack on anti-Semitism and other minority problems in the United States were announced here today by the American Jewish Congress which has created a Commission on Community Interrelations to carry out the job. The attack is based on a two-fold approach--to study the reasons for tension and conflict and to conduct an action program to overcome religious and racial frictions.

The American Jewish Congress has underwritten its new commission for a period of five years of operation. Charles E. Hendry, former national director of research for the Boy Scouts of America, is coordinator of research in charge of over-all operations. Associate coordinator is Bernard Gittelson, who was director of research for New York State's Commission Against Discrimination which drafted New York's recently-enacted anti-discrimination law.

A feature of the undertaking is a close tie-up that has been arranged with a new agency, the Rogosin Foundation, also set up for a period of five years to carry out a leadership training program for key men and women in various American communities. Persons eligible to participate will be brought to New York for special courses in community relations. The Foundation is financed by Israel Rogosin, New York textile manufacturer, and functions under Mr. Hendry's general direction.

The Commission on Community Interrelations grew out of a Conference to Combat anti-Semitism called by the American Jewish Congress in New York last year. Jewish leaders who attended from all parts of the country agreed that more intensive effort and new tools must be brought into the fight against anti-Semitism. A "task force" composed of skilled fact-finders and social action people is assigned to each action-research project on which the Commission works. Their assignment is to find out the facts underlying the conflict, then put the facts into action by helping groups resolve their differences.

The commission was organized by Dr. Kurt Lewin, a native of Germany who came to the United States in 1932. Dr. Lewin was formerly professor of Child Psychology at the University of Iowa and on the faculties of Cornell and Stanford Universities. He has been counselor to the Division of Program Surveys of the U. S. Department of Agriculture since 1942 and until early this year was with the Office of Strategic Service in Washington.

BRITISH CHAPLAINS IN EUROPE TO DISCUSS WORLD JEWISH SCENE AT CONFERENCE IN LONDON

LONDON, June 20. (JTA) — Nearly one-half of the Jewish chaplains in the European theatre will participate in a six-day symposium on Jewish Affairs opening here tomorrow at the East London Synagogue. Leaders of British Jewry will address the chaplains on the world Jewish scene and Zionist developments.

At a banquet at the Savoy Hotel which will terminate the symposium, Chaplain James Shain will present to Lord Nathan, chairman of the Jewish Hospitality Committee, an English-Hebrew scroll expressing appreciation for the hospitality extended by British Jews to the Jewish men and women of the U. S. Army and Navy.

Prof. Selig Brodetsky, president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, accompanied by a representative of Chief Rabbi Joseph Hertz, today called on Metropolitan Krutitsky and Archbishop Kachitsky of the Russian church who are visiting here. They conveyed to the Soviet religious leaders the greetings of English Jewry.

"RED ARMY WOOD" TO BE PLANTED IN PALESTINE AS VICTORY GIFT FOR SOVIET GOVERNMENT

JERUSALEM, June 20. (JTA) — A "Red Army Wood" will be planted on 100 dunams of Jewish National Fund land to mark the Allied victory over the Germans, it was announced today. The wood will be a "victory gift" to the Red Army and the Soviet Government has indicated its willingness to accept it.

The Victory League for Russia, which is arranging for the planting of the wood, also announced that an "international meeting" will be held in Tel Aviv on June 22, the fourth anniversary of the Nazi invasion of the Soviet Union. Representatives of liberated European nations and Russian officers stationed in the Middle East will participate.

JEWISH PROBLEM MUST BE SOLVED BEFORE A DECENT PEACE IS ESTABLISHED, MASARYK SAYS

NEW YORK, June 20. (JTA) — The hope that the Jewish problem will be solved before a "decent peace" is established was expressed today by Jan Masaryk, Foreign Minister of Czechoslovakia, addressing a meeting of the Czech committee of the United Jewish Appeal at the Hotel Ambassador.

Speaking by telephone from San Francisco, where he heads the Czechoslovak delegation at the United Nations Conference, Mr. Masaryk said: "The Jews have been especially singled out and became the chosen people in the worst possible sense of the word. I shudder to think how many good and dear Jewish friends will be missing when I return to liberated Prague after the San Francisco conference. To them and their fellow victims all over the world you and I owe a tremendous debt. It is my considered and absolute conviction that the Jewish problem must be solved before a decent peace is established."

SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF DEMOBILIZED JEWISH SOLDIERS DISCUSSED BY 700 RABBIS AND LAY LEADERS

NEW YORK, June 20. (JTA) — Plans for meeting the spiritual and religious needs of returning Jewish veterans were discussed here last night at a meeting of officers and rabbis representing more than 700 temples and synagogues.

The meeting was arranged by the Committee for Coordinating Jewish Community Services for Veterans, an organization established by the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies and the Jewish Welfare Board for the purpose of mobilizing the resources of all Jewish organizations in New York to assist in readjusting the veteran to civilian life.

THE CONTENTS OF THIS BULLETIN ARE NOT FOR PUBLICATION WITHOUT SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION