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CZECHOSLOVAK GOVERNMENT PREPARES NEW DECREES REGULATING RESTORATION OF PROPERTY

PRAGUE, Aug. 29. (JTA) — The Czechoslovak Government today announced that a number of decrees will soon be promulgated which will greatly benefit the surviving Jews in the country.

Specific regulations covering restitution of property confiscated by the Germans will be outlined in one of these decrees. Another decree will settle the question of compensation to be paid by the state for damages caused by German persecutions during the Nazi occupation of Czechoslovakia. A third decree will allow a missing person to be declared dead without waiting the usual legal period of five years.

The latter is especially important for relatives who seek to establish their rights to the property of massed Jews. It is also of importance for surviving Jewish men and women who may want to re-marry after establishing that their wives or husbands were exterminated in deportation camps.

Twenty trucks carrying food and medicaments provided by the Joint Distribution Committee arrived here today from Stockholm by way of Denmark. Two-thirds of the transport will be sent to Slovakia where the Jews are in dire need. The remainder will be distributed among Jews in Bohemia and Moravia.

The Prague Jewish community was permitted today to start the publication of a monthly magazine in the Czech language, which will have a press run of 4,000 copies. At the same time, anti-Semitic articles continue to appear in the press in Slovakia, especially in Gas, a Slovak democratic daily newspaper published in Bratislava.

LUXEMBURG WAR VETERANS EXCLUDE JEWS FROM MEMBERSHIP; JEWISH CITIZENS PROTEST

LONDON, Aug. 29. (JTA) — The Association of the Citizens of Luxembourg in Britain today sent a message of protest to Grand Duchess Charlotte against inclusion of an anti-Jewish clause in the statutes of the Association of Ex-Servicemen of Luxembourg which restricts membership to "Aryans" only.

The message stressed that more Jews fought for Luxembourg proportionally than there are Jews in the Duchy and called the servicemen association's act a "fascist gesture." A copy of the message was sent to British Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin.

JEWISH DELEGATION FROM BULGARIA ARRIVES IN LONDON; WILL DISCUSS RELIEF PROBLEMS

LONDON, Aug. 29. (JTA) — A delegation of four leaders of the Jewish Consistory in Bulgaria, led by Jacques Nathan, vice-chairman of the consistory, arrived here today.

The delegation will discuss problems of Bulgarian Jewry with representatives of Jewish relief organizations and other groups interested in restoration of Jewish life in Bulgaria. It is composed of two Zionist Laborites and two Communists.

CONFUSION IN AUSTRIA MAKES IT DIFFICULT FOR JEWS TO REGAIN THEIR FORMER DWELLINGS

VIENNA, Aug. 29. (JTA) -- Austrian Jews returning from camps or underground hideouts are finding great difficulty in regaining their former apartments and businesses because of the confusion which reigns here.

Immediately after the Russian entry into the city, it was easy for Jews and others to reclaim their old apartments and places of business merely by applying to local officials who ousted the Nazis in residence. In cases where a business had disappeared, the Jew was permitted to obtain another one in a similar line. Several thousand such transfers were made.

However, after the establishment of a central bureau to handle such questions, the decisions of local councils were annulled and, in some cases, Nazis were protected. In addition, a decree was issued stating that all such transfers were not yet legal, and that the new owners held the business in trust and would be responsible for its administration and its stock. It has now been proposed that all of these transfers be declared illegal, and those few Jews who succeeded in re-possessioning their own businesses are worried for fear they may lose them again.

The problem is made even more complicated by the fact that categories of "qualified" and "unqualified" Nazis have been set up, a survey by the Religious News Service establishes. Persons who joined the Nazi Party between July 1, 1933 and March 15, 1938, or held a high position after 1938 are considered "qualified," while people who joined the party only after 1938, and never held important positions are "unqualified." Those falling into the latter category are being allowed to retain their positions and dwellings.

Jewish community officials, who are completely overwhelmed by the immensity of the problem, are faced with the double job of finding apartments for people returning from concentration and labor camps and also for 6,000 Jews married to non-Jews, who had been allowed to remain in Vienna, but who had been confined by the Nazis in sub-standard dwellings, many without baths or adequate cooking facilities.

The problem of reuniting the many Austrian and Viennese Jews who have spread throughout the world is being tackled by a private organization calling itself the "Austrian Information Office for Jews." This body, which has government sanction, will attempt to answer queries directed to it from any part of the world concerning the whereabouts and fate of Jews who were deported by the Nazis or forced underground. It has set up offices at Johannesgasse 3/9 Vienna, 1.

JULIUS STREICHER IS NINTH ON LIST OF WAR CRIMINALS, SECRETARY OF STATE ANNOUNCES

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29. (JTA) -- Julius Streicher, Germany's "Jew-baiter No. 1" is prominent as ninth on the list of 24 war criminals to be tried before the International Military Tribunal, according to an announcement today by Secretary of State James F. Byrnes. Higher up on the list is Hans Frank, Nazi governor of Poland who carried out the policy of exterminating the Jews there.

Byrnes said the cases against all those listed are thoroughly documented and expressed the hope the trials would show future generations that not only privates die in war, but also the men who begin the war. The list of war criminals is headed by Goering and Hess.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL DISCUSSES TRUMAN'S STATEMENT ON PALESTINE

NEW YORK, Aug. 29. (JTA) -- President Truman's recent statement with regard to Palestine and its implications were discussed at a session of the American Zionist Emergency Council held here yesterday, it was announced today by the Council.

The majority of the members of the Council were of the opinion that the President's fear that 500,000 American soldiers may be needed to prevent Arab disturbances in Palestine if the country is proclaimed a Jewish State, was due to false notions maintained in Washington on the strength of the Arabs and on American interests in the Near East. The Council decided to take urgent measures to present the situation in the proper light. A special committee of experts was named to deal with the question of Zionist political action in the United States.

(The New York Times in a cable from Paris today reports that Emir Abdul Ilah, Regent of Iraq, who is en route home from the United States, has voiced his country's opposition to increased Jewish immigration to Palestine. In a statement to the Times' correspondent, the regent said: "No Arab will agree with any suggestion for an increase in the Jewish population of Palestine. The number already there is sufficient. All Arab nations must object in principle and I believe that our Government will protest to the United Nations against any such moves.")

The meeting also considered a cabled request from the World Zionist Executive that it separate the activities of the Zionist Emergency Council from those of the office of the Jewish Agency in Washington so that the Council would not interfere with the work of the Washington office of the Agency. The request was opposed by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, president of the Council, and other members of the Council. It was pointed out that American Zionist representatives alone must represent Zionist interests vis-a-vis the U.S. Government. It was decided to cable to the World Zionist Executive urging it not to undertake any steps in the direction of Washington representation until the American Zionist Council, together with the eight members who were appointed at the recent World Zionist Conference to supervise Jewish Agency activities in the United States, make definite recommendations.

Mrs. Judith Epstein, president of Hadassah, reported that Hadassah's national board has decided to demand from the next World Zionist Congress representation in the World Zionist Executive. Such a demand was submitted to the recent World Zionist Conference in London and was rejected.

Change in British Government Left U.S. Zionists Unprepared, Dr. Silver Reports

NEW YORK, Aug. 29. (JTA) -- The American delegation at the World Zionist Conference was left unprepared by the unexpected fall of the Churchill cabinet and the election of the Labor Government, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver reported yesterday at a session of the national executive of the Zionist organization of America at which other members of the delegation gave their views on the outcome of the conference. Silver said:

"The American delegation originally came to London with a plan for organizing a united protest of world Jewry against the Churchill government in its treatment of the Palestine problem. The changed political situation in England nullified this plan as it was felt that the new government could not be whipped for the mistakes of the old government. The sudden end of the World War during the Conference also contributed to a change in the tone of the Conference which was a far calmer and more hopeful one than would have been otherwise."

Dr. Silver asserted that while the Conference was punctuated by a major crisis - such as the withdrawal of the Mizrahi from the executive and the temporary

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reference between Ben Gurion and Weizmann - the parley adjourned on a note of harmony and unity. He stated that the American delegation made a number of major contributions to the conference; all members were united on a basic Zionist program, and that this attitude helped to strengthen other groups at the conference to an extent which was reflected in the political commission, of which Dr. Silver was the chairman. The deliberations of the political commission reaffirmed the maximum Zionist program in clear and sharply defined line by reasserting in a resolution the creation of a Jewish State in an undivided Palestine - a resolution unanimously adopted by the conference, Dr. Silver stated.

The meeting of the executive committee preceded a public meeting at the Hotel Pennsylvania, at which the Zionist leaders told an audience of 1,200 that all indications point to the fact that intensified activities with regard to Palestine are to be expected soon.

Dr. Israel Goldstein reported on the situation of the Jews in camps in Germany, most of whom, he said, want to go to Palestine, and disclosed that while in London he had discussed the Palestine problem with Harold Laski, chairman of the British Labor Party. Laski expressed the opinion that cooperation of the United States would play a large part in bringing about a solution of the problem favorable to the Zionists, the ZOA president said.

Emanuel Neumann stressed the importance of the action taken by the conference in reaffirming the Biltmore Resolution, inasmuch as it was the first international gathering since the outbreak of the war to take a definite position. He praised Dr. Goldstein's efforts in helping to consolidate the General Zionist front at the conference and the organization of a strong General Zionist World Confederation in which the ZOA and Hadassah in America will play a vital role.

Daniel Frisch, another member of the American delegation, cautioned against placing too much reliance on the change of the government in England in the expectation that it will spell speedy realization of Zionist aims. He charged that the new Colonial Secretary's attitude toward the Jewish people is "not of a nature that should make us rejoice even though his assistant, Mr. Creech Jones, is a true and tried friend of Jewish Palestine."

In an account of his visit to Palestine, Dr. James G. Heller declared that Palestine has wrought a miracle in recreating Jewish lives and in the transformation of barren land into fertility. He stressed the contrast of Jewish fertility and the barrenness of Arab lands, indicating that there are tremendous stretches of land available for cultivation. Dr. Heller particularly dwelt on the feeling of "at home" and freedom animating the Jew in Palestine. In no country did he note such a "spirit of pride, freedom and at homeness as in Palestine, he said.

ELIAS EPSTEIN, HEAD OF JNF OVERSEAS DEPT., ARRIVES IN U.S.; WILL ALSO VISIT CANADA

NEW YORK, Aug. 29. (JTA) -- The area of national Jewish land possessions in Palestine has doubled during the war as a result of the land acquisition program of the Jewish National Fund and extensive plans for the purchase of new areas to prepare for the settlement of great numbers of immigrants in the post-war period is in process of being implemented. Elias M. Epstein, head of the overseas department of the JNF, said today upon his arrival here.

Mr. Epstein, who, as special emissary of the Palestine Land Fund, will also visit Canada, Australia and South Africa in the interests of the Fund, arrived by clipper from London, where he attended the sessions of the World Zionist Conference.

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