

# JTA

VOL. XII No. 201 (27th year)

Sunday, September 2, 1945

## Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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

### JEWISH AGENCY REFUSES TO ACCEPT IMMIGRATION CERTIFICATES UNDER WHITE PAPER QUOTA

JERUSALEM, Aug. 31. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency today refused to accept from the Palestine Government 1,500 immigration certificates of the approximately 3,000 certificates still available under the White Paper quota, it was learned here. It is understood that the Agency told the Palestine authorities that it will refuse any further immigration certificates issued under the White Paper restrictions.

It was also learned here today that the administration of the British community's secondary schools in Jerusalem wired to England for teachers for the schools, stipulating that they were not to be of "Jewish descent" or persons known to have contacts with Jews.

### JEWS WANT TO EMIGRATE FROM SLOVAKIA BECAUSE OF ANTI-SEMITISM; NONE PERMITTED TO LEAVE

BRATISLAVA, Slovakia, Aug. 31. (JTA) -- Anti-Semitism in Slovakia is still rampant, making life for the 25,000 surviving Jews so miserable that most of them want to emigrate, a survey by a special correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency discloses.

Emigration from Czechoslovakia is forbidden, however, by the central government in Prague. The Jews in Slovakia, after having suffered Nazi persecutions for at least four years, are now looked up in this eastern end of the Czechoslovak Republic. Not only are they not getting back their homes, businesses and clothing robbed from them by the former pro-Nazi Slovak government, but in some cases there have been attacks on Jews and anti-Jewish discrimination in a manner reminiscent of when this country was under Nazi domination.

Slovaks who acquired "Aryanized" Jewish business enterprises are still holding on to them, and the repatriated Jewish owners cannot re-possess them. The government is stalling on the question of restoring confiscated property to Jews, even though officially Jews are to regain full rights and all possessions. They are also supposed to receive a maximum of 500,000 crowns per person - the pre-war value of a crown was about three cents - but this plan has not been carried out as yet.

### Pro-Nazis Still in Government Service; Jews Shunted Away from UNRRA Aid

The delay in restoring confiscated Jewish property is attributed to members of the pro-Nazi and anti-Semitic Hlinka Guard, many of whom still hold official positions in important government offices. The delay is also due to the deep-seated anti-Jewish feelings among Slovaks which it is felt cannot be wiped out overnight.

On the other hand, there are many Slovaks who regret the fact that anti-Semitism has gotten the hold that it has in Slovakia, and it is expected that in time

official measures will be taken to correct the situation. Meanwhile, conditions like these are existent today:

1. The Jewish community of Bratislava is still unable to regain the 16 buildings which it owns, despite that fact that these buildings are needed for housing repatriated, homeless Jews.
2. When UNRRA clothing was distributed here, Jews were pushed out of the receiving line and efforts were made to prevent them from obtaining UNRRA aid.
3. Anti-Jewish demonstrations broke out in Presov and Bardiov a few hours after Russian troops left those towns. Mobs smashed the windows of Jewish homes, shouted anti-Jewish slogans and attacked Jews with clubs. In this case, the authorities took prompt action and arrested the ringleaders, one of whom was sentenced to twenty years imprisonment.
4. In some provincial towns Jews are not allowed to buy the ration of the food made available by UNRRA.

Characteristic of the situation is the fact that when a Jewish widow and her son returned to their home in Topolcany from a concentration camp, she was told that she could not move back into her house until her "political reliability" was proven. No attention was paid to the fact that her husband and two children had been killed and that she herself spent three years in a Nazi concentration camp. An investigation established that the new owner was a turncoat member of the Hlinka Guard who is now considered "politically reliable."

#### DR. WEIZMANN RETURNS TO LONDON; WILL HAVE IMPORTANT TALKS WITH BRITISH GOVERNMENT

LONDON, Aug. 31. (JTA) -- Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, today returned to London from a vacation in Scotland and intends to initiate important talks with the British Government next week.

Addressing a meeting of the Jewish State Party here today, Meir Grossman, one of the leaders of the party, expressed disappointment with President Truman's statement on Palestine and with his reluctance to use American troops to maintain order in Palestine. He said that America sends troops to all places where it considers important issues are at stake, "and attempts to impose its will on Bulgaria and Rumania," but "when it comes to solving the Jewish problem, which is a world problem, and to decide a policy and impose it, the President prefers to wait for Arab agreement, despite the agreed justness of our cause."

#### ARABS URGE PALESTINE GOVERNMENT TO CANCEL AGREEMENT WITH JEWISH AGENCY FOR U.S. GOODS

JERUSALEM, Aug. 31. (JTA) -- A meeting of the Arab chamber of commerce here adopted a resolution urging the Palestine Government to annul the agreement under which the Jewish Agency may use some of the funds collected for Palestine in the United States to buy commodities there which are not available in the United Kingdom. A memorandum to this effect will be presented to the government.

Commenting on the Jewish demands that German land in Palestine be given Jews, the Arab newspaper Falastin says today that "the Germans' presence in Palestine does not harm the Arabs, but that if German property is transferred or expropriated, it is the Arabs who should appropriate it."

R. DAVID PRATO RETURNS TO OLD POST AS CHIEF RABBI OF ROME; LEAVES PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, Aug. 31. (JTA) -- Prof. David Prato, who served as Chief Rabbi of Rome from the middle of 1936 until the end of 1939, is returning to that post, which was vacated last year by Dr. Israel Zolli, who became converted to Catholicism. R. Prato left here today for Italy.

Dr. Prato headed a Jewish school in Florence for 20 years before becoming Chief Rabbi of Alexandria, Egypt, in 1927, a position he held until he came to Rome in 1936. He resigned the Chief Rabbinate of Rome after the Mussolini Government adopted an anti-Jewish policy and came to Palestine to live.

LIBERATED JEWS IN SHANGHAI "ALL CHEERFUL"; J.D.C. REPRESENTATIVE FREED FROM INTERNMENT

NEW YORK, Aug. 31. (JTA) -- Manuel Siegel, Joint Distribution Committee representative who carried on its relief program for 20,000 Jewish refugees in Shanghai, and who was interned by the Japanese in February, 1945, has been liberated, it was announced here today. A cable from Shanghai via Switzerland to the J.D.C.'s New York office, said he had resumed direction of the relief program pending his repatriation.

Last week the Swiss offices of the J.D.C. received the first direct word from Shanghai since 1941. A cable from the representatives of the Jewish community there expressed their deep gratitude for the assistance rendered them and added that they were "all cheerful and in good health." At present J.D.C. allocates \$100,000 monthly for the maintenance of the Shanghai group.

For a period during the Japanese occupation of the city, funds for the relief program were obtained by borrowing against J.D.C. credit on arrangements made when war seemed imminent. These loans, repayable "not later than six months after the declaration of peace between Japan and the United States" total \$500,000. Then arrangements were made for the extension of funds by the Swiss office of the Joint Distribution Committee.

PALESTINE EXPECTS COMMERCIAL DELEGATION FROM WARSAW; TRADE WITH POLAND TO BE RENEWED

JERUSALEM, Aug. 31. (JTA) -- A trade delegation will shortly come to Palestine from Poland to negotiate for trade and commerce between the two countries and to invite a Palestine trade delegation to visit Poland, it was learned here today.

The Hebrew newspaper Hamashkiff reports that an un-named American industrial firm has acquired land in the settlement of Tel Litwinski to establish a factory for the assembling of motor vehicles. The new plant will employ 1,000 persons, the paper says.

12,000 BULGARIAN JEWS HAVE APPLIED FOR PALESTINE VISAS; ALL ZIONIST GROUPS FUNCTIONING

LONDON, Aug. 31. (JTA) -- The Palestine Office in Bulgaria has received 12,000 applications from Jews desiring to emigrate, Isaac Aladjem, a member of the four-man delegation of the Jewish Consistory of Bulgaria now visiting here, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today.

Mr. Aladjem, who is a prominent Labor-Zionist, said that all Zionist parties are functioning in Bulgaria with the approval of the authorities, with the exception of the Revisionists. He said that the Jewish Consistory supports the demand for revocation of the White Papers.

SITUATION OF JEWS IN AUSTRIAN CAMPS IMPROVING; INTERNEES GET MORE FOOD

VIENNA, Aug. 31. (JTA) — Life for Jews in displaced persons camps in Austria is substantially better now than it was a month ago, according to a report obtained today by a Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent.

The improvement is due largely to the arrival of about fifty tons of food, clothing and medicine sent into Austria from Switzerland by the Joint Distribution Committee. Though conditions are still not good, the supplies sent by the J.D.C., added to the army ration, have been enough to lift the food ration above starvation level. The J.D.C. now has offices in Vienna, Linz and Salzburg which are working closely with the U. S. forces.

The latest shipment of JDC supplies has just arrived in trucks of the U.S. 2nd Division. In addition to 25 tons of Swiss food and clothing it contained 300 prayer books for the High Holy Days. Up to now most of the imports have been distributed in the three western zones of Austria, but now that there is international control of Vienna, supplies are coming here and to lower Austria. Previously the Russians had facilitated the importing of some food from Hungary.

To relieve the dead monotony of camp life, and to revive work skills and the interest of the internees, the JDC has started two vocational training projects at Wels, near Linz, and at Gnadenwald, near Innsbruck, at which agriculture, mechanics, needle crafts, radio and cobbling are taught, and other projects are under way.

JEWS IN BELSEN CAMP PUBLISH OWN NEWSPAPER; DELAND RIGHT TO IMMIGRATE TO PALESTINE

LONDON, Aug. 31. (JTA) -- A statement by the Jews interned in the Bergen-Belsen camp declaring that they "can no longer tolerate the grave injustice of being prevented from turning to an honest, productive life in Palestine," is published in the first issue of a bi-weekly magazine issued by the internees, a copy of which was received here today. The publication, which is entitled "Our Voice," complains that while displaced persons of every nationality can return here, "only for us are the gates of our old and new homes closed."

Twelve-thousand copies of High Holy Day prayerbooks, in newspaper format, are being distributed to Jews in camps and elsewhere in Europe to meet the acute shortage of such material, it was announced here today. They were prepared by the Agudas Israel and the Koren Hatorah Organizations.

RABBI ROSENBERG OF JDC FLYING TO FRANKFURT TO CONDUCT ROSH HASHANAH SERVICES

NEW YORK, Aug. 31. (JTA) -- Rabbi Alexander S. Rosenberg, of Yonkers, N.Y., an overseas representative of the Joint Distribution Committee, is scheduled to leave New York on Sunday by Army Air Transport Command clipper for Frankfurt, it was announced here today. Rabbi Rosenberg is flying directly to Frankfurt in order to be there for the New Year holidays which begin on Sept. 7.

Rabbi Rosenberg will take with him the Frankfurt Synagogue's own Sefer Torah which was brought to the U.S. for safe keeping by refugees from Nazi Germany. Recently they presented the Torah to Rabbi Rosenberg so that it might be returned to Frankfurt. In Germany, Rabbi Rosenberg will look after the spiritual needs and welfare of Jews living in former concentration camps and will also assist in the JDC rehabilitation activities.

BECAUSE OF LABOR DAY THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE BULLETIN WILL APPEAR ON TUESDAY