

Wednesday, February 13, 1946

JTA**Daily News Bulletin**

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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

MORALE OF JEWS IN GERMANY STEADILY DETERIORATING; ALL WANT TO LEAVE COUNTRY

BERLIN, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The morale of the Jews in Germany--both German Jews and displaced Jews--is deteriorating from week to week, a survey by this correspondent in various camps in the U.S. zone and in Berlin establishes. Without exception they all say that they want to leave Germany.

The problem of the remaining Jews in Germany is really twofold. There is the problem of those German Jews who miraculously outlived Hitler and who are now living in Jewish communities, especially in the larger cities. The other problem is that of the Jews from eastern Europe who today live chiefly in camps for displaced persons.

While the exact figures for each group are not available, the best estimate is that there are 15,000 German Jews and approximately 35,000 Jews from eastern Europe now in the U.S. zone. The conditions confronting the German Jews are generally better than those faced by the easterners. Jews in Berlin and Frankfurt, for instance, who form the bulk of the German Jews, are again living in communities organized as Gemeindef, and are in a position to be helped by the military authorities and the Jewish agencies. Some have had homes returned to them that were stolen by the Nazis, and others are helped by such agencies as the American Joint Distribution Committee, which subsidizes the needy.

Displaced Jews Still Suffering from Malnutrition

But the plight of the easterners is much more difficult and, furthermore, the problem has been complicated during recent months by the influx of Polish Jews who have now settled at special camps as infiltrates. Almost all of them live in camps where physical conditions can, at best, be described as no more than tolerable. Food is generally terrible. Meals for an average day consist of bread and coffee for breakfast, an unrecognizable stew for lunch, and more bread and coffee for dinner. The diet varies slightly from week to week.

It is true that many displaced Jews have gained weight because of the preponderance of starchy foods, but nutritionally these men and women are starved and their resistance to sickness is low. Children, who are allowed some powdered milk, generally appear three or four years younger than they are.

Jews in Berlin Camp Overwhelmingly Favor Palestine Emigration

A report by UNRRA officials of the Dupel camp for displaced Jews in the American sector of Berlin reveals that the overwhelming number of the refugees in the camp wish to emigrate to Palestine. The conclusions are based not upon a special poll, but on the original forms filled out when the displaced Jews arrived at the camp.

Leaders of the Jewish community in the city are working overtime in an effort to compile the results of a questionnaire on emigration desires circulated among Jewish residents over the weekend, which will be submitted to the Anglo-American inquiry committee.

NEW PALESTINE QUOTA LEAVES AGENCY WITH ONLY SLIGHTLY MORE THAN 1,000 VISAS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The British decision to permit Jewish immigration into Palestine during the period that the Anglo-American inquiry committee is making its investigations will place only slightly more than 1,000 certificates at the disposal of the Jewish Agency, it was revealed last night.

Announcing that the Agency had agreed to accept the offer of a limited number of certificates, Moshe Shertok, chief of the political department of the Agency, disclosed that the 1,500-monthly quota will extend for only three months, ending March 15.

After the Palestine Government has made deductions for visaless immigrants who have arrived within recent months, allotted certificates to about 500 Jews arriving from Bulgaria this week, and reserved several hundred for distribution through diplomatic channels, only a few hundred more than 1,000 remain for the Agency.

The visas retained by the Government will be distributed to the wives, parents, children and other dependents of persons already here, while the Agency is expected to allot its quota to chalutzim from Europe.

ARABS WILL APPEAR BEFORE ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE; DEMAND RETURN OF MUFTI

JERUSALEM, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Arab spokesmen will appear before the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine, when it holds hearings here next month, it was decided yesterday at a meeting of the Arab Higher Committee, presided over by Jamal Husseini, extremist leader, who returned from exile this week.

The committee in making its announcement pointed out that it reserved the right not to accept the inquiry group's findings, and simultaneously, called for widening of the committee to include representatives of other nations, particularly the Arab states. A second demand made by the Arab committee was the return to Palestine of the exiled ex-Mufti of Jerusalem before the Anglo-American commission arrives here.

AGREEMENT WITHIN CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF POLISH JEWS REACHED; CRISIS RESOLVED

WARSAW, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- A crisis within the Central Committee of Polish Jews between Zionist and non-Zionist groups has been resolved on the basis of a common declaration announced here today.

The declaration, drawn up at a meeting at the home of Dr. Emil Sommerstein, chairman of the organization, who is ailing, contains three demands: 1. Jewish national independence in Palestine; 2. Abolition of the White Paper; 3. Unrestricted Jewish immigration into Palestine.

As a result of the agreement between the Jewish section of the Polish Labor Party and the Zionists, the latter will continue to work within the Central Committee, and will not establish a separate Jewish national council, as they had threatened.

STATE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES ESTABLISHMENT OF U.S. RELATIONS WITH YEMEN

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The State Department announced today that the United States has established relations with Yemen. A diplomatic mission will be sent to Sana'a, capital of the small Arab state, next month.

CJFNF AUTHORIZED TO EXPAND ITS SURVEY OF ACTIVITIES OF JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

DETROIT, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds at its concluding session here adopted a resolution urging the Council to expand its fact-finding service "so that a maximum of available information on agency programs, financial expense and agency needs can be provided to local communities."

The resolution, which was adopted unanimously, recommends that the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds provide:

1. Audited financial reports on all national and overseas agencies and uniform methods of accounting; such reports to be prepared by the national and overseas agencies, or at the option of the Council, by its own auditors.
2. Reports on areas of overlapping service by existing or new agencies.
3. Detailed description of services now being performed, and the areas of service not now being provided.

The delegates attending the Assembly pledged themselves to recommend to their respective communities to provide sufficient funds for the Council to implement the above service.

Jewish Community Planning for Future Urged by Lurie

Reporting on the activities of the Council, H.L. Lurie, executive director, pointed out that while there were only 40 Jewish federations and welfare funds in 1930, there is now some form of central Jewish organization in over 300 cities.

"We are at the beginning of the period when the emphasis of Council services might properly be not on the achievement of local organization, but the achievement of organization in relation to the changing problems of our time," he said. "This is the period for courageous planning for the future. We are certainly justified in hoping that some of the unsolved Jewish problems both here and abroad, which still lie as an incubus upon us, will gradually be solved by the operation of general political and social factors, and that these solutions will restore more normal conditions for Jews in Europe, in Palestine and in this country.

"We have passed through the most catastrophic period in our history, and we may be said to be suffering from the shock reactions of our time. There are parallel aspects of conflicts and uncertainties in the world at large, both here and abroad. The tendency for groups to work cooperatively to solve their problems is more intrinsic than the opposite tendency toward group dissension," Mr. Lurie declared.

Jewish Institutions Spent \$10,000,000 on Education in 1945

Judge Louis E. Levinthal reported a marked trend toward the intensification of Jewish religious education in the United States. Pointing out that Jewish educational institutions have spent more than \$10,000,000 in 1945, he predicted an even greater expansion this year. Many communities, he declared, have increased their appropriation for this purpose by more than 50 percent.

TODAY'S BULLETIN IS RESTRICTED TO THREE PAGES AS A RESULT OF TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES ARISING FROM THE POWER SHORTAGE CAUSED BY THE NEW YORK TUG STRIKE