

Tuesday, January 21, 1947

## JTA

## Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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

JEWISH NATIONAL COUNCIL CALLS ON PALESTINE JEWS TO RESIST TERROR BY FORCE IF NECESSARY

JERUSALEM, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- In the strongest measure yet taken by the Jewish community to curb terrorism, the Jewish National Council today adopted a resolution calling on Palestine Jewry to resist terror by force if necessary.

Adoption of the resolution came after vigorous statements by David Remez, chairman of the National Council, and Goldie Meirson, head of the political department of the Jerusalem section of the Jewish Agency, in which they warned that not even the threat of civil strife will deter the leadership of the Yishuv from combatting the extremists, if they continue their present activities.

"The Zionist movement disapproves of murder, and the shedding of the blood of innocents as a means of political struggle, and the Yishuv will forcibly oppose acts of domination and blackmail through terror," Remez said. "We will defend ourselves, by force if necessary, against the extortion of money from shopkeepers to fill terrorist coffers, against compelling teachers and pupils to join in terrorist work, against threats to Jewish policemen and against forcing the drivers of taxis and other cars to assist terrorists."

"We do not want civil war, we do not want brotherly strife in the Yishuv," he continued, "but there is no justification to add an internal struggle to the external struggle to which we are exposed. We hope our sincere appeal for unity and authority will be heeded and adhered to."

Remez Urges British to End Provocations and Deportations

At the same time, Remez stressed, the Jewish community is entitled to demand that "those who are inviting us to London for talks on a real solution of the Palestine problem conduct these talks without provocative acts by the authorities, without the deportation of immigrants, and without imposing responsibility upon the entire Yishuv for acts of groups or individuals." He warned "the people of Britain, the United States, the Soviet Union and all the other nations" that "we will not allow the Jewish people to be sacrificed as the price for the victory of the democratic world."

Mrs. Meirson, who devoted most of her address to a review of the political situation, told the extremists: "We call on you once more--stop terrorism now or we will stop you by force." She added that "we cannot continue to live in a state in which small groups decide what is to be the policy of the nation--groups guilty of extortion, intimidation of children, robbery at pistol point and the murder of innocent persons."

The basis for the forthcoming talks between the British Government and Zionist leaders would be the demand for free immigration and settlement, which can be achieved, she said, by the establishment of a Jewish state. The present rate of immigration, she stated, represented a virtual stoppage of immigration, emphasizing that no responsible Jewish institution could tell the Jews in the DP camps that they

must wait still longer. She assured the Council that any decisions taken as a result of the London talks would be made only by a full meeting of the Agency executive.

The action by the Council followed an Irgun broadcast last night, in which the underground organization warned that "Palestine will not be quiet and illegal immigration will not be stopped." The broadcast accused Mrs. Meirson and other Agency leaders of favoring partition, and ridiculed their pleas for peace "while they go to London to carry out partition."

Meanwhile, in a conciliatory move, the Palestine Government has ordered commutation to life imprisonment of the death sentence imposed by a military court several weeks ago on Dov Gruner, an Irgun member who participated in a raid on a police barracks at Ramath Gan last April, it was learned today. An official announcement of the commutation is expected tonight or tomorrow.

PALESTINE CONFERENCE POSTPONED FOR SEVERAL DAYS; JEWS WILL MEET WITH GOVT. THIS WEEK

LONDON, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- Postponement of the Conference on Palestine, which was scheduled to open tomorrow, was announced today by the Foreign Office, which explained that the Palestine Arab delegates had not yet arrived. It was indicated that the parley would open either late this week or early next week.

(A dispatch from Cairo said that the four-man delegation from Palestine was conferring there with the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, presumably to receive instructions as to the stand they are to take at the talks. The delegates are not expected to leave Cairo before Wednesday.)

Queried whether the British Government will submit a new plan to the conference, a Foreign Office spokesman said that "that will emerge after the conference opens." He pointed out to another questioner, who asked whether an American observer would attend, that the U.S. had stated it would send an observer only if both Jews and Arabs attended. He denied that the State Department had sent a note outlining American policy on Palestine.

Official circles expect that the first portion of the conference will be devoted to a discussion of proposals by the Palestine Arabs for modification of the Arab League plan submitted at the first session of the Conference, last Summer. While these discussions are going on, the British could be meeting informally with Jewish representatives and might later submit to the conference suggestions made by the Zionists, these circles pointed out. They insisted that the government has no plan on hand for submission to the conferees.

Berl Locker, London member of the Agency executive, told a press conference today that the informal talks between the government and the Zionists, to explore whether there has been a change in circumstances permitting Jewish participation in the conference, would begin this week. He said that David Ben Gurion was expected here tomorrow and Dr. Moshe Shoh and Isaac Ben Zvi were scheduled to depart from Palestine today.

Locker took issue with speculation in the local press that the British-Jewish talks constitute a "parallel conference," declaring that the talks would have been held even if the conference had not been scheduled and, in addition, only the Zionists will be represented, while a Jewish delegation at the conference would include non-Zionist Jewish groups. If the Jewish conferees are convinced that there are important new developments, a full session of the Zionist executive will be called, he added.

REP. JAVITS URGES U.S. MISSION TO PALESTINE, IMPLEMENTATION OF CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTIONS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- Rep. Jacob K. Javits, Republican of New York, in his maiden speech today, called for implementation of Congressional resolutions and the Republican Party platform favoring the establishment of "a democratic commonwealth in Palestine" and suggested "as a first step" the dispatching of a special U.S. mission to Palestine to aid the British in supervising "increased immigration and land settlement and the resumption of land purchase by Jews."

Javits declared that although the majority of the Jews whom he had met on a recent trip to Palestine agreed that partition is "probably the only practical answer" to the dispute, he believed that it must be preceded by a settlement which would open Palestine to immigration and land settlement, and by removal of land purchase restrictions. He said that the London conference "will not be realistic if it fails to realize the essentiality" of these points.

He asserted that partition will take time for agreement on a number of political issues and "in the meantime, Jewish land settlement is urgently needed and with it, greater Jewish and Arab participation in internal administration." Insisting that there were no basic disagreements between Jews and Arabs "at the grass roots level," Javits pointed out that "the social tensions in Palestine are now largely between the Jews and the British."

Commenting on terrorism, he said that it must be recognized that "this terror which ends in political crime, begins in political frustration." He added that he was "convinced that a policy of justice" is the "necessary moral basis for ending the terror." Rep. Javits estimated that Palestine can support twice its present Jewish population, and said that at least 600,000 of Europe's Jews want to go there.

ARAB LEADERS' AID TO NAZIS DURING WAR DISCLOSED BY CHRISTIAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE

NEW YORK, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- A campaign to acquaint the American people with the "imminent dangers and anti-democratic implications of the British policy of appeasement toward the Arab world whose present leaders were among Hitler's most fanatic supporters during the war," was announced by Dean Alfange, chairman of the American Christian Palestine Committee of New York, at a press conference today.

In a brochure entitled "The Arab War Effort," the committee points out that Dr. Fedhil al Jamali, president of the Arab League and Foreign Minister of Iraq "prepared the ground" for the pro-Nazi Iraq revolt in 1941 which threatened Allied communications in the Middle East. It also draws attention to the activities of the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem including a broadcast to Arabs in the U.S. asking them to sabotage the American war effort. Listed among the many Arab leaders who either aided the Iraq revolt or publicly supported it are included the heads of several Arab states and prominent cabinet ministers and functionaries in Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

SMARTENKO SAYS HIS DEPORTATION FROM BRITAIN IS SIGN OF WEAKNESS ON PART OF GOVERNMENT

NEW YORK, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- Charging that the British Government is afraid to have the question of Palestine raised in its own country, Prof. Johan Smartenko, vice-president of the American League for a Free Palestine, who last week was deported from England, today told a press conference that "my exclusion is an expression of weakness on the part of the British Government." He revealed that he will go to Washington shortly to file a protest against his deportation with the State Department. He said that the organization plans to send several of its representatives to London to present its viewpoint.

CHIEF RABBI OF BELSEN CAMP EJECTED FROM OFFICE OF BRITISH OCCUPATION OFFICIAL

LONDON, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- Dr. I. Helfgott, Chief Rabbi of the Belsen DP camp in the British zone of Germany, was ordered out of the office of the British Food Controller in Hamburg, John B. Hynd, British Minister for Occupied Territories, admitted at a press conference today.

Rabbi Helfgott, who was calling at the office on instructions from British occupation officials, was told to leave by the official in charge of the office, who remarked in the rabbi's hearing, "those bloody Jews again." Hynd said the incident is under investigation.

He also admitted that there were other "isolated cases" of British officials displaying "unfriendly behaviour" toward displaced Jews. In an effort to eliminate such individuals from the British military government, a closer check is now being made on applicants for jobs in the occupied areas, Hynd asserted.

He also confirmed that displaced Jews in the British zone no longer receive preferential food rations, because the German civilian ration was recently raised to 1,500 calories daily, the same level as the DP's. He declared that infiltrates from Eastern Europe will receive no food allowances as long as they remain in DP camps.

When it was pointed out to him that the refugees could not live among the German population, Hynd asked: "Why not?" He added that infiltrates who enter DP camps "illegally" and hide there must know the risks they run when they return to Germany from their countries of origin.

OFFICIALS OF MILITARY GOVERNMENT AND GERMAN PROVINCES CONFER ON RESTITUTION LAWS

MUNICH, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- A two-day conference of military government officials, representatives of the three German states in the American zone of Germany and a legal advisor from Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein's office, opened in Stuttgart today to consider War Department proposals on property restitution laws, it was learned here today.

The Washington plans came as counter-proposals to draft legislation drawn up previously by a conference of German provincial officials and the military government. Neither set of proposals has been made public yet, although the first drafts are reported to be "rather favorable." No final decision will be reached tomorrow because the members of the German delegation must consult with their respective state governments.

Rabbi Barnett Brickner, honorary vice-chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, who has just completed a four-day tour of the DP camps in the Munich area told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he is convinced that political action must accompany all other aid to the displaced Jews. He declared that the bulk of the Jews must be removed from camps, asserting that "there is a growing feeling of desperation among them and a resultant desire to emigrate to any place just to get out of Germany." Rabbi Brickner, who is on a U.J.A. mission, will also visit the British zone of Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Italy and Palestine before he returns home.

GERMAN STATE IN SOVIET ZONE WILL PAY COMPENSATION TO FORMER RESIDENTS NOW IN PALESTINE

TEL AVIV, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- The Tel Aviv municipality today released a message from the president of the province of Thuringia, in the Soviet zone of Germany, asking it to inform former Thuringian Jews now living in Palestine that they are entitled to receive compensation for immovable property they left behind. The message stated that the Jews will receive compensation even in cases where they sold their property under duress.



NO ANTI-JEWISH VIOLENCE DURING POLISH ELECTIONS; MINOR DEMONSTRATIONS HAILED BY POLICE

WARSAW, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- Preliminary reports from various sections of Poland received last night and today indicate that yesterday's elections were not marred by anti-Jewish violence.

At Pabianiec, near Lodz, and in Lowitch, near Warsaw, groups supporting the Mikolajewski slate attempted to provoke disturbances, shouting anti-government and anti-Jewish slogans, but they were quickly dispersed by security police.

U.S. TO GIVE REFUGEE COMMITTEE VALUABLES STRIPPED FROM HUNGARIAN JEWS BY NAZIS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- The U.S. Government is preparing to turn over to the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees the contents of the so-called Hungarian gold train, captured in Austria, which consists mainly of valuables stripped from Hungarian Jews, it was learned here today. A formal announcement to that effect will be made by the State Department within a few days.

The train, which contained jewels, furs, gold and other valuables, was captured in Austria while en route to Germany in the closing days of the war. Eight of its 24 cars are in the French zone, and it is not known what disposition will be made of them. French authorities have not indicated whether they agree with the American interpretation that, in accordance with decisions taken at the Paris Reparations Conference last year, all unidentifiable personal property not in the form of monetary gold should be used to aid refugees who cannot return to their homelands.

Officials here say that it would be virtually impossible to return the valuables to the original owners in Hungary, many of whom were slaughtered. The Intergovernmental committee is, therefore, preparing to negotiate their sale and to use the proceeds to aid refugees.

DR. CHAIM KALVARISKY BURIED IN PALESTINE; WAS CHIEF EXPONENT OF ARAB-JEWISH UNITY

JERUSALEM, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held here today for Dr. Chaim Kalvarisky, one-time head of the Department of Arab Affairs of the Jewish Agency, who died yesterday. Dr. Kalvarisky, who was 79 had been active for nearly half a century in the movement for Arab-Jewish rapprochement in Palestine.

In 1939, Dr. Kalvarisky, who was then 72, flew to London to advise the Jewish delegation at the round-table conference on Palestine. A leader of the Labor Zionists, in recent years he was one of the sponsors of the Ichud party, which favors establishment of a bi-national state in Palestine. He was the chief exponent in Palestine of the necessity for friendship and cooperation between Arabs and Jews and was closer to the Arabs than any other Jewish leader.

Born in Pezerosol, Russia, in 1868, he was an active Zionist in pre-Herzl days when he was a student at the University of Montpellier in France. He settled in Palestine in 1895 and for some years taught at the Mikveh Israel agricultural school. At the turn of the century he was appointed by Baron Edmond de Rothschild to supervise the work of Jewish colonies in Galilee which were encountering difficulties. He later became one of the principal directors of the Jewish Colonization Association founded by Baron Rothschild.

UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF AMERICA TO ASSIGN "CIRCUIT-RIDING RABBIS" TO SMALL COMMUNITIES

NEW YORK, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- The United Synagogue of America, representing more than 400 Conservative Jewish congregations, will send several "circuit-riding rabbis" throughout the country to serve small Jewish communities which are not large enough to support a rabbi and religious schools; it was decided at a meeting of the organization last night.

In a report which led to the resolution to establish the circuit-riding corps, Rabbi Albert I. Gordon, who was yesterday installed as executive director of the group, declared that the United Synagogue was faced with the task of developing a "greater sense of unity and discipline" in various Conservative congregations. Under the plan for a travelling rabbinate, several members of next June's graduating class at the Jewish Theological Seminary will be assigned to hold services and train laymen to conduct them in small communities which request assistance.

POLAND PROVIDING EQUAL RIGHTS FOR JEWS. POLISH DELEGATE TO UNITED NATIONS SAYS

NEW YORK, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- Poland has repudiated its reactionary past and is building a new life and a new democratic country for all its people including the Polish Jews, Oscar Lange, Polish delegate to the United Nations declared last night at a dinner opening the American Federation for Polish Jews \$3,000,000 drive for aid to Jews in Poland and refugees who left the country. Pledges at the dinner amounted to nearly \$270,000.

Pointing out that Jews are free to leave the country whenever they wish, Lange stated that despite all obstacles the Polish Government is making every effort to provide equal opportunity in all fields for Jews who desire to remain. Dr. Joseph Tenenbaum, Federation president, called for the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine, in his speech. Other speakers included Frank Kingdon, co-chairman of the Progressive Citizens of America, and Vincent Impellitteri, president of the New York City Council.

YIDDISH SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTE PROCLAIMS \$300,000 DRIVE; ASKS ASSISTANCE FROM U.J.A.

NEW YORK, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- A campaign for \$300,000 was proclaimed last night in a resolution adopted by the 21st annual conference of the Yiddish Scientific Institute. The resolution asked that part of this sum be allotted the YIVO by the United Jewish Appeal.

The conference, which opened Saturday night and will continue through Wednesday, will hear a series of reports on various aspects of Jewish life, including papers on Jewish life in Europe during the occupation, Jewish agriculture, Yiddish literature and language, Jewish history and religion and varied research projects.

"TOLERANCE CAN BE TAUGHT" EXHIBIT OPENS HERE; WILL TOUR LARGER CITIES THROUGHOUT COUNTRY

NEW YORK, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- A "Tolerance can be Taught" exhibit featuring 300 posters, cartoons, graphs, and photographs intended to acquaint educators with various types of inter-racial relations programs, opened here yesterday for a two-week showing before being sent on a nation-wide tour of the larger cities. The exhibition, at the Norliss Gallery here, is under the auspices of the Council Against Intolerance, with 66 local and national organizations cooperating.