

Sunday, May 18, 1947

JTA

Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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

ROMANIA ADOPTS CITIZENSHIP LAW ELIMINATING ABUSES AFFECTING JEWS FOR THREE DECADES

BUCHAREST, May 16. (JTA) -- The Rumanian parliament today adopted a sweeping citizenship reform law which wipes out thousands of grievances of Rumanian Jews, some of which date back 30 years. The vote on the measure, which was backed by all Jewish organizations in the country, was 188-2.

The new law provides that all persons who have resided in Rumanian territory since 1920 automatically acquire citizenship. This provision even includes persons who failed to register for Rumanian citizenship after World War I. In addition, all persons repatriated from territory ceded to the U.S.S.R. or to be repatriated will retain their full citizenship status, provided they were Rumanian residents before June 28, 1940.

The measure also cancels all discriminatory legislation imposed by the Goga and Cuza pro-Nazi governments which deprived tens of thousands of Jews of citizenship rights and made them "stateless."

Persons who cannot produce documents to prove residence or previous citizenship because they were deportees, internees or lived in bombed areas will be permitted to submit testimony of witnesses to support their claims.

The left-wing daily "Liberal Rumania" today calls on the authorities to take immediate action against Prof. I.V. Gruiu, Minister of Justice in the 1940 pro-fascist Gligu government, who, it reveals, is now a member of the faculty of the Bucharest Law School. Gruiu was one of the foremost theoreticians of Rumanian fascism and racism.

The newspaper recalls that as Minister of Justice, he advocated closer relations with the Axis and also forced Jewish lawyers out of the courts. Later, as legal advisor to Premier Ion Antonescu, he authored the infamous "Legal Statutes for Jewish Inhabitants of Rumania," which was a scheme for determining ethnic origins similar to the Nazi "Table of Ancestry." He was also responsible for the promulgation of a law prohibiting the marriage of Jews to non-Jews.

U.S. PLAN ON FUTURE OF PALESTINE MAY BE PRESENTED TO U.N. INQUIRY COMMISSION THIS MONTH

LAKE SUCCESS, May 16. (JTA) -- The U.N. inquiry commission on Palestine at its meeting here on May 26 will consider the question of attaching one Jewish and one Arab liaison officer to its staff, it was learned today.

The commission is expected to embark upon its task with no preconceived opinions, but members of the United States delegation today said that they may present the precise view of the U.S. Government on the future of Palestine to the body when it starts its meetings here, if they are called upon to do so. Members of the delegation differed in their interpretation of what U.S. testimony would be. Some said it would be factual and documentary. Others cautioned against a too restrictive interpretation, pointing out the wide scope of the commission, which permits it to collect data not only on Palestine but on the views of interested parties and governments.

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JEWISH AGENCY DRAFTING CALL FOR PEACE IN ANSWER TO U.N. PLEA FOR TRUCE UNTIL SEPT.

JERUSALEM, May 16. (JTA) -- At a special meeting this morning, the executive of the Jewish Agency took under consideration the U.N. Assembly's plea for a truce in the Holy Land until a final decision is rendered, and voted to call on all elements in the Jewish community to maintain peace, an Agency spokesman told a press conference.

He said that the Agency had not begun preparations for appearing before the U.N. inquiry committee, since it was not yet clear whether the probers would want to hear witnesses or merely study written memoranda. As soon as the inquiry body's procedure is made known, the Agency will begin work, he added.

The Palestine Government, meanwhile, is going ahead with plans for accommodating the members of the inquiry committee and their aides. It is understood that part of the King David Hotel where the government's secretariat is located will be made available to the U.N. body. The area is surrounded by barbed wire and it is impossible to enter without special permits. A unit of 250 picked policemen has been assigned to act as bodyguards for the investigators, in addition to the regular military guards who will surround their meeting place. The latter site has not yet been selected, but it is reported that the same YMCA building used by the Anglo-American Commission of Inquiry will be used.

Extremists Reported Ready for Truce if Government Will Agree

It is learned that the Stern Group and the Irgun Zvai Leumi are carrying on discussions for a joint approach to the Palestine Government. The extremists are reported ready to suspend hostilities during the period of the inquiry, if the government promises to do likewise.

An anonymous spokesman of the Stern Group called the JTA office in Tel Aviv this morning, declaring: "We ask you to inform the world that we will not boycott the U.N. fact-finding commission, and guarantee their security when they come to Palestine."

The left-wing Hashomer Hatzair today issued a leaflet praising the statement at the U.N. by Soviet delegate Andrei Gromyko, and demanding that the Jewish Agency "stay on the path of a progressive policy to foster Jewish-Arab rapprochement, aiming at the establishment of a bi-national state supported by all progressive forces throughout the world, which is the only way to solve the complicated Jewish and Palestine problems."

A serious split has developed in the Tenua L'Achdut Avoda, the left-wing opposition to the Mapai (Palestine Labor Party), with a number of its leading members resigning to join the Hashomer Hatzair and others gravitating back towards the Mapai.

PALESTINE GOVT. REJENTS; AGREES TO ADMIT 375 CYPRUS DETAINEES BARRED LAST MONTH

JERUSALEM, May 16. (JTA) -- All the refugees who arrived in Palestine aboard the Latrun in November, 1946, and were subsequently deported to Cyprus, will be returned on Tuesday, it was announced today.

The announcement was made by Morris Laub, JDC representative in Cyprus, who disclosed that the Palestine Government has agreed to admit the 375 persons who were barred from entering last month under the April-May quota, because a like number had escaped from the vessel Susanna. The government's action at that time precipitated a four-day hunger strike. A total of 1,125 detainees will be returned, including 750 under the May-June quota.

IRGUN KILLED IN ABORTIVE ATTEMPT TO MURDER JEWISH DETECTIVE ON STERNIST BLACK LIST

JERUSALEM, May 16. (JTA) -- The British driver of a Criminal Investigation Division car was killed today and his two passengers injured, one seriously, when the vehicle was blown up by an electrically-actuated mine on the slopes of Mt. Scopus.

The seriously wounded officer was a Jewish CID inspector named Shindel, whom the Stern Group announced tonight "heads our black list of 1942." The Sternists admitted responsibility for the attack, which came a day after the government announced the promotion of five Jewish inspectors to the rank of assistant superintendent.

The Irgun announced last night that it had carried out the rail attacks which caused \$40,000 damage in various parts of the country. The announcement said that the blows were aimed at crippling the "enemy's freedom of movement," and asserted that railroad officials and Arabic newspapers had been warned in advance to prevent any loss of life. (The Arab newspapers confirmed that they had received the warnings.) The Irgun said the warning still stood and asked the Hebrew and Arab newspapers to inform the public of the dangers of rail travel.

Mordechai Laufer, 33, the assistant manager of a textile dyeing factory at Ramat Gan, went on trial today before a military court on charges of carrying arms, which were found in his car when it was stopped near Ramat Gan on April 8. Laufer claims that he was kidnapped and compelled to transport the arms. The prosecutor challenged Laufer's contention, but said the arms were probably intended for training, rather than action.

Five Jews who were captured during the jail break at Acre Prison on May 4 will be tried before a military court on May 26. They face four capital charges, including firing on members of the Arab Legion, possession of firearms, the illegal wearing of military uniforms and the discharging of explosives.

The government is preparing to allow English women who were evacuated several months ago to return here on condition that they do not bring along any children, and assume all risks.

CZECH PARLIAMENT GETS DEMAND TO PUNISH WORKERS WHO STOPPED PLANT RESTORED TO JEW

PRAGUE, May 16. (JTA) -- A demand was voiced in parliament today for the disciplining of workers who recently struck against the return of a nationalized factory in the town of Mohelnice to its pre-Nazi Jewish owner. The workers charged their employer with being pro-German.

The parliamentary sub-committee investigating a strike at the Warnsdorf plant of Emil Beer, a Jewish industrialist, whose employees went on strike for the same reason, today heard a Socialist spokesman urge the breaking of strikes against "legal restitution orders." He charged that the Warnsdorf strike was incited by Communists.

A Communist Party spokesman told the committee that Beer was pro-German, and charged that the judge who awarded the plant to the industrialist was violating the restitution law, while the workers who struck the plant were actually upholding the law. The Warnsdorf incident is slated for parliamentary debate next week.

HUNGARIAN ZIONISTS FINALLY SECURE PERMISSION FROM GOVERNMENT TO ISSUE WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

BUDAPEST, May 16. (JTA) -- After trying unsuccessfully for a year, the Zionist Organization has finally secured approval from the government to issue a weekly newspaper. It will be called "The Jewish Road." The publication permit was obtained allegedly as a result of intervention by Social-Democratic deputies.

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3,500 JEWISH DP'S PROTEST PLAN TO TRANSFER THEM FROM ZEILSHEIM CAMP; REFUSE TO MOVE

MUNICH, May 16. (JTA) -- A four-man delegation from the Zeilsheim Camp for Displaced Jews, near Frankfurt, conferred today with representatives of the Central Committee of Liberated Jews, the voluntary agencies and UNRRA, strongly protesting the Army's alleged plan to move the Jewish DP's out of Zeilsheim to make room for Germans to be employed by the Anglo-American bi-zonal headquarters which are to be set up in Frankfurt.

The delegation said that the report had created turmoil in the camp, which houses 3,500 persons, and warned, in blunt language that if the report should be true, the displaced Jews will not move any place except Palestine. "We have lived in Zeilsheim for the two years since liberation and built schools, synagogues and communal kitchens," a spokesman said. "We have more than 500 children who were born during the past two years and nobody is going to move any place until we are finally moved out of Germany completely."

The Army's DP headquarters at Frankfurt and the office of Rabbi Philip Bernstein, advisor on Jewish affairs to Gen. Clay, denied any knowledge of the projected transfer of the DP's. Other informed sources said, however, that Military Government headquarters in Berlin may have by-passed both Bernstein's office and the DP headquarters. Still another report said that the Army plans to break the news on Monday when it is expected to confer with UNRRA officials and camp leaders.

DP'S IN ITALY PROTEST TO UNRRA AGAINST CUT IN WAGES PAID FOR LABOR IN CAMPS

ROME, May 16. (JTA) -- A joint delegation from all DP camps in Italy today visited the Rome headquarters of UNRRA to protest the recent decision halving the wages paid displaced persons for work done in the camps. The result of their protests is not known.

The first 200 of 500 Polish-Jewish children who were granted permission to enter Italy, following intercession by the Pope, arrived at Milan today from Salzburg. Most of them are orphans, but a few have parents, who will attempt to come here later. Up to now the parents have been unable to get visas.

Placards calling on Jews to battle Britain in Palestine and throughout the world appeared today in various sections of Italy where training camps for DP's planning to settle in Palestine are located. They were signed by the Irgun Zvai Leumi. Italian police are investigating.

Three of the 100 Palestine teachers scheduled to be sent to Europe to work among displaced Jews have arrived here.

I.R.O. PREPARATORY COMMISSION DECIDES AGAINST FORMATION OF SPECIAL JEWISH DEPARTMENT

LAUSANNE, May 16. (JTA) -- The Preparatory Commission for the International Refugee Organization has decided against the formation of a special department within the I.R.O. for displaced Jews.

The action was taken following the demand by organizations of pro-fascist displaced Balts, Ukrainians and Poles that special departments also be established for their groups. However, the Jewish relief organizations now doing field work in the DP centers will receive a special status permitting close cooperation with I.R.O. officials.

HOUSE AND STATE DEPARTMENTS BACK BILL FOR ADMISSION OF 400,000 DP'S TO U.S.

WASHINGTON, May 16. (JTA) -- The Administration has made clear that it strongly supports the Stratton Bill to permit the entry of 400,000 displaced persons in the next four years, in two favorable memorandums which have been submitted to the House Judiciary Committee, it was learned today. A State Department memorandum and a memorandum from the Justice Department filed with the committee a few days ago urged passage of the bill.

In the Justice Department report the Attorney General suggested that the bill be modified to authorize the granting of permanent status to persons now in the United States on temporary status who would be classed as displaced persons, if freed to leave the country. According to a State Department figure, up to 1,500 persons might fall into this category.

State and Justice Department officials have conferred with John R. Steelman, Assistant to President Truman, who gave White House approval to the bill, it is understood. Although President Truman said at his press conference yesterday, in response to questioning, that he will not send a message to Congress at this time in support of the Stratton Bill, it is still considered possible that he will make such a statement at a later date.

The Judiciary Committee this morning set June 4 as the opening date for hearings on the bill. Earl G. Harrison, chairman of the Citizens Committee on Displaced Persons, Under-Secretary of State Dean Acheson and Assistant Secretary of State for Occupied Areas John Hilldring may be among witnesses who will testify.

DEAN URGES UNITED STATES GIVE REFUGE TO EUROPEAN VICTIMS OF NAZIS

BOSTON, May 16. (JTA) -- As a "nation of immigrants" built by the contributions of immigrants of all countries and faiths, the United States has a special responsibility to maintain its historic policy of affording sanctuary to the oppressed, former Gov. Herbert H. Lehman of New York today told a luncheon meeting of the Boston Chapter of the American Jewish Committee in the Parker House.

He urged enactment in Congress of H.R. 2910 which would authorize immigration of 100,000 displaced persons a year for four years, and said he "hoped and prayed" for its passage. Said Governor Lehman: "Those admitted would be of many different nationalities and all religious faiths. The bill would take care of less than half of the unhappy people in the displaced persons' camps. It would, however, relieve the situation immeasurably."

CANADA AWAITS INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON ADMISSION OF DISPLACED PERSONS

OTTAWA, May 16. (JTA) -- "Canada is under no legal obligation to admit displaced persons, but we have a real moral obligation toward them," Resources Minister James A. Glen declared here today. He pointed out that just how many displaced persons will be admitted to Canada and how soon has yet to be decided, but added that the movement already has begun and will expand as rapidly as shipping accommodations can be made available.

"The total number to be taken by Canada will depend upon the international agreement which is reached in regard to this whole problem," the Minister said. "Canada will do its full share, not only on humanitarian grounds, but because we believe that the immigrants we will obtain from these displaced persons camps are the kind of people who will make good citizens in this country."

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GOVERNORS OF MANY STATES CALL ON AMERICANS TO SUPPORT UNITED JEWISH APPEAL DRIVE

NEW YORK, May 16. (JTA) -- Emphasizing that two years after the end of the war hundreds of thousands of Europe's Jewish survivors are still homeless, hungry and sick, governors of states from coast to coast today called upon Americans of all faiths to support the nationwide \$170,000,000 United Jewish Appeal campaign for relief, rehabilitation and resettlement of Jews in Europe.

The governors warmly praised the objectives of the United Jewish Appeal campaign as "an integral part of any program designed to bring about a just and lasting peace to a tortured continent." Several of the governors designated the month of May as United Jewish Appeal Month in their states.

Governors who joined in endorsing the United Jewish Appeal campaign included: Thomas E. Dewey, New York; Alfred E. Driscoll, New Jersey; Earl Warren, California; Ralph F. Gates, Indiana; Ernest W. Gibson, Vermont; Thomas J. Herbert, Ohio; J. Strom Thurmond, South Carolina; Frank Carlson, Kansas; Roy J. Turner, Oklahoma; Jim McCord, Tennessee; Dan E. Garvey, Acting Governor, Arizona; M.E. Thompson, Georgia; Millard F. Caldwell, Florida; Charles M. Dale, New Hampshire; George T. Mickelson, South Dakota; Ben Laney, Arkansas; Lester C. Hunt, Wyoming; R. Gregg Cherry, North Carolina; Earl Snell, Oregon; Oscar Rennebohm, Wisconsin; Beauford H. Jester, Texas; Horace Eldred, Maine; and Mon C. Wallgren, Washington.

Henry Morgenthau, Jr., former Secretary of the Treasury, and general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal campaign, hailed the statements of the governors as a gratifying demonstration of the American people's deep concern for the welfare of the 1,500,000 men, women and children who were the first to suffer the lash of tyranny and the last to be restored to a life of peace and dignity."

Pointing out that this is a time of heightening tragedy for the remaining Jews in Europe as a result of the scheduled total liquidation of UNRRA on June 30, 1947, Mr. Morgenthau warned that only the united efforts of the American people could stave off further mass suffering and despair among the already decimated ranks of the Jewish people of Europe.

AMBASSADOR MESSERSMITH LAUDS WORK OF JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY AT FETE IN ARGENTINA

BUENOS AIRES, May 16. (JTA) -- United States Ambassador George Messersmith lauded the work of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency as "objective and enlightening" at a reception tendered him last night by leaders of the Jewish community here.

The American Ambassador touched upon the present situation in Palestine and deplored the fact that thousands of Jews are still homeless in Europe and must live in camps in Germany, Austria and Italy.

PREFABRICATED HOUSES WILL BE SENT FROM UNITED STATES TO JEWS IN PALESTINE

NEW YORK, May 16. (JTA) -- American prefabricated houses will be sent to Palestine, according to plans being drawn up by Julius Stulman, prominent New York lumberman, in cooperation with E.N. Mohl, former housing advisor to the Palestine Government, who is now in this country. These houses, Mr. Stulman said today, are intended primarily to meet the needs of agricultural and suburban workers families.

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