

PROPERTY RESTRICTIONS FOR JEWS LEAVING FOR ISRAEL IMPOSED BY NEW POLISH REGULATIONS

WARSAW, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Another special train of Israel-bound Jews left here today. A new set of regulations has limited the quantity of personal goods each of the emigrants may take out of the country.

Included are: one watch, a wedding ring and one other ring, one prayer book and ten books published since the liberation. In addition, those who are able to pay their transportation costs are also permitted to exchange up to 100,000 zlotys for Israel currency. The 100,000 zlotys--somewhat under 100 pounds in Israel currency--is permitted single persons only; family members may convert up to 60,000 zlotys each. One-third of the converted sum is taken by the Israel Government to defray the costs of handling the immigrants and the remaining two-thirds is turned over to the owner when he arrives in Israel.

Between 100 and 150 exit visas are being granted daily by the Polish Government to Jews desiring to go to Israel. Meanwhile, the General Zionists and the Mapai have decided to close down their offices by the end of the year. The Mapam party has not yet announced any decision on this matter.

GERMAN PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES GATHERING EVIDENCE AGAINST ANTI-SEMITIC DEPUTY

MUNICH, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- The Minister of Justice of the German province of Schleswig-Holstein arrived in Bonn today to gather evidence against Wolfgang Hedler, a member of the West German Parliament who this week said that Germany did not need the Jews and who attacked Kurt Schumacher, Social Democratic Party leader, for denouncing Nazi barbarism against the Jews.

All parties, with the exception of his own, the rightist German Party, have issued statements condemning Hedler who also said that everyone was entitled to his own opinion of Hitler's methods of exterminating the Jews. The Social Democrats demanded that Hedler, who is suspended pending Parliamentary action against him, be handed over to the authorities for prosecution.

KNOWLEDGE OF MURDER OF JEWS IS CRUX OF CASE AGAINST VON MANNSTEIN. JUDGE SAYS

HAMBURG, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- The question of whether Nazi Field Marshal Erich von Mannstein knew of the mass murder of 100,000 Jews and others by his armies in parts of the Soviet Union under his command is the crux of the case, the chief judge of the British military court, which is trying the Nazi on 17 charges of war crimes, declared today during his week-long summation of the case.

The judge pointed out that it is clear that the massacres were carried out, but that Von Mannstein denied knowledge of them. Pointing out that his staff officers admitted knowledge of them, the judge asked whether such a "conspiracy of silence" around the Nazi general could have been maintained. He also cited a reference in Von Mannstein's war diary to the effect that "it is unworthy of an officer to watch the shooting of Jews."

ROMANIAN POLICEMEN SENTENCED TO PRISON TERMS FOR MALTREATMENT OF JEWS DURING WAR

BUCHAREST, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Seven Romanian policemen were sentenced today to varying terms of imprisonment for ill-treating Jewish deportees in the Romanian-held sector of the Ukraine during the war. The defendants, whose sentences range from 10 to 25 years, pleaded that they had committed the crimes listed against them under direct orders from their commander, who previously was sentenced to life imprisonment.

HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT BANS COMPULSORY STUDY OF RELIGION IN CLASSROOMS

BUDAPEST, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Religious instruction in the two Jewish, or in the other denominational schools in Hungary cannot be compulsory, according to a new decree made public here today.

Ninety percent of all the boy students and 60 percent of all the girl students enrolled in the two Jewish schools here have asked for religious instruction. They are allowed to receive three lessons weekly in religion and, if they request it, may also study the Bible once a week. The teaching of Hebrew, however, is not permitted in these classes.

"UNITY SLATE" OF SOCIALISTS, ZIONISTS, COMMUNISTS WINS IN VIENNA KEBILLA ELECTION

VIENNA, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- A "Unity Slate" composed of Zionists, Communists and Socialists has gained virtually complete control of the Vienna Jewish Community in the election for community officers held here Sunday, it was announced today. The "Unity Slate" received 4,996 votes against 268 for the rightist Federation of Jewish Merchants. Fifty-eight percent of the electorate participated in the balloting.

The united slate came into existence as a demonstration of the community's opposition to neo-fascism and anti-Semitism which are on the rise in Austria. The unity list is also designed to bring the Jews of Vienna into accord in their protest against nonfulfillment of their restitution claims and to avoid an election campaign which it was felt would only weaken Jewish effectiveness. A committee of the Vienna Jewish Community has been working on a draft bill against anti-Semitism to be submitted to national authorities.

The 30 seats on the Community executive will be divided as follows: Socialists, 8; Zionists, 10; Communists, 11, and Merchants, one. The cooperating groups also agreed to hold the next election at least two years hence and to name a president from each of the three parties for a term of office of eight months apiece. The other two parties would be represented by vice-presidents during the periods that their leaders were not serving as president.

J.D.C. TURNS OVER RESPONSIBILITY FOR WELFARE PROGRAM OF GREEK JEWS TO COMMUNITIES

ATHENS, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- The Joint Distribution Committee has turned over complete administrative responsibility for the relief and welfare program of Greek Jewry to the Central Board of Greek Jewish Communities as of December 1, it was announced here today. It will continue, however, to contribute money and supplies. The J.D.C. has been responsible for the program since the liberation of Greece in 1944.

The announcement said that the funds to be given to the Central Board must be used only in accordance with a budget approved by the J.D.C. It is also stipulated that as of Jan. 1, 1950, the Jews of Greece will have to contribute to the tuberculosis program, at least to the extent of 20,000,000 drachmas monthly (\$1,350) for the first quarter of 1950.

NATIVE INDIAN JEWS RECEIVE TWO TORAHES AS GIFT FROM ISRAEL CHIEF RABBI HERZOG

BOMBAY, India, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- The entire population of a Bnei Israel village, 20 miles from here, turned out this morning to receive a gift of two Torahs sent to the sect of native Indian Jews by Israel Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog. The presentation was made by Dr. Emanuel Olavanger of the Oriental Department of the Jewish Agency.

HANUKKAH CELEBRATIONS STARTED; U.S. JEWISH LEADERS EXPLAIN SIGNIFICANCE OF HOLIDAY

NEW YORK, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights, which commemorates the first successful struggle for religious freedom in human history and marks the victory of the Maccabees, was ushered in tonight by Jews throughout the country and will be observed for eight days.

A Hanukkah message issued today by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations says: "In our day we have seen the forces of reaction and bigotry try to stamp out the flame of freedom. Again men of goodwill have successfully sprung to arms in defense of their God-given rights and liberties. This Festival of Lights and rededication calls upon all men, regardless of race or color or creed, to unite in creating a world of freedom, understanding and peace."

Jacob Blaustein, president of the American Jewish Committee, said in a statement: "The Festival of Lights is more than a sectarian Jewish holiday. It is a part of the heritage of all free men serving to recall that, in every age, men of all faiths stand ready to battle and to give their lives to preserve freedom of worship and basic human rights."

HIAS president Samuel A. Tolsky declared: "The candles which are lit tonight and throughout this holiday, in our age-old tradition, symbolize the light of hope which will continue to shine upon those of our brothers who still bear in Europe the burden of oppression and homelessness. HIAS will continue to explore still further avenues of rescue for Jews in Europe, particularly in the Eastern portion of that continent, who long to be reunited with their scattered kin in other parts of this world."

An exhibition of ancient Hanukkah ceremonial menorahs, including many lamps from Morocco, Turkey, Russia, Israel and other countries, as well as the personal lamp of the late Baron Maurice de Hirsch (1831-1896), famous English philanthropist and founder of the Jewish Colonization Association, went on display today at the Yeshiva University here.

IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES IN URUGUAY, BRAZIL CALLED "ANTI-SEMITIC" BY ARGENTINE JEWS

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- The "anti-Semitic attitude of immigration authorities" in Brazil and Uruguay was scored here at a press conference by three Jewish leaders concerned with immigration. They were: Mark Turcov, of the Latin American office of HIAS; Jacobo Feuerman, president of the Society for the Protection of Jewish Immigrants, a local group which cooperates with HIAS; and Adolfo Minyersky, secretary of the pro-Peronist Organizacion Israelita Argentina.

The three leaders related the argosy of some 67 Jewish refugees who arrived at Uruguay from Europe recently with tourist visas obtained for them from Uruguay-an consulates in France by HIAS and the Joint Distribution Committee. The Uruguayan authorities refused to permit the Jews to land, asserting that the visas were invalid.

The vessel continued to Argentina where seven of the immigrants were permitted to land and the remainder were told that they would be admitted from Europe or other countries when they obtained valid Argentinian visas through the O.I.A. While the vessel was en route from Argentina to Brazil the Buenos Aires Government instructed the Argentinian consulate at Rio de Janeiro to issue ten visas to the Jews when their vessel arrived in a Brazilian port.

This the Argentinian consul did, but the Brazilian authorities refused to allow the Jews to land because they would have to wait 24 hours in Brazil for another ship back to Buenos Aires and for this they needed a Brazilian transit visa which they did not possess. The ten were forced to go on to Europe with the remainder of the refugees.

DISPLACED JEWISH FAMILIES ARRIVING IN CANADA WILL BE SETTLED ON J.C.A. FARMS

MONTREAL, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- About 25 displaced Jewish families who arrived here from Germany will be established on farms in the fruit belt of Ontario which have been acquired by the Jewish Colonization Association, it was announced here today. Each family is being provided with a farm worth up to \$20,000 and will devote itself to cattle and poultry breeding, as well as the cultivation of small fruit and vegetables.

The new farms of the Jewish Colonization Association are situated in the vicinity of the Hechalutz farm in Smithville where many young Canadian Jews are receiving agricultural training prior to their departure for Israel.

DR. LVOVITCH ARRIVES IN U.S.; SAYS NUMBER OF ORT SCHOOLS INCREASING IN GERMANY

NEW YORK, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Dr. David Lvovitch, chairman of the executive committee of the World ORT Union, arrived here today from Paris to participate in the negotiations which the American ORT Federation is conducting with the Joint Distribution Committee for a 1950 fund allocation.

"The number of ORT schools in Germany and in Austria is increasing since the expected liquidations of the DP camps in these countries has not materialized," Dr. Lvovitch said in a statement to the press. "Many Jews are moving from the camps into cities and most do not intend to remain in Germany. They are therefore very anxious to learn a trade which will facilitate their emigration. As a result, our schools are attended by more students than before."

NEWARK JEWISH COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER GETS FIRST PRIZE AWARD FOR THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR

NEWARK, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- For the third consecutive year, The Jewish News, published weekly in Newark by the Essex County Jewish Community Council, has been awarded first prize as the best community-sponsored newspaper in the United States and Canada. Selection of The Jewish News for the prize was made by the General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds at its annual conference.

The award was presented to Herbert R. Abeles, president of the Essex County Jewish Community Council, by Sol Luchman, president of the United Jewish Social Agencies of Cincinnati, and chairman of the committee of exhibit judges. Other judges were Lester Alexander of Toledo, and Bernard L. Gottlieb of Hartford. Herman M. Pekar-sky is publisher and secretary of The Jewish News and Harry Weingast is its editor.

ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE AWARDS FELLOWSHIP TO UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

LCS ANGELES, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- The Anti-Defamation League of the B'nai B'rith has awarded a \$1,000 Sigmund Livingstone Fellowship to the University of California at Los Angeles for the academic year 1949-50. The fellowship is awarded each year to carry on experimental research into problems of prejudice and intergroup relations.

FIRST BOARDING SCHOOL FOR AMERICAN STUDENTS TO BE OPENED IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- The first boarding school in Israel for American students will be opened shortly near Safed, it was announced here today. The school will be housed in a set of buildings on a campus situated atop historic Mt. Canaan. Mr. Louis J. Schwefel, prominent American Zionist now residing in Israel, has arrived in this country to complete preparations in connection with the opening of the school.