

NEWS IN BRIEF.

THE PALESTINE A.T.S.

Jerusalem.

Mrs. Chitty, the Officer Commanding the Palestine A.T.S., on her return from a tour of inspection of the Auxiliary Territorial Service in the Middle East, declared that the military authorities in the Middle East had expressed great satisfaction with the work of the Palestine A.T.S.

Mrs. Chitty added that she was proud of them.

PALESTINE COTTON MILLS.

Jerusalem.

The first cotton yarn was produced at the new Palestine Cotton Mills, Ltd., Haifa, a factory the corner-stone of which was laid at the end of last year. Some 3,000 spindles have so far been installed. The output of twisted yarn, badly needed for tents, was begun a few weeks ago, while the factory's weaving section will start work on thirty looms shortly. Other machinery, including jack-frames for spooling yarn, sizing and twisting machines, will shortly be installed. The present staff of fifty hands is expected to increase to about 300 in due course.

DEHYDRATED POTATOES.

Jerusalem.

To overcome the difficulties of distributing and storing potatoes in large quantities, Jaf-Ora Co-operative Society, Ltd., of Rehovoth, began recently to cut and dry potatoes for use by the military authorities. The purpose of "dehydrating" the potatoes and cutting them into slices which can then be cooked in the ordinary way, is to save space. Large quantities of potatoes are now being grown from seed distributed among local farmers early in the year for Army purposes. Large quantities will be stored for use in the autumn or winter, and will be distributed to various canteens or sent to forward areas.

Another timely product of the Rehovoth plant is dried orange and grapefruit peel, which corresponds to barley in value as a cattle fodder but costs £P.9 per ton, compared with £P.15 for barley. About 400 tons of peel, produced from 5,000 tons of fresh citrus fruit, were sold last season.

MOSCOW ISSUES BLACK BOOK ON ANTI-JEWISH ATROCITIES.

Moscow.

Documents and eye-witness testimony describing the Nazi atrocities committed upon Jews in Poland and in the occupied part of Russia were published here in the form of a "Black Book" issued in Yiddish by the Government Publishing House.

The book gives an authentic picture of the massacres of Jewish men, women and children in the occupied territories and registers the Nazi acts of torture in Lodz, Warsaw, Lublin, Chelm, Hrubeshov and other Polish cities. It emphasises that its material is only a part of the "horrible story which our tortured brothers and sisters in the temporarily seized Soviet territory have to tell."

MINSK AND VITEBSK REPORTED "JUDENREIN."

Moscow.

A report that the cities of Minsk and Vitebsk in Nazi-held White Russia, which had large Jewish populations, are now completely "Judenrein" and that not a single Jew is left in the whole of White Russia, was brought here by two Russian guerillas who have been operating in the rear of the Nazi armies there.

EVACUATED RUSSIAN JEWS WORK ON COLLECTIVE FARMS IN BASHKIR REPUBLIC.

Kuibyshev.

The first report of how thousands of Jewish families who were evacuated from the Ukraine and the Minsk district into the distant Soviet Republic of Bashkir have adjusted themselves to life and work there was given to the J.T.A. here by Abdul Achmetoff, Bashkirian Vice-Commissar for Agriculture.

"Masses of evacuated Jews are now engaged in helping collective settlements throughout Bashkir," Achmetoff told the J.T.A. correspondent. "They are working in the field side by side with Bashkirs harvesting the crop. They are doing excellent work. The local Bashkirian population is very much impressed with the devotion which the Jews display in their work."

DUTCH JEWS FORBIDDEN TO USE PUBLIC SEATS.

Stockholm.

The German Security Police in Holland have notified the Amsterdam and the Hague Jewish Council representatives that Jews are forbidden to use the benches in the streets, squares and those parks from which Jews have not yet been barred, it is reported here from Amsterdam.

Jews found seated on these benches may be immediately arrested and deported with their families for work in Germany.

Five Jews and one Jewess were sentenced to terms of imprisonment ranging from six months to five years for taking part in group listening-in to foreign radio stations at Utrecht, according to the "Nationale Dagblad."

MEXICO REVOKES CITIZENSHIP OF PERSONS BORN IN AXIS LANDS.

Mexico.

President Avila Camacho has signed a decree revoking the Mexican citizenship of all persons born in Germany and in countries affiliated with the Axis Powers. The Jewish Central Committee in Mexico is making an effort to secure exemptions for Jews who immigrated from these countries.

JEWISH MUSICAL SOCIETY FORMED IN LONDON.

London.

A society for the furtherance of Jewish musical art has been formed here under the name of "Amanuth."

The aims of "Amanuth" are to popularise Jewish music, to display Jewish musical talent and to establish in London a centre for Jewish artistes.

Among the patrons of "Amanuth" are Miss Clarica Davidson, Miss Harriet Cohen, C.B.E., Miss Irene Scharrer, Dr. Celina Sokolow, Mrs. Robert Solomon, Mr. Harold Holt, the world-famous impresario, and Mr. Ivor Newton.

BRAVERY OF RUSSIAN JEWS.

Kuibyshev.

The Soviet press, featuring a number of reports on the bravery of Jews in the Russian Army, single out Sergeant Nahum Folinowski, disclosing that he has successfully carried out 688 important operations at the front during the present war. Folinowski has been at the front from the very first day of the Nazi attack. Another Jew whose courage and bravery is hailed in "Pravda" is C. Blausten, a sanitary instructor who during recent battles carried 161 wounded Russian soldiers to safety under severe enemy fire.

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