

Lenient Sentences for Nazi Criminals

French and Yugoslav Protests

PARIS, December 12.—A resolution protesting against the verdict in the Luneberg trial and demanding the re-trial of the accused sentenced to imprisonment, was unanimously adopted at a mass meeting held here under the chairmanship of Colonel Mawes.

The meeting was addressed by Madame Marie-Claude Vaillant-Cuturier, Deputy for the Seine Department, and representatives of the Radical Socialist Party, the League for the Rights of Man, the Federation of Deported and Interned Patriots, the French War Crimes Service and other organisations and institutions. The speakers protested against the leniency of the court and the attitude taken up by the defending counsel at the trial. They stressed that Fascism which was responsible for these horrible crimes, must be regarded as the enemy of mankind.

The Council of Jewish Communities of Yugoslavia, speaking on behalf of ten thousand surviving Jews out of that country's pre-war Jewish population of 70,000, cabled the British Government and the British military control in Germany a sharp protest against the lenient sentences

imposed on most of the 40 Nazi death camp torturers tried by a British army court at Luneberg, Germany.

The protest demanded the immediate re-trial of the war criminals, labelling the court procedure and the light sentences as "an insult to the martyrs whom a British major had the audacity to call 'dregs of the ghetto.'"

British Deputies Discuss Plight Of Jews In Poland And Germany

LONDON (By Mail).—The position of the Jews in Germany and Poland were discussed at the last meeting of the British Board of Deputies.

Presenting the report of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Professor Samson Wright urged the need for improving the conditions of Jewish displaced persons in the British and American zones in Germany. He pointed out that despite a certain measure of relief provided by the authorities and Jewish organisations, the general position was still extremely unsatisfactory.

The position in the camps had been greatly aggravated as a result of the Bevin Declaration, Professor Wright declared. It had produced profound depression and had led to demonstrations and disturbances.

As regards German Jews, there were about 6,000 of them in Berlin and about 12,000 throughout Germany. Efforts were being made to improve their legal position and to ensure that they are treated not as German subjects but as Allied nationals.

Emigration of Children

In the debate Mr. Domb charged that there was a body in the camps preventing the children being brought to England under the arrangements made by the Home Office because it was intended to use these children as a political lever to press Palestine demands.

This suggestion was indignantly rejected by other speakers. Mr. Myer quoted a statement issued by the Central Jewish Committee of Belsen emphasising that everything was being done to protect these children from hunger and cold, but adding that "we do not want the children to wander from Galut to Galut as objects of philanthropy."

Professor Wright pointed out that they had no possibility of bringing the children over against the will of their present guardians in the camps. Mr. Alder-Rudel had gone to Ger-

Allegation of Anti-Zionist Bias in Preparations for Joint Inquiry Committee

JERUSALEM (By Mail).—Preparations by the Palestine Government for the Inquiry to be conducted by the Anglo-American Committee are in full swing. Mr. Robert Scott, Financial Secretary to the Government, has been appointed Principal Commissioner on special duty to act as liaison officer between the Government and the Committee. Mr. D. C. McGillivray has been appointed Commissioner on special duty, and Mr. B. E. Allen Assistant Commissioner.

Absorptive Capacity

Jewish critics of the Government allege that the way it is handling the matter reveals a tendency of influencing the Committee of Inquiry to oppose the Jewish demands and to undermine the capacity of the country to absorb new immigrants. It is asserted that the material to be collected is intended to show that Palestine's absorptive capacity has already been used to the full and that Jewish arrivals from Europe will be a liability rather than an asset to the country. No questions are asked about the possibilities of new constructive schemes providing work for immigrants. Instead stress is laid on immediately available facilities for receiving refugees in need of public assistance.

Questions Asked

These are some of the questions asked by the Government: What medical and other care does the immigrant receive from the Jewish Agency on his arrival? Are hospitals and convalescent homes adequate? Are housing conditions adequate? Does the quantity of building material available meet the needs of building, and how long will it take to import the necessary quantity? What is the situation of Jewish industry—is it going to develop or to shrink? What is the situation of the Jewish labour market—is unemployment expected and how soon?

There are scores of similar questions inviting answers which will fit in with the Government's intentions. Only a few questions are put concerning the Arabs. For example: "How is immigration to affect the Arabs?" and similar questions.

YOUTH ORCHESTRA DEBUT IN TEL AVIV

A NEW symphony orchestra of 47 young, locally trained musicians made its debut in the Ohel Shem Hall under the baton of Mr. Frank Pollak recently.

The orchestra, sponsored by the Education Department of the Jewish Labour Council here, is expected to be expanded to 60. Most of the players, whose ages range from 15 to 27, have come straight from local con-

many to discuss these questions with the camp leaders.

Alarming Situation

Reporting on his recent visit to the Continent, Dr. P. Riebenfeld said that the position of the Jews in the liberated countries was far from returning to normal. Not only in Poland, but in France and Austria there was a revival of anti-Semitism. The Jews there felt that for them the war was continuing, perhaps even only beginning. Jewish fugitives are arriving daily in Germany from Poland. They are being admitted into the American zone, but are sent back by the British. There was also the question of 6,000 Jewish soldiers in the Polish armed forces who neither want to remain in the army nor to return to Poland, but want to go to Palestine.

Professor Wright agreed that the alarming situation must be brought to the notice of the Polish Government and that the question should also be brought before the United Nations Organisation.

Mr. Israel Cohen pointed out that the terms of reference of the Joint Inquiry Committee on Palestine also included the position of the Jews in Europe. He urged the Board to lose no time in submitting a comprehensive memorandum to the Committee on this question.

REPATRIATION THREAT TO JEWS IN SHANGHAI

SHANGHAI, December 19.—Thousands of Jews who escaped from Nazi Germany and Austria to Shanghai, and spent the war years here under the most difficult circumstances, are panic-stricken as a result of an order by the Chinese Government in Chungking declaring that all Germans and Austrians in China, including Jews, must return to their native lands.

The order specifies that only refugees who can produce "valuable guarantees," either Chinese or foreign, will be exempted. They will need permission both from the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to remain in Shang-

hai, or in any other part of China. Technicians who can contribute to China's development will be permitted to stay, and may even be given employment by the Government, providing that the approval of the Ministries of the Interior and Foreign Affairs has been obtained.

Later Message

A later message received by the "Zionist Record" states that the Chinese Government appears ready to reconsider the order, after having negotiated with the American Jewish Conference.

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