

TENSION IN D.P. CAMPS

Clashes Between Jews and Police

LONDON, Thursday.—Tension is growing among Jewish displaced persons in Germany and Austria following the murder of a Jew in the American zone of Germany and another two incidents reported from Austria.

A Jewish displaced person was found drowned near Salzburg. An Austrian policeman was arrested and charged with the murder. Three hundred Jewish inmates of the "New Palestine" displaced persons camp demonstrated at the funeral of the murdered man. American authorities provided trucks and a guard of honour for the cortege.

The arrested policeman while admitting that he chased the victim denies having murdered him.

In Vienna a clash occurred between Austrian police and Jewish displaced persons resulting in the arrest of two Jews, who insisted that an Austrian

disclose the contents of a parcel which they believed was food stolen from a Jewish camp. During the clash a 17-year-old boy from Oswiecim was shot and seriously wounded. Fifteen other Jews from the camp were also arrested by the police.

Murdered In Poland

LONDON, Monday.—Since January 1 of this year fifty Jews had been murdered in Poland, mainly by national terrorists, and over 300 Jews were killed since Poland's liberation fourteen months ago. This statement, which appeared in the "Manchester Guardian," was made by Dr. Adolph Berman, member of the Polish National Council, when he addressed a Conference of the newly-formed Polish League for combating racialism.

PROF. LASKI INTERVENES ON BEHALF OF DETAINEES

LASPEZIA, Monday.—Through the intervention of Prof. Harold Laski, Chairman of the British Labour Party who was on a visit to Italy, the refugees on board the "Fede" agreed to suspend their hunger strike until Friday, Prof. Laski promised that he would take up their case with Mr. Bevin.

Pending Mr. Bevin's decision Captain Hills, of the Allied military headquarters, promised the refugees a "different status."

The Jewish leaders made the following four demands to Captain Hills: (1) that the Italian guards be removed from the ship; (2) that the refugees be allowed access to La Spezia; (3) that newspapermen be allowed to visit the ship, and (4) that the Italian official who had been arrested for displaying sympathy with the Jews be released.

Captain Hills indicated that the demands would probably be acceptable to the higher authorities.

The suspension of the strike was the climax to a day during which 80 men and women fainted on the ship and two men attempted to hang themselves on the pier gate.

The refugees had planned to hold a Seder on board the ship with Matzo and other Passover necessities provided by the Joint Distribution Committee.

The London correspondent of the "Zionist Record" states that there has hardly been any reaction in the British press to the happenings in Palestine, although it recorded the bare fact of the arrest of the refugees at La Spezia.

The B.B.C. in a brief report of the hunger strike of the Jewish leaders, did not state that the responsibility lay with the British authorities, but conveyed the impression that the detention of the refugees was due to the Italian authorities.

No mention was made of the great demonstration in the Yishuv on Sunday.

EGYPT OPPOSES CONTINUATION OF PALESTINE MANDATE

(From Our Own Correspondent)

LONDON, Monday.—China's resolution that a Mandatory Power submit an annual report on its mandated territories to UNO as was done to the League, until the establishment of a trusteeship Council, was unanimously supported by the League of Nations Assembly, with the exception of Egypt.

The Egyptian delegate abstained from voting, declaring that his Government was opposed to the continuation of Palestine as a Mandatory territory. He maintained that the Palestine Arabs were ripe for independence in the same way as the Syrian and Lebanese Arabs.

The Egyptian delegate also told press representatives that the partitioning of Palestine as a compromise solution was completely impossible.

Attempts made in certain British quarters to influence the Chinese delegate to withdraw the resolution were unsuccessful.

PALESTINE ORCHESTRA TO VISIT ENGLAND

LONDON, Monday.—The Palestine Symphony Orchestra is going to England to give a series of concerts, starting at the Albert Hall, London, in the middle of June. There will be six concerts at the Albert Hall and six in the Provinces.

CHILDREN FROM D.P. CAMPS LEAVE FOR PALESTINE

FRANKFURT, Monday.—Sixty-one children waving blue and white flags, sailed for Marseilles last week on the first stage of their journey to Palestine.

The children, who are mostly orphans from the camps in the British and American zones, will be joined by 300 children from France and Yugoslavia.

HEBREW PRESS COMMENT ON HUNGER STRIKE

(From Our Own Correspondent)

JERUSALEM, Monday.

The hunger strike is dealt with editorially by the entire Hebrew press. The following are some of the comments:

"The Davar": "The leaders of the Yishuv, who are fasting, are the representatives of a nation engaged in a struggle for its existence. To-day the heart of every Jew is turned to Spezia and Jerusalem, where Israel's struggle for rescue and redemption is being waged."

"Haaretz": "The struggle is directed to gain for every Jew who desires to come to Palestine, the right to do so."

"Mishmar": "The unusual means adopted by the Yishuv testifies to the gravity of the situation. We cannot and will not tolerate the Spezia disgrace."

"Hatzofeh": "With all the strength of a persecuted people we shall storm the iron chains fettering our brethren and destroy the wicked laws."

The Histadruth Executive sent cables to the British Labour Party, the American Congress of Industrial Organisations, the American Federation of Labour, as well as to the Industrial Labour Organisation in Paris and the Italian Socialist Party, asking them to intervene.

CABLE SENT TO KING GEORGE

A cable was also sent by the Chief Rabbis to King George imploring him to intervene on behalf of the refugees in order to prevent a calamity. They sent similar cables to President Truman and to Mr. Attlee.

The Chief Rabbinate instructed all Rabbis and Synagogue wardens to include a special prayer of intercession in the services.

Before the hunger strike began a delegation consisting of Mr. Ben Zvi, Mr. Rokach and Mrs. Golda Meyerson, called on the Chief Secretary for Palestine, Mr. J. V. W. Shaw, to whom they conveyed the decision that the leaders would con-

tinue to fast until the refugees of the "Dov Hos" were permitted to sail for Palestine.

Mr. Shaw promised to convey this information to the High Commissioner.

Before commencing their fast, the 13 chosen fasters assembled at the Vaad Leumi offices where Mr. David Remez delivered a brief address.

"We Jews are placed before a mute wall," he said. "The living remnants of Hitlerite extermination are not allowed to come to their national home to build their future with us. We have no desire to pillory anyone. We only wish to impress upon everyone the position of those on board the 'Dov Hos' and to rouse those who can act to avert a disaster."

"On this point our chosen handful represents the whole of the Yishuv, the whole of the Jewish people and all just men in the world."

During the first days of the fast the leaders addressed delegations from all walks of life, many from remote villages, who came to the Agency court-yard.

One group consisted of worshippers from the Yeshurun Synagogue, wearing their prayer shawls, and another of young people, including survivors of Oswiecim and Dachau.

An appeal from the Chief Rabbis to call off the fast on account of Passover, was considered at an emergency session of the Vaad Leumi late on Monday afternoon. The fasters, however, intimated that they would persist in the fast until the refugees were allowed to come to Palestine.

A group of orthodox settlers from Mea Shearim gathered in the court-yard of the Jewish Agency building to offer prayers for the fasters, including a prayer generally forbidden during Nisan.

A message of encouragement was received from Jewish soldiers serving in Egypt, affirming their solidarity with the Yishuv.

Nehru Hopes for "Fair Status" for Jews

NEW YORK, Monday.—Pandit Nehru, leading Indian statesman and a member of the Congress Working Committee, discussed the position of world Jewry in a two-hour interview with Camille Honig, delegate to the World Jewish Congress, who was on a visit to Bombay.

After the interview Nehru issued an official statement "No man or woman who is at all sensitive can fail to be deeply moved by the tragedy of the Jewish people. For long past this race was itself a tragedy but recent years have overshadowed everything else and language itself fails to express the numbness one feels at the torture and extermination of vast masses of the people. I sincerely hope that some status, fair to all concerned will be found to give relief to the suffering Jewish people."

Mr. Nehru also arranged an interview with Mr. Gandhi for Mr. S. S. Silverman, M.P., another representative of the World Jewish Congress.

STREET traffic was suspended around the Great Synagogue in Rome when large crowds assembled to witness the unveiling of two memorial plaques to Jewish victims of Nazi massacres, put up on the facade of the synagogue.

AMSTERDAM UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES RETURN OF JEWISH LIBRARY

AMSTERDAM, March 25.—Professors and students of the Amsterdam University attended a celebration to mark the return of 30,000 books belonging to the University's Jewish library. When the Nazis invaded Holland the books were sent to the anti-Semitic Research Institute at Frankfurt.

Addressing the students, the Professors stressed that the precious Jewish books would continue to serve as the source of humanitarian teachings, as opposed to the doctrines of race-hatred.