

blood, and a million more are suffering bitterly in their own lands. Their suffering alone should call forth our deepest sympathy and our utmost effort. But in the Jews we recognise the race into which our Lord was born, and our fellow-witnesses to the fundamental belief in God as righteous and ruler of the world. On these as well as on general grounds of human fellow-feeling we are under special obligation to help them in their need. That need exceeds all capacity in individuals to meet it. There is an imperative call to Governments to take action, and to none is that call more insistent than to our own Government and those of the Dominions.

#### BISHOP OF DURHAM INSCRIBED IN GOLDEN BOOK.

London.

A deputation representing North-Eastern Jewry waited upon the Bishop of Durham, Dr. Hensley Henson, at Auckland Castle, and presented him with a framed replica from the Jewish National Fund Golden Book on which his name had been inscribed.

The deputation paid a tribute to the Bishop for his championship of the Jews and his condemnation of their treatment at the hands of the totalitarian states. An inscription on the book reads: "From the North-Eastern Jewish communities in grateful appreciation of Dr. Henson's distinguished defence of the Jewish people in its hour of trial."

In reply the Bishop said: "I lament that the situation should have arisen in which you are here, representative of an ancient and famous race which finds it necessary to speak in terms of high appreciation of such a petty service as I have been able to render. I think you must take comfort in the thought that in your hour of extreme anguish and difficulty you are being borne up by a great volume of sympathetic feeling which I suppose at no previous period in the history of mankind could have been possible."—J.T.A.

#### AMERICAN PROTESTS AGAINST BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S REFUSAL TO ADMIT JEWISH REFUGEE CHILDREN TO PALESTINE.

New York.

The British Government's decision not to admit 10,000 Jewish children from Germany into Palestine has aroused a storm of criticism in Zionist and non-Zionist circles throughout the United States.

A meeting of Zionist and non-Zionist members of the Jewish Agency for Palestine held here issued a statement expressing their grief and amazement at Mr. Malcolm MacDonald's announcement of the Government's decision in the House of Commons.

The announcement, the statement points out, is inconsistent with Great Britain's recent generous attitude towards the refugee problem. "Providing homes for refugee children is a matter of humanity and should take precedence over political considerations," the statement concludes.

An emergency meeting called by the Board of the American Women's Zionist Organisation "Hadassah" passed a resolution declaring that Mr. MacDonald's statement in the House of Commons "implies that the question of rescue was a political and not a humanitarian one." It is pointed out, however, that the Youth Aliyah, the regular Palestine youth immigration move-

ment sponsored by the Hadassah, was not affected by the Colonial Secretary's announcement.

A protest meeting against the British Government's refusal to admit 10,000 refugee children from Germany to Palestine was handed to Mr. Anthony Eden by a delegation of the American Christian Pro-Palestine Federation.

The delegation expressed the hope that Mr. Eden would use his good offices in order to prevail upon the British Government to open Palestine for the immigration of Jewish refugees.—J.T.A.

#### AMERICAN STUDENTS TO AID REFUGEES.

New York.

The Harvard University Corporation decided to establish twenty 500 dollar scholarships for German refugees, with a proviso that each be supplemented by 500 dollars for living expenses raised by an undergraduate committee on refugee students. President James B. Conant expressed satisfaction with campaigns by students at Harvard and other American institutions of high education to raise funds "to take care of capable students who are fleeing the terrors of a dictatorship."

A resolution pledging support of any project to aid refugees in the United States was adopted by representatives of seven up-state colleges meeting at Schenectady, New York State.

A resolution urging that a limited number of carefully selected German Jewish students be invited to continue their studies at Mount Allison University was adopted by a student mass meeting, at Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada. The resolution, which has the approval of the University President, also requests relaxation of Canada's laws to permit controlled entry of refugees.—J.T.A.

#### PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AWARDED AMERICAN HEBREW MEDAL.

New York.

President Roosevelt was awarded by a committee of judges the American-Hebrew Medal, 1938, for the promotion of better understanding between Christians and Jews. In its decision the committee cited the initiative taken by the President in the attempts to solve the Jewish crises and in convening the Evian Conference on refugees.

President Roosevelt declared that he would gladly accept the honour conferred upon him and that he was touched by the generous citation.—J.T.A.

#### BERLIN JEWISH COMMUNITY FACES BANKRUPTCY.

Berlin.

Unless Nazis modify or withhold strict enforcement of their recently amended welfare law, the Jewish Community of Berlin may face virtual bankruptcy before the end of January. The Community, although it is the largest in the Old Reich, has not the means to support the tremendous extra burden which devolves upon it after 1st January.—J.T.A.

#### QUESTION OF ANTI-JEWISH MEASURES IN CZECHO-SLOVAKIA.

Prague.

Several large Czech firms, including the Skoda Works and the Bata Shoe Manufacturing Company, have received orders from America with the added condition that no

anti-Jewish laws are introduced in Czecho-Slovakia. As the orders amounted to several million kronen, the firms approached the Czech Government to find out whether they could safely accept the orders under such conditions. The firms were informed, the J.T.A. learns, that there was no danger of anti-Semitic legislation being introduced in Czecho-Slovakia and that for this reason they should have no scruples in accepting the orders.

The question of anti-Jewish legislation is, however, still being discussed by the Party of National Unity which was recently organised by the Czech Prime Minister, Dr. Beran. There is a distinct cleavage of opinion on this question among members of the party, one section of whom is in favour of an avowedly anti-Semitic policy, while another fears that an official anti-Semitic policy might entail economic disadvantages, particularly as regards exports to the United States.

A number of anti-Jewish measures have been issued by the authorities in Slovakia. Jews have been forbidden to take part in the Christmas trade. Jewish owners of liquor shops have been ordered to dispose of them to non-Jews by the end of the year. Jewish doctors employed by the railway insurance societies have been given notice to relinquish their posts by January 1st.—J.T.A.

#### ITALY TO EXPROPRIATE JEWISH PROPERTY.

Rome.

The Italian Council of Ministers have approved a decree obliging all Italian Jews to register all their property above the limits established by the decree of November 17th, namely, land with a taxable value of over 5,000 lire and buildings of over 20,000 lire. The excess property is to be turned over to a Government agency, which is to liquidate it. The Jewish owners are to be compensated with State bonds bearing 4 per cent. interest.

Jewish firms employing 100 persons which are of importance to national defence are to be put under the supervision of the State. The owners are to be given a certain time in which to dispose of them, after which the State could either take them over or liquidate them.

The well-known German conductor, Wilhelm Sieben, has been appointed Kapellmeister at the Scala Theatre, Milan, replacing the famous Jewish conductor, Erich Kleiber, who formerly occupied a similar post at the State Opera in Berlin.

#### DEATH OF PRESIDENT OF ROUMANIAN KEREN HAYESOD.

Bucharest.

The death took place here of Mr. Adolf Bernhardt, President of the Keren Hayesod in Roumania.

Mr. Bernhardt was a member of the Zionist General Council. His Zionist activities date from the time of Dr. Theodore Herzl. He was formerly President of the Zionist Organisation of Roumania and of the Jewish National Fund.

The well-known Jewish industrialist and social worker, Mr. Lazar Margulies, succeeds Mr. Bernhardt as President of the Keren Hayesod in Roumania.—J.T.A.