

NEWS IN BRIEF.*(Continued from Previous Page).***SEPHARDI CHIEF RABBI.**

Jerusalem.

The three candidates for the post of Sephardic Chief Rabbi for Tel-Aviv are Rabbi Professor David Prato, formerly Chief Rabbi of Rome and Alexandria, Rabbi Jacob Moshe Toledano, and Rabbi Hananya Gabriel.

WAR RISKS INSURANCE.

Jerusalem.

A draft War Risks Insurance Ordinance published in the Official Gazette provides for the insurance of certain goods against war risks, on lines modelled as closely as possible on the United Kingdom commodity insurance scheme. The Bill establishes a War Risk Insurance Board and Fund, and provides for the preparation and operation of a scheme of insurance by the Board.

FOOD PRODUCTS MADE IN PALESTINE.

Jerusalem.

With the importation of fresh, tinned and other foodstuffs into Palestine becoming more difficult, Paldag Ltd., Tel-Aviv, one of the leading firms of foodstuff importers in pre-war time, has begun to organise, finance and market locally-made food products. Among the local products sold by Paldag Ltd. are custard powder, cheese, mustard, starch, soup cubes, vermicelli, and toilet and household soap. More recently a cereal beverage marketed under the name "Paltum" has been added, which is claimed to be free of caffeine but rich in proteins and phosphates.

SPECIAL COURSE AT AIN HAROD.

Jerusalem.

A course in preparing sheep and rabbit skins has just been held at Ain Harod. Several hundreds of hides and skins were completed for furs, linings and leather. Twenty men and women from Keren Hayesod settlements attended the course. Fourteen such settlements have sold 300 caracul sheepskins this year. There are now 80 herds totalling 17,000 sheep in Jewish possession, apart from 2,000 sheep and goats individually owned.

ALIEN JEWS LEARNING TO MAKE ARMS FOR BRITAIN.

London.

Jews of foreign nationality, French, Czechs, Poles, Russians, Austrians, Norwegians, Dutch, Danes—men and women—are described as working in complete harmony with British people of both sexes and all ages up to 60 at a London Government training centre for munition workers visited by a "Star" reporter.

At this centre, says the "Star," there are about 150 aliens, men and women, and while they can speak and understand English in varying degree, there are odd occasions when the instructor's explanation, after examining work, is too deep for comprehension. The services of a teacher of languages are then utilised to make things plain.

The trainees are taught machine operating, fitting, instrument making, sheet

metal working and oxy-acetylene welding by a special staff of experts. The courses last from one to sixteen weeks.

MYRA HESS HONOURED.

London.

Miss Myra Hess, C.B.E., the famous pianist, has been appointed Dame Commander of the British Empire.

Miss Myra Hess, F.R.A.M., has been acclaimed as the finest woman pianist in England. Brought up in an orthodox Jewish home in London, she started playing the piano at five, and was a student at the Guildhall School of Music at seven.

Miss Hess has been one of the leading London war-time musicians. Since October, 1939, she has arranged daily lunch-time performances at the National Gallery, appearing herself a few times a week.

Miss Hess was made a C.B.E. in the 1936 New Year's Honours' List.

BERNHARD BARON TRUSTEES' GIFT TO R.C.S.

London.

The Bernhard Baron trustees have given £40,000 to the Royal College of Surgeons, which was recently damaged by bombs.

The purpose of the gift is to endow a Bernhard Baron research professorship to ensure that this important branch of the science of healing can be advanced still further.

SEARCH FOR JEWISH "SUSPECTS" IN FRENCH PORTS.

London.

Admiral Darlan, apparently fearing that secrets about the movements of the French ships may be divulged, has ordered a vast police search for Jews in Marseilles and other French ports. As a result of this drive against Jews, 47 of them were placed into concentration camp and 400 were ordered to live elsewhere. The search for Jewish "suspects" is continuing.

Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State in the United States, has protested to M. Henri Haye, Vichy Ambassador to Washington, against the persecution of the Jews by the Vichy Government.

NEW WAVE OF TERROR IN POLAND.

London.

The Gestapo (Nazi Secret Police) have initiated a new wave of terror and persecutions in Poland. March saw a renewal of mass arrests and deportations, most of the deportees being sent to the Oswiecim concentration camp, near Cracow, where there were at least 20,000 prisoners. It was reported that more than 3,000 had died in the camp in the last eight months.

85 per cent. of Cracow's 100,000 Jews have been forced by the Germans to leave. The remaining 15,000, of whom 40 per cent. were workers and craftsmen, are confined to a ghetto in the Podgorze district. The newest anti-Jewish measure of the German authorities is a ban against the general use of railways.

PROMINENT WOMAN ZIONIST'S DEATH.

London.

The death has occurred, after a long illness, of Mrs. Henrietta Irwell, Vice-President of the Federation of Women Zionists and Hon. President of Hadassah.

A memorial meeting was held in the Conference Room of the Zionist Organisation.

ALIEN DOCTORS SERVING.

London.

Replying to Sir I. Albery (Gravesend) in the House of Commons, Captain David Margesson, Minister for War, said that there were, on May 2nd last, 65 aliens with medical qualifications serving in the ranks of pioneer units. Of these 39 were doctors and 26 dentists.

The Minister of Health was aware of these men, Captain Margesson continued, and was considering how best to employ them in the interests of the country.

Salop County Council has appointed three friendly alien doctors to posts at the County Council Hospital. They are Dr. Ernst Friedman and Dr. O. S. Falkowicz, both German Jews, and Dr. P. Menezes, an Austrian Jew. They have been appointed because English doctors are practically unobtainable.

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