

# ICKES HITS TAKERS OF HITLER MEDALS

They Foreswear Their Birthright, He Says, Challenging Ford and Lindbergh

12/19/38  
WEALTHY JEWS WARNED

Any Mistakes They Make Reflect on Race, Secretary

Asserts at Cleveland

12/19/38  
CLEVELAND, Dec. 18 (AP)—Secretary Ickes said tonight he felt that any American who accepted a decoration from a dictator "automatically foreswears his American birthright."

"How can any American accept a decoration at the hand of a brutal dictator who, with that same hand, is robbing and torturing thousands of fellow human beings," he asked. "When Henry Ford and Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh will be will-

ing to answer. Nor are these the only two free citizens of a free country who obsequiously have accepted tokens of contemptuous distinction at a time when the bestower of them counts that day lost when he can commit no new crime against humanity."

### Addresses Zionist Society

In the address, at a banquet of the Cleveland Zionist Society, Mr. Ickes admonished wealthy Jews "to exercise extreme caution in the acquisition of their wealth and great scrupulousness in their social behavior."

"A mistake made by a non-Jewish millionaire reflects upon him alone, but a false step made by a Jewish man of wealth reflects upon his whole race," he added. "This is harsh and unjust, but it is a fact that must be faced."

He declared that he had been "dismayed to hear that some Jews of wealth have thought that their position was imperiled because some of their fellow Jews held positions of responsibility and trust in government."

He proceeded: "I have been dismayed to hear that the suggestion has come from Jews of wealth that the President should not consider for appointment to the Supreme Court one of the ablest and most outstanding legal statesmen of his generation because that appointment might arouse prejudice against their par-

ticular group. Money that is cowardly enough to do this is money that should be cast away."

### Democracy Called Hope

"If he did not know it before, the Jew today has learned the bitter lesson that only in a country of free men under democratic institutions is he safe as to his life and secure as to his property."

He said that "a great Jew" had advised him "Palestine is capable of absorbing not less than 50,000 Jews a year for several years to come," and added:

"If we cannot find a place in our own country for more than a handful of these hapless and harassed people, perhaps, by our moral and material support, we can help make it possible for them to return to the land of their fathers."

He asserted that he "personally" wished "that the gates of America might be thrown welcomingly wide open to the political refugees of any country," but "we must faithfully carry out the laws of Congress limiting immigration."

### Ford Stated Attitude Nov. 30

DETROIT, Dec. 18 (AP)—Henry Ford was not available tonight and none of his associates would comment on statements made by Secretary Ickes at Cleveland.

Mr. Ford received the Grand Cross of the Order of the German Eagle July 30, his seventy-fifth

birthday. He made no comment at the time except to express his thanks, but a statement he authorized Nov. 30 said:

"My acceptance of a medal from the German people does not, as some people seem to think, involve any sympathy on my part with Nazism. Those who have known me for many years realize that anything that breeds hate is repulsive to me."

## NOTE LAND TO REFUGEES

### Sons of Zion Allocate Tract in Palestine to German Jews

A national conference of the Order of the Sons of Zion, which had purchased a tract of land in Palestine for an American colony, voted yesterday at the Hotel Astor to allocate the property for the settlement of German-Jewish refugees.

A first payment of \$70,000 on the \$100,000 tract already has been made; Dr. Harris J. Levine, Grandmaster of the order, announced, and the remaining \$30,000 is to be raised in a national campaign.

The conference, attended by more than 400 delegates, adopted a resolution protesting the refusal of the British Government to permit immediate settlement in Palestine of 10,000 German-Jewish children and disapproving plans to establish new Jewish settlements in unapproved territories in Africa and elsewhere.

N. Y. T.  
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