

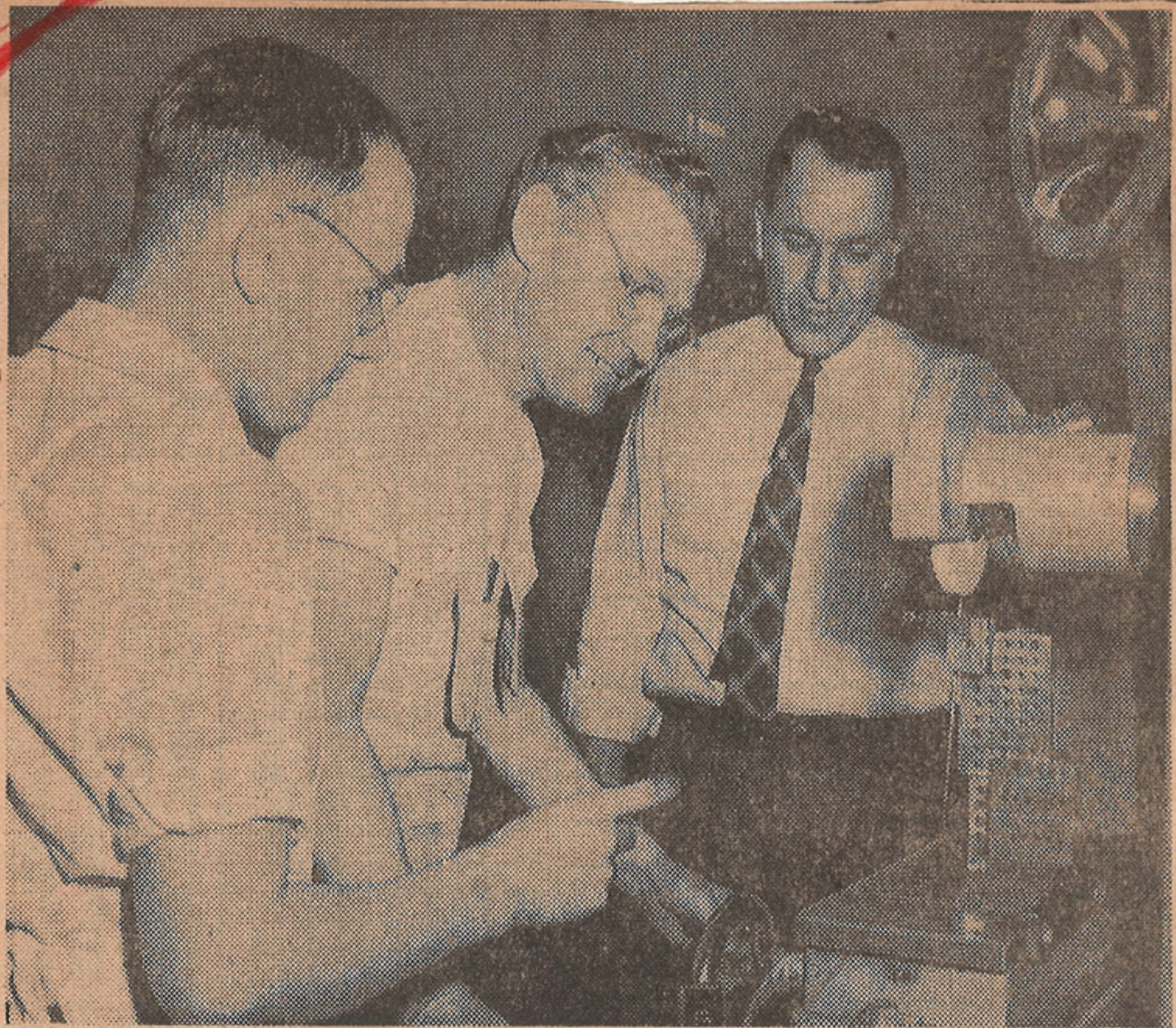
# Hungary & Eastern Europe - Sixty Years Ago

## A Press Review by a Hungarian Refugee

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## *Hungarian Refugee Starts Job With G. M.*

Ernest Szekely, center, a Hungarian refugee, is shown grinding a replacement part for a die on the first day of his new job at the Guide Lamp division of General Motors Corp. at Anderson, Ind. At forty-three, Mr. Szekely is one of many skilled Hungarian refugees who have joined

G. M. plants across the country. In 1942 he began his own small factory in Budapest, where he eventually employed forty persons. His plant was seized by the Russians in 1947. Mr. Szekely then moved to another section of the city and started again. This plant was seized in 1951 when the

Russians collectivized all industry. He then became a foreman at another factory. Joining last year's rebellion, he fought the Russians until December when he and his wife escaped with their two children. They arrived in America Feb. 15. Shown with Mr. Szekely are Clarence Warmke, left, and Floyd Crosley, die makers.



# BOOK REVIEW

By JOHN K. HUTCHENS

*THE BRIDGE AT ANDAU.* By James A. Michener. Random House. 270 pages. \$3.50.

THE year will not—it could not—bring a more important or a more profoundly moving book than James A. Michener's chronicle of the Hungarian revolt last fall against the tyranny of Russia. Its importance is in direct ratio to that of a major event in modern history. Its emotion is that of pure heroism recorded with the unadorned plainness which honors its subject and carries its own somber eloquence.

Is it possible that, by a ghastly irony, the Soviet butchery in Budapest and the lesson it spelled out already are receding in the wake of later crises? The daily press moves along with the clock and calendar, inevitably and rightly. A book can go back. In "The Bridge at Andau" the days from Oct. 23 to Nov. 11 live again, gallant, heartbreaking and portentous, their ultimate significance not yet determined.

### Revelation

But one thing at least was clear to those, among them Mr. Michener, who waited by the bridge at Andau and saw 20,000 Hungarians come out of the abattoir to safety. A nation's bid for freedom had been crushed, but in defeat it had scored a momentous victory. Never again could the most credulous person anywhere in the world, once he knew the facts, believe in his heart that life under Russian communism could mean anything but terror and degradation. The issue has been forced, the answer given.

The answer was the more convincing because, as Mr. Michener recurrently emphasizes, the majority of those who rebelled had been Communists themselves, some of them devoted ones. In their five heady days of freedom, when the enemy seemed to have withdrawn but was in fact only regrouping for the final blow, the revolutionaries envisaged a new state closer to communism than to the old feudal regimes. Yet almost without exception the youngsters presumably indoctrinated by the new order all their lives chose independence over Soviet domination, leaving Moscow only its guns and the hope for a diversion elsewhere that would take the world's eye away from Hungary's agony. The diversion was, of course, obligingly supplied in the Mediterranean.

At the bridge and in Vienna Mr. Michener interviewed some hundreds of refugees, checking and re-checking their stories when he had any reason to doubt them, altering names when necessary to protect friends and relatives left behind, occasionally weaving his materials into a composite portrait. A major theme of his report is that while the intellectuals set off the revolt, the workers supported it out of fury at the cynical betrayal of the promises made them for a better life. Whom could Moscow hope to



Associated Press

A refugee from Budapest.

impress with propaganda about "fascist counter-revolution" when, out of 15,000 workers from the factories at near-by Csepel Island, only forty cast their lot with Russia?

Their frustration over that failure could explain the extra ferocity with which the Soviets returned to Budapest on Nov. 4 with 160,000 men, 4,000 tanks, squads of flame throwers and jet planes, and systematically shot the city to pieces, including women who stood in queues for food, and defenders surrendering under a white flag only to be summarily executed. With the narrative skill to be expected of the author of "Tales of the South Pacific," with a journalist's eye for the telling detail, Mr. Michener restores it all: boys and girls in their teens destroying Soviet tanks with homemade gasoline bombs, the A. V. O. (Hungarian secret police under Russian orders) mowing down Red Cross workers, the slaughter of A. V. O. men by countrymen who had endured torture equalled in modern times only by the Nazis, the pathetic interlude in which an imprisoned nation for a few days read uncensored newspapers, listened to music and laughed.

Having done his job as a reporter, Mr. Michener turns commentator. If the Russians have reason to feel uneasy after the blood bath, so should we, he suggests. "How long," he asks, "can we broadcast messages of freedom without assuming direct responsibility for our words?" And why has the richest nation in the world taken in a proportionately smaller number of refugees than Switzerland, Sweden and England? These are haunting questions in a haunting book.



NY Times 3.9.57



**FIRST STEP IN REHABILITATION:** A group of unattached refugee children from Hungary being separated into teen-age and child groups at a camp in Austria. Save the Children Federation is helping the Austrian Government integrate youngsters into a child welfare program aimed at meeting educational and psychological needs.

## Hungarian Teen-Age Refugees 'On Loose' Called a 'Real Moral Problem' for Austria

A welfare leader said yesterday that about 2,000 teen-age Hungarian refugees "on the loose" in Austria were posing a "real moral problem."

The youngsters, between the ages of 14 and 17, crossed the border into Austria unaccompanied and therefore cannot be reunited with their families, he said. Being minors, they cannot, under Austrian law, be resettled in other countries.

The problem was outlined by Dr. Richard P. Saunders, president of the Save the Children Federation. He said that the young people, a majority of whom are girls, were in no sense political refugees and, judging from available information, had run away from parents or schools. He said that they had been placed in camps but that they tended to move from "one place to another and are very hard to keep track of."

What the youngsters' real motives for leaving Hungary were or what they hoped for afterward are not clear, Dr. Saunders said, but they are, in large measure, a "pre-delinquent, maladjusted group in need of specialized attention."

He said it was a fallacy to believe that all of the Hungarian refugees were freedom fighters seeking political asylum. It has been established, Dr. Saunders said, that only one-fifth of the thousands who fled were freedom fighters. Another two-fifths, he said, were criminals and adventurers, and the remaining two-fifths "people trying to escape their harsh, meager life, of which communism was only one aspect."

Dr. Saunders, just returned from Europe, said his organization was now helping Austria set up its first, private national organization for child welfare. The Austrian organization, called *Rettet das Kind* (Save the Child), is being established in five of the country's nine provinces, he said. It will concentrate on rehabilitating the Hungarian youngsters, with emphasis on educational and psychological needs, and will also care for needy Hungarian children.

Dr. Saunders said the flow of refugees into Austria had virtually stopped. Numbers still are moving into Yugoslavia, he said.



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Herald Tribune photo by Morris Warman

Mrs. Jolie Gabor and her husband, Edmund de Szigethy, after their marriage yesterday. With them are her daughters Zsa Zsa (left) and Magda (right), in whose home, 13 E. 71st St., the ceremony was held.

### To Strains of Gypsy Fiddler

# Jolie Gabor Weds Hungarian Exile

By Bert Quint

Mrs. Jolie ("Mama") Gabor took over sponsorship of an exiled Hungarian freedom fighter yesterday by making him her third husband.

To the accompaniment of a gypsy fiddler, and the moral support of two of her three daughters—Zsa Zsa and Magda, who are no strangers to the wedding aisles—Mrs. Gabor was married in a brief civil ceremony to Edmund de Szigethy, recently of Budapest.

It was the thirteenth wedding of the Gabor women. Zsa Zsa and Eva are tied with their mother at three apiece, while

agreeing that her mother's courtship had been as fast as some of her own. She also revealed Mr. de Szigethy had been divorced from his first wife.

The best man was Brig. Gen. Sidney Wooten, post commander at Camp Kilmer, N. J., which was the first American home of many of the refugees.

Immediate plans for the newlyweds include a honeymoon at Mama Gabor's Westport, Conn., home. Then, the bride said, the

couple will return to her home in New York. Mr. de Szigethy, who speaks little English, said he will open a textile business. Currently he is unemployed.

In hinting that wedding number fourteen might come soon, Zsa Zsa said: "There could be a reconciliation with George (Sanders)."

Asked if Mr. Sanders will meet her on her return to Hollywood, she replied: "Well naturally, he always does."

band, a Hungarian refugee.

Mrs. Gabor, 54, exchanged vows yesterday in a civil ceremony with 47-year-old Edmond De Szigethy, who arrived in this country two months ago as a refugee.

Immediate plans, the new Mrs. De Szigethy said, call for a honeymoon at her Westport (Conn.) home. Mr. De Szigethy plans to open a textile business soon.

Jolie's marriage, by best accounts, was the 13th in the Gabor family. Daughter Magda, at whose home Jolie's wedding was held, leads with four. Mother Jolie and daughters Eva and Zsa Zsa are tied with three each. It was the bridegroom's second marriage.

Magda and Zsa Zsa attended their mother's wedding, but Eva was in Hollywood, preparing for a personal appearance tour. City Magistrate George Postel performed the ceremony.

Mr. De Szigethy's best man was Brig. Gen. Sidney Wooten, commanding general at Camp Kilmer, N. J., where the bridegroom arrived on his flight from Hungary. Some 100 guests, including Barbara (Bobo) Rockefeller, ex-wife of Winthrop Rockefeller, witnessed the three-



Star

## Hungary City Bans Religious Teaching

VIENNA, Mar. 6 (AP).—Hungary's Communist government has again banned religious instruction in the schools of one Hungarian city. It was believed here the ban may be extended throughout the country.

Permission for priests and ministers to give instruction to pupils whose parents apply for such lessons was a concession given by Premier Janos Kadar after Soviet troops quelled the October revolt. Many parents were hesitant to apply, however.

The Hungarian provincial newspaper Fejermegyei Hirlap, received here today, said religious instruction was stopped in the city of Dunapentele, 30 miles south of Budapest, because no pupils had asked for the instruction at the beginning of the school year before the October uprising.

It did not say how many had asked for the instruction later.

3-6-57

NY # T volume

## CARE Plans Relief Drive In Hungary

### Red Government Will Co-operate

By Emma Bugbee

Richard W. Reuter, executive director of CARE, (Committee for American Remittances to Everywhere) announced yesterday that the relief organization would begin next week a new \$3,000,000 relief program inside Hungary, with the co-operation of the Hungarian government. Shipments of coal, food and blankets are needed, he said, to relieve suffering among expectant mothers, orphans, old and handicapped persons, and those whose home were destroyed during last fall's uprising. Similar aid will also be given to Hungarian refugees in Yugoslavia, and will continue in Austria.

Mr. Reuter, recently returned from conference in Vienna, described the new project in a press conference at his office, 660 First Ave. The plans, he said, had been arranged with the full co-operation of the Hungarian government and the International Committee of the Red Cross. All packages will be marked in the Hungarian language "Gift from the American people through CARE via the International Committee of the Red Cross."

The package distribution inside Hungary, he said, would be under the supervision of two CARE representatives, now in Vienna, awaiting visa clearance. The Hungarian government, he said, had given every indication of full compliance with CARE's policies, and there had been no indication of any intent of interference of misuse of the supplies.

"The only yardstick CARE can accept," he said, "is the actual need of the recipient."



NY HT Tribune 3 8 57

# U. S. Deports Only 45 Of 28,000 Hungarians

By James E. Warner

WASHINGTON, Mar. 8.—It has been found necessary to deport for security or other reasons only forty-five of the more than 28,000 Hungarian refugees admitted to the United States, it was learned tonight.

Vice-President Richard M. Nixon, who made a special trip to Austria as the representative of President Eisenhower to check refugee evacuation after the Communist suppression of the anti-Russian revolt in Hungary, reported some weeks ago that security measures were adequate on admission of refugees to the United States.

Gen. J. M. Swing, United States Commissioner of Immigration, agreeing with the Vice-President on the efficacy of the screening procedures to date, said there may be more deportations, but that they will not be numerous because of the extremely taut procedures originally instituted.

Austria, through which virtually all the Hungarian refugees pass, has an agreement with the United States to aid in screening them.

In addition, so bitter is the natural hatred of revolting Hungarians against their former masters, whether turncoat Hungarians, Russians or "planted" agents of other national extraction, that they have repeatedly reported any suspicious persons among the refugees.

In some cases the Hungarian

refugees, investigation showed, had been overzealous, turning in people who were admissible by anti-Communist United States standards. In others, however, information provided by the bona fide Hungarian refugees led to the detection of Soviet agents, who in some cases were deported to Russia from Austria.



3-9-57

NY Times



Associated Press

**THE IRON CURTAIN IS REWOVEN** by Hungarian troops on border near Heiligenkreuz, Austria. This picture was made on the Austrian side, next to Austrian border guard at right. ~~Hungarian~~ troops are ordered to fire on any photographers, even on Austrian side.



Star 3-15-57

# Kastner, Accused Stooge Of Nazis, Fatally Shot

TEL AVIV, Mar. 15 (AP).—Rudolf Kastner, controversial Hungarian Jewish leader in World War II, died today of an assassin's bullets.

Kastner was found bleeding profusely from three chest wounds in a northern Tel Aviv street early March. He was taken to a hospital but his condition grew progressively worse. Mrs. Kastner was at her husband's bedside when he died.

A number of persons were rounded up following the shooting and police said two young men among those detained would be charged with murder.

Kastner had been editor of the Hungarian language newspaper "Uj Kelet" in Tel Aviv and was believed returning home when attacked. Police found an

abandoned jeep near the spot where he was cut down.

Kastner headed a Budapest rescue committee of Hungarian Jews during the Nazi occupation of Hungary in 1944. After the war he was accused of being a stooge for the Nazis, and in June, 1955, a Jerusalem district court found in effect that he had been a quisling.

The court's decision came after a year long libel trial of Malkiel Greenwald, who had charged Kastner collaborated with the Nazis and prepared the ground for the mass murder of Hungarian Jewry.

Greenwald was exonerated of libel except on his charge that Kastner had "shared loot" with the Nazis. The court found that count was not substantiated and fined Greenwald one Israeli pound (56 cents).

The Israeli state attorney general appealed the judgment and the case is still pending before Israel's Supreme Court.

Kastner had maintained his innocence and vowed he would do everything possible to clear his name.

The district court's judgment said Kastner had acted as a quisling, knowing that by his actions he was sacrificing a large number of Jews in order to save a small group of his friends and relatives.

## Reds Need Schools

HONG KONG, Mar. 15 (AP).—Red China lacks classroom space for nearly 5 million secondary school, senior high and university students, says Peiping radio. A speaker at a political consultative conference in Peiping offered a capitalistic solution: private schools.