

permitted to remain at liberty pending emigration. Consequently, many of them were ordered by the police to distant villages for forced residence. It was also learned in December 1941 that internees in Gurs, notorious as the "hell camp" in the Pyrenees, were refused permission to appear before the American Consulate where they had been invited for examination. Today, there is little doubt that none of these internees will escape France before the end of the war.

Colonies and Territories

In order to prepare for the eventual introduction of the Vichy anti-Jewish legislation in the North African colonies, Xavier Vallat, then Commissar for Jewish Affairs, was sent to Algeria, Morocco and Tunis in the summer of 1941 to persuade official circles to comply with the wishes of the home government. The tour proved to be successful, for Vallat reported upon his return that a complete agreement had been reached with General Weygand and the French Governors of Tunis and Algeria with regard to the "elimination of Jewish influence in the economic and political life in North Africa." The services of Nazi agents who had been sent to these colonies during the year before to create unrest and make propaganda against the Jews were no longer needed.

Algeria

On July 30, 1941, as the first step toward the confiscation of Jewish possessions, the Pétain government extended to this colony the census of Jews and Jewish-owned property, which had been concluded in France on the previous April 30. The next step was to oust Jews from their positions. Thus, by December 15, only 469 of the more than 3,000 Jews formerly employed by the Algerian administration were still holding their jobs. Two weeks later came the news that the authorities had revoked the trading licenses of all foreign Jews who were asked to submit their residential permits at the police headquarters not later than January 15, 1942.

It was also announced in March that all Jewish and partly Jewish-owned firms were placed under temporary adminis-

trators appointed by the Office for Economic Aryanization. The same body, by a decree published on April 5, was placed in charge of all other Jewish-owned property with the exception of houses used for personal residence. The final blow came in an order, effective May 29, providing that all Jews leave all positions they hold "in the colony's economy" which, broadly interpreted, bars them from all economic pursuits.

Coinciding with renewed strong Nazi propaganda among the Arabs was the mass arrest of Jews, in February 1942, for an alleged "conspiracy." No further explanation was given. Thirty-four of them, a Nazi source revealed, were shipped to France for trial before the Lyons State Tribunal, while the others are still confined in Algiers.

The misery caused by this legislation among Algerian Jews was so great that the local Jewish community was no longer able to cope with the relief problem. In consequence, the American Joint Distribution Committee had to contribute to the relief of the native Jews in addition to several hundred foreign Jews hitherto maintained by the community. These refugees had fled to Algeria when France collapsed, and are now interned in camps near Algiers.

Morocco

The Sultan of Morocco, who at first was strongly opposed to the extension of the Vichy anti-Jewish laws to his country, finally gave in to Nazi pressure, and in four decrees issued on August 10, 1941, placed French and foreign Jews under the same general restrictions prevailing in France. Moroccan Jews, however, were permitted the free conduct of commerce and trade. All Jews in Morocco, the law stated, must register and declare their property with the proper authorities. A special decree also provided for the exemption of Jews who had rendered "exceptional services" to the Mandate. Supplementary legislation, published on October 5, following Vallat's visit, barred Jews from all those professions forbidden to them under the terms of the Vichy statute. The transfer of property belonging to Jews in these fields was to be effected by November 30, the date when Jews also had to leave the professions. Simultaneously, a warning was issued