

On the Establishment of Jewish Labor Camps in the Netherlands, January 1942

Introduction

By the end of the summer of 1941, the Nazi administration in the Netherlands had already taken up the subject of establishing special Jewish labor camps. However, the matter was postponed for a short while and began to be implemented in early 1942. Looking on the Dutch case in context of the equivalent developments in the other Western European countries, it is clear that this happened as part of the aggravation of anti-Jewish policies on the one hand, and of the intensification of use of forced labor all over Europe. The following is the notice from the Jewish Council in the Jewish Weekly, urging Jews not to ignore the order concerning the expansion of labor for Jews.

Prof. Dan Michman

Expansion of Labor for Jews

The authorities have decided that separately from the other camps for the expansion of labor, special camps for unemployed Jews will be established in the Netherlands.

These camps will be subordinated to the National Service for the Expansion of Labor; working conditions in them will be similar to those in other camps (except for the fact that wages will be slightly lower), and they will be administered by the same management. It is recommended strongly to all those who will be summoned for labor in one of these camps after having passed medical examinations to comply with this summons, for their own sake, which is self-evident.

Chairmen of the Jewish Council for Amsterdam
A. Asscher Prof. D. Cohen

Source: *Het Joodsche Weekblad, January 9, 1942*