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SAMUEL OPPOSED TO BLUE SATURDAY, SETS EXAMPLE OF SABBATH OBSERVANCE

Jerusalem, January 23 (Jewish Telegraphic Agency). There will be no "blue Saturday" law in the Holy Land, Herbert Samuel, High Commissioner for Palestine in which the first Sabbath edict was promulgated, told a delegation of Jews who called upon him and filed a protest in Biblical fashion against the "profanation of the Sabbath".

Addressing the High Commissioner as the Nehemiah of modern time, the delegation, couching their plea in Scriptural phraseology asked "That he summon the notables of Judah to inquire from them why they profane the Sabbath in public?" Nehemiah invoked such a council, they pointed out, when he saw "the people treading the wine presses on the Sabbath".

As Nehemiah "appointed guardians to prevent people from entering within the walls on Sabbath and commanded the Levites to purify and keep the gates on the Sabbath" so do we, continued the spokesman of the delegation, "ask that you give validity to the observance of the Sabbath."

Jewish communal and public institutions as well as private individuals were guilty of Sabbath desecration, the Jewish delegation told the High Commissioner."

Sir Herbert expressed his sympathy with the movement for Sabbath observance, but declared that public opinion and moral influence would do more to bring about real observance of the Saturday as the day of rest than would the passage of laws which, he declared, "were difficult of enforcement". The High Commissioner declared that he personally as well as his family were setting an example of Sabbath observance.

The delegation which was composed of Rabbi Abramovitz, Rabbi Nissim Eliasher and two laymen presented a petition signed by four thousand orthodox Jews asking that steps against Sabbath desecration be taken.

"I have listened with great interest and much sympathy to the general views you have expressed this morning", replied the High Commissioner. "On broad grounds, I

attach the greatest value to the institution of a Day of Rest; the principle is one of the matters in which modern civilization owes very much to the Mosaic Code. The day of rest is of the greatest value to intellectual efficiency, and it is a boon to labour throughout the world. And here in Palestine it is right that each of the communities should observe with loyalty and strictness its own day of rest. Particularly in Jerusalem where there is so large a Jewish population, it is right that the Sabbath, the Jewish day of rest, should be strictly adhered to, as well as in the other cities of Palestine where Jewish populations exist. If the Jewish National Home means anything at all it means a Jewish atmosphere for the Jewish Community in Palestine, And I entirely agree with you in the assertion that Jews living in the country, and others coming from other countries to Palestine, should find an environment of quiet and rest on the Sabbath.

"On a previous representation of the Chief Rabbinate I examined, in consultation with my advisers, the law now in force in the country, and I found that there is at present no law which applies in this matter. However the Turkish law might be enforceable with regard to Ramadan, it does not apply to the observance of a day of rest whether by Jews, by Moslems or by Christians.

"I hardly think that in these days it is practicable to introduce new legislation and to enforce penalties for the breach of the Sabbath. The enforcement of such laws is difficult, and it is generally found that public opinion and moral influence are far more effective than the imposition of fines or imprisonment. I think the best course which can be taken in this matter is to appeal to the influence of public opinion. The efforts of your Committee, the fact that you have collected such a large number of signatures for this petition, show the usefulness of the work in this direction and has so far been accomplished. It would be desirable that your Committee should give particular examples of the breaches of the Sabbath of which you complain.

"My own observation has shown me that the Jewish shops are generally closed on the Sabbath in Jerusalem. I observe in your memorandum that you say 'the desecration of the Sabbath is not only committed by private institutions, but, to our regret, by Jewish communal and public institutions', and I think it would be very useful if you would secure publicity for any particular instance of such breach. I feel sure that representatives made to the head of such an institution would stop profanations of that character."

THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY SEEKS \$500,000.

PITTSBURGH, PA., Feb. 13, (Jewish Correspondence Bureau) A nationwide drive for \$500,000 to support the United Synagogue and the Jewish Theological Seminary was started at the second day's session of the United Synagogue convention here at the Fort Pitt Hotel. Delegates present pledged to give \$25,000.

The United Synagogue of America went on record as supporting the proposal for a World Jewish Congress to aid in the upbuilding of Palestine.

Dr. Elias L. Solomon of New York was re-elected President, and the following new members were named on the Executive Committee: Maurice L. Avner, Pittsburgh; Abraham Cohn, Soranton; Joseph Boch, New York; Henry Cross, Newark; William Praeger, New York; and Ignatz Schwartz, Youngstown, O.

A resolution forbidding members of the Jewish Theological Seminary in seeking pulpits to further their own candidacy until other candidates are considered by the Placements Committee was passed at the mid-winter conference of the Rabbinnical Assembly today at the Tree of Life Synagogue. This marks the conclusion of the United Synagogue and Womens League conventions.

Dr. Jacob Kohn of New York is the Vice-President of the United Synagogues. The Treasurer is William Praeger, and Herbert Golden Recording Secretary.

The Rabbinnical Assembly decided to join in the campaign for \$500,000 in support of United Synagogue, Rabbinnical Assembly and Theological Seminary.

SAY JEWISH POOR STILL UNDER RABBI'S INFLUENCE.

MOSCOW, Feb. 13, (Jewish Telegraphic Agency) While declaring that Communism is making progress among Jewish masses, and expressing satisfaction with the Jewish youth for its anti-religious campaigns, the conference of representatives of the Jewish sections in the Ukraine deplored the weakness of political education in the smaller Jewish towns, a report from Charkov states.

The conference was of the opinion that the Jewish poor and working classes were still under the influence of "clericalism, chauvinism and reaction". Communists look with confidence, however towards the future, expecting that time will bring back about a change in the Jewish attitude towards communism.

MINSK A REFUGEE CLEARING CENTRE.

NEW YORK, Feb. 14, (Jewish Correspondence Bureau) The White Russian Republic has handled more than 600 refugees per day, coming from every section of Russia and Asia, and from Europe and America, during the last 10 months, ending November 1st 1922, says a statement by the ARA today.

There have passed through Kozirevo, the big concentration camp 5 versts from Minsk, 182,643 men, women and children, from

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CAPTAIN ROSENBLUTH DISCHARGED.

NEW YORK, Feb. 14, (Jewish Correspondence Bureau) Captain Robert Rosenbluth, indicted last October for the alleged murder of Major Alexander P. Cronkhite of the 213th U.S. Engineers at the Camp Lewis military reservations in the State of Washington, was released yesterday and his bail of \$40,000 discharged by U.S. Commissioner Hitchcock and returned to Felix M. Warburg.

It was held the Federal Grand Jury in Washington which found the indictment had no jurisdiction in the case. This was contended all along by Louis Marshall, Counsel for Rosenbluth.

State authorities of Pierce County have dropped the Cronkhite case for lack of evidence against Capt. Rosenbluth.

SHOW DIMINUTION IN NATIONAL FUND RECEIPTS.

JERUSALEM, Jan. 24, (Jewish Correspondence Bureau) According to figures just published by the Head Office of the Jewish National Fund of the sums collected by the Fund throughout the world during the first three quarters of the year 1922, up to the commencement of the Jewish year last October, amounted to \$64,000, 30% less than the income for the same period in 1921, \$90,000.

The U.S. holds the first place among the countries collecting funds for the Jewish National Fund with a sum of \$19,284. England is second with \$6,661. \$5,244 was collected in Mesopotamia, and \$4,776 in Czecho-Slovakia while Palestine alone collected \$ 3,698. Altogether fifty countries are at present collecting for the Jewish National Fund.

Notwithstanding the reduction in its income, the Fund has enlarged its scope of activities in Palestine. The area of its land property has now reached 79,000 dunams (about 20,000 acres).

CECIL MONTEFIORE A SUICIDE.

LONDON, Feb. 13, (Jewish Telegraphic Agency) Major Cecil Sabag Montefiore, grandnephew of Moses Montefiore, was found shot in his office Friday. The police say he committed suicide.

Major Montefiore, was the son of Sir Joseph, son of Moses' eldest Sister Sarah. Sir Joseph had inherited the Montefiore's title and estate, and was at one time President of the Board of Jewish Deputies.

EINSTEIN ASKS ROTHSCHILD TO CONTINUE PALESTINE AID.

JERUSALEM, Feb. 13, (Jewish Telegraphic Agency) After visiting the Jewish colonies in Judaea, most of which owe their existence and prosperity to Baron Edmond de Rothschild, Prof. Albert Einstein wrote to the philanthropist expressing his appreciation of his work and calling upon him to continue it.