

# DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

Cable and Telegraphic Despatches

Issued By

JEWISH CORRESPONDENCE BUREAU  
JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY INC

114 Fifth Ave., New York City,  
Vol. IV, #36

Telephone: Chelsea 7224  
February 19, 1923

## SELF-CONFESSED RENEGADE AND INFORMER UNFROCKED AS "RABBI".

New York, February 20 (J. C. B.). In one of the most sensational hearings ever staged before a Jewish rabbinical court, Judah Elfenbein, rabbi of the Jacob H. Schiff Center, 2481 Valentine Ave. Bronx, charged with being a convert to the Greek Orthodox Church and later one of its priests and also with having furnished the arguments that were used by anti-Semites to send Leopold Hilsner, some twenty years ago to prison in Austria for life on a ritual blood accusation, was unfrocked after the rabbi broke down and confessed.

Elfenbein's real name, according to his accusers and his own confession, was Judah Elfenbein Tillinger. But coming to the United States in 1920, he found that the name Tillinger, associated as it was with the trial of Hilsner in Austria and with having become an apostate of the faith, had preceded him and did not smack well in Jewish circles. Dropping the name Tillinger and growing a beard, according to the charges, Elfenbein who had been a student of Jewish theological seminaries in Vienna and Berlin easily worked his way into the Jewish pulpit, serving as rabbi at Youngstown, O., Easton, Pa. and Brooklyn and lastly at the new Jacob H. Schiff Center in the Bronx.

Casual gossip at a Second Avenue cafe led to the unmasking of the rabbi, one of the patrons of the cafe dropping a hint that Elfenbein-Tillinger was now serving as a rabbi. The report finally reached the Union of Orthodox Rabbis who convoked a special meeting to prove the charges.

The rabbis who composed the "Beth Din" consisted of Rabbis Margolies, J. L. Selzer, J. Kanowitz, H. Siegel, J. Redelheim, S. Pfeffer, J. Oskolski, A. Premedski, Meyer Berlin and S. J. Yudelson.

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Elfenbein was not present at the beginning of the trial, sending word that he could not be present on account of illness. As the testimony of others was being taken however, the rabbi made his appearance. Elfenbein was immediately identified as the Tillinger of the Hilsner incident by Rabbi Alter Pfeffer, a rabbi hailing from the same section of Galicia as Tillinger, and who was in Austria at the time of the Hilsner trial. In response to the query put by Rabbi Margolis, chief of the Beth Din, as to whether his name originally had been Tillinger, Elfenbein suggested that Dr. Ph. Klein who had had dealings with him be consulted.

The session was interrupted at this moment to permit the recital of the Mincha prayer. Elfenbein joined in the litany. "Forgive us, our Father, for we have sinned. Pardon us, O King, for we have done wrong."

Seemingly moved by prayer, Elfenbein arose and with voice choking with grief signed a pledge and statement which he delivered to the chief of the Beth Din.

"I testify and confirm that I am not deserving of being a servant of the sacred profession. I pledge myself never to accept a religious position either as rabbi or teacher in a religious school on account of being unfitted by the deeds of my youth, which are widely and generally known."

The pledge was signed "Judah Elfenbein, formerly, Tillinger." In the midst of the uproar which followed the statement, Elfenbein was led away to the home of a nearby friend on the East Side.

Following the signing of the pledge, the Beth Din issued a statement confirming that Elfenbein was Tillinger and that he was the Jew who had figured so notoriously in the Hilsner trial.

According to Gershon Bader, a Jewish journalist, Tillinger was the author of a series of twelve or thirteen articles under the name of Stanislaus Tillinger, in which he charged that Jews use Christian blood during the Passover festival.

"These writings," Bader continued, "made a strong impression. The paper which was published by anti-Semites had an unusually wide circulation and the anti-Jewish effect was colossal. In the year 1908, he was made professor in the German university at Lemberg. There I saw him in the garb of a priest. Later I was informed that Tillinger had sought to return to the Jewish fold. Some were willing to 'let bygones be bygones' but I could not forget all of the pains to Jews that he had been the cause of."

Leopold Hilsner, who was accused of the alleged ritual murder in which Tillinger was involved, was condemned to death at the first trial. The case was appealed but the conviction was upheld. His sentence was finally commuted to life imprisonment by Emperor Francis Joseph. At the outbreak of the World War he was given his freedom.

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**"COHEN OF CANADA" IS ADVISER TO SUN YAT SEN.**

NEW YORK, Feb. 20, (Jewish Correspondence Bureau) A Jewish young man of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, is playing one of the principal roles in the movement which has its headquarters in Hongkong, China, to restore Dr. Sun Yat Sen, ousted executive of south China to his former position, according to a cable of Junius B. Wood, correspondent of the New York Globe and Chicago News.

The Canadian Jew is Morris A. Cohen. He is described as of handsome appearance and of unmistakable Jewish features. Cohen is one of the inner circle advisers of Dr. Sun, known as the Kwok Ming-Tang society. He is one of the few non-Chinese in that powerful group. Termed "the man of mystery" he is said to be willing to discuss any topic except why he is interested in the politics of China.

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**JEWISH THEATRES FACE BLUE LAW CHARGES.**

NEW YORK, Feb. 19, (Jewish Telegraphic Agency) The managers of two Jewish theatres, Martin Schwartz of the Jewish Art Theatre and Wm. Mendelsohn, of Thomashefsky's were among nine men arraigned in court Monday, on charges filed by the Lord's Day Alliance of having given Sunday theatrical performances. The case against the Art Theatre was continued until February 23 and that of Thomashefsky playhouse to February 25.

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**CHARGE MESHULACHIM POCKET MOST OF COLLECTIONS.**

CHICAGO, Feb. 20, (Jewish Telegraphic Agency) Charges made by the Chicago Jewish Courier that "meshulochim" or representatives of Palestine Jewish orphanages and other institutions of the Holy Land were sending only a small fraction of the funds collected here to Palestine were heatedly discussed at a meeting of rabbis and prominent laymen here. A committee consisting of four rabbis and eleven laymen were delegated to investigate the matter and devise means to establish a board having supervision over the "meshulochim."

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**BOMB IN JEWISH DEPUTY'S HOUSE.**

WARSAW, Feb. 20, (Jewish Telegraphic Agency) A bomb was thrown at the house of Dr. Weinzieher, a leading Deputy, says a report from Benin to the local "Heint". The report adds that fortunately none of the Deputy's family were injured although the explosion resulted in the shattering of windows, doors and show cases.

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**MOVE TO EXPEL JEWS FROM BERLIN.**

BERLIN, Feb. 19, (Jewish Telegraphic Agency) Leaders of the anti-Semitic group launched a violent attack on Jews in the Reichstag today, demanding among other things that Jews be expelled from the country villas. Berlin, it was charged has become thoroughly "Judaized". "The Jewish capitalist is the worst enemy of Germany and international communist movement is the slave of the Jewish capitalists", the anti-semites contended.

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**URGE ECONOMIC PERSECUTION OF JEWS.**

VIENNA, Feb. 19, (Jewish Telegraphic Agency) Riots following an attack on anti-Semitism by Professor Nicholas have led to the launching of further attacks in the nationalist press against the Jews. These papers declare the campaign against the Jews must be carried into the economic world.

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**REPORT INCREASE IN REGALIA MANUFACTURE.**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19, (Jewish Telegraphic Agency) Statistics compiled by the Department of Commerce indicate that the manufacture of regalia such as robes, masks, society badges and emblems is becoming an important industry. The value of these articles amounted to \$10,559,000 as compared with \$9,395,000 in 1919 and \$5,025,000 in 1914, an increase of 106% for the seven year period of 1914 to 1921.

Some of this growth is attributed to the natural gains of the various fraternal orders, but officials are speculating if the rise of the Ku Klux Klan is not responsible principally for the increase.

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**COMMUNISTS TO STAGE "SEDERLESS" PESACH.**

MOSCOW, Feb. 19, (Jewish Telegraphic Agency) According to the Communistic Yiddish organ "Emes" the Communists are planning to celebrate the festival of Passover with a carnival propagating natural science instead of the traditional Seder and unleavened bread.

Christmas was observed in a similar fashion by the Communists, who announce that the Easter and the Moslem "Muharam" will be celebrated in the same anti-religious spirit.

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**MINISTER DISCRIMINATES AGAINST JEWS.**

KOVNO, Feb. 19, (Jewish Telegraphic Agency) Resentment is felt by the local Jews against the failure of the Lithuanian Prime Minister to invite Jewish representatives to the conference which considered the formation of the new Cabinet. Representatives of all groups except the Jewish were invited.

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