JEWISH NEWS FROM ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD WITHIN 24 HOURS.

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NEGOTIATIONS REGARDING DEAD SEA CONCESSION STILL GOING ON, COMMONS HEARS

High Commissioner Decides in Principle to Grant Concession to Novomeiski and Tulloch

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency) London, Dec. 16-The terms of the Dead Sea concession now in the process of negotiation between the Crown Agents and engineers Novomeiski and Tulloch are still being discussed and the government is unable to state how long it will take, according to a statement made by Major Ormsby Gore in the House of Commons yesterday in reply to questions submitted on the subject.

Major Ormsby Gore stated that Tulloch was the first to approach the British government with regard to the Dead Sea concession. In January, 1917 the government invited applications for concessions to be submitted until May 1925 for the purpose of obtaining the best terms. Four definite applications have been received by the government. In April, 1927 the government informed Tulloch and Novomejski that the High Commissioner of Palestine agreed in principle to granting them the concession, subject to their furnishing satisfactory financial guarantees.

DR. Z. P CHAJES' REMAINS TO REST IN PALESTINE (Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Vienna, Dec. 16 .- The remains of the late Dr. Zevi Perez Chajes, whose funeral took place today in the presence of large crowds, will soon be transferred to Palestine, it was announced here.

Deep mourning prevailed in the Jewish quarter of the city. All stores and shops were closed during the time of the funeral.

Nahum Sokolow who was expected to arrive was prevented from coming because of an audience today with President Masaryk of Czechoslovakia which could not be postponed.

PALESTINE VESSELS TO FLY COLORS OF BRITISH FLEET

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency) Jerusalem, Dec. 16 - Palestine vessels were authorized by the British Admiralty to use the red ensign of the British fleet, according to an official statement made here. The word "Palestine" will also appear on the vessels.

ANTI-SEMITIC

RIOTS ARE REPORTED IN ROUMANIA

Germany Urged to Intervene with League; New Resolution in U. S. Congress: Polish Rabbis Proclaim Fast Day; Roumania will Punish Pogrom Perpetrators, Titulescu Tells Anglo-Jewish Leader; Declares Excesses Were Provoked by Foreign Agents

(Jawish Telegraphic Agency)

riots in Transylvanian towns are re- League of Nations for the protection of "Pesti Naplo." Budapest newspaper. According to the report the excesses continued in several towns. In Targu- ing the League of Nations and public locna. Jewish stores were plundered opinion of the world to protest against and the synagogue destroyed. After the anti-Jewish pogroms in Roumania the excesses, the students boarded a was adopted today by the Executive train, Taleisim draped over them.

Berlin, Dec. 16 .- An open letter addressed to Foreign Minister Stresemann was published in today's issue of the "CV. Zeitung," the organ of the Central Union of German Citizens of the Jewish Faith.

The letter makes reference to the efforts made by Germany during the Berlin Congress on behalf of religious freedom in Roumania and says that Roumania has not fulfilled her obliga-

CANADA CATHOLICS ASK BLUE LAWS FOR QUEBEC

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency) Quebec, December 16-The enact-

ment of Sunday Blue Laws in the Province of Quebec was asked of the Provincial Government when members of the National Catholic Unions called upon Premier L. A. Taschereau and his cabinet.

The resolutions dealing with the Sunday Blue Laws in this Province ask among other things the nomination of inspectors to track down profaners of the Sabbath and to bring them before the courts, the prohibition of illustrated posters for moving pictures, no Sunday theatrical amusements.

HUNGARY AGAIN READY TO MODIFY NUMERUS CLAUSUS (Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Budapest, Dec. 16-The Hungarian government is again ready to modify the numerus clausus law declared Count Bethlen, Prime Minister, on his return from Geneva today.

The government is ready to modify the law if the proposals are in consonance with the international peace treaty obligations so that no foreign complications occur, he stated.

tions. It is the German government's Berlin, Dec. 16 - New anti-Semitic duty to use its influence with the in despatches today to the the Jewish population in Roumania.

> Warsaw, Dec. 16-A resolution urg-Committee of the Union of Rabbis in the Republic of Poland. The Rabbis also proclaimed a day

of fast and prayer because of the desceration of the Holy Scrolls and synagogues in Roumania. This day is to be observed the Thursday following Chanukah.

Washington, Dec. 16-Secretary of State Kellogg is urged to lodge a protest with the government of Roumania against "the persecution and brutality against the peaceful and law-abiding people of the Jewish faith" in Roumania in a resolution introduced in the House yesterday by Congressman La Guardia, of New York.

London, Dec. 16 .- Assurances that the toumanian government is taking strong measures to prevent the recurrence of nti-Semitic riots and to punish those uilty of the outrbeaks last week were ontained in a cablegram received today y Lucien Wolf, secretary of the Joint Foreign Committee of the Board of Jewsh Deputies and the Anglo-Jewish Asociation from Roumanian Minister of Foreign Affairs Titulescu.

The Roumanian government is in possession of absolute proof that foreign (Continued on page 2)

ROUMANIAN SOLDIERS ES-CORT WEIZMANN TO BORDER

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency) Czernowitz, Dec. 16. - Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the World Zion-

st Organization, whose visit to Roumania n behalf of the Keren Hayesod coincided rith the anti-Semitic student outbreaks, ras escorted to the train by a strong force f police.

Roumanian soldiers accompanied Dr. Veizmann on the train until he reached he border.

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HITLERITES PLANNED TO CONFISCATE JEWS' PROPER-

TY, INVESTIGATION SHOWS (Jewish Telegraphic Agency) Munich, Dec. 16-Interesting details

concerning the plans of the Hitlerites in the attempted coup d'etat in 1923 were disclosed today at a meeting of an investigation committee of the Eavarian Diet.

Representative Hoegnes who renorted on the subject disclosed that the Hitlerites made extensive preparations for the confiscation of all property belonging to Jews. They even had arrested fifty-four prominent Jews as hostages. He added that not all of the documents which could throw light on the subject could be recovered and urged the Diet to ask for their delivery by the courts.

BLAMES SCHWARTZBARD CASE FOR UKRAINIAN DISORDERS (Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Lemberg, Dec. 16-The disturbances which occurred in the Ukraine several weeks ago had a direct relation to the Schwartzbard trial, it was asserted today by the "Dilo," the organ of the Ukrainians in Eastern Galicia.

orders among the peasants in south- ment. He will ask why the governwestern Ukraine were not to further ment failed to prevent and to end the Stock Exchange firm of Miller & Co., died the opposition to the Soviet govern- riots, whether the government spon- in Paris in his forty-fourth year. ment, but because of the indignation sored the meeting, knowing riots would Miller was prominent in various Jewish chararoused among the peasants by the ac- result, and what indemnity it will pay ities and was a founder of the university quittal of Sholom Schwartzbard.

NEW ANTI-SEMITIC RIOTS REPORTED IN ROUMANIA: U.S. IS URGED TO PROTEST

(Continued from page 1)

agent provocateurs were responsible for the excesses. Titules'cu declared in his cable. The government is energetically proceeding to eradicate every possibility of a repetition of the disturbances in the future. It has dismissed the chiefs of police in Bihor, Cluj and Oradeamare and further inquiries are being made concerning the culpability of other officials.

Twenty-one students and twenty-eight other persons are being prosecuted in Oradeamare: 44 students and 9 other persons are held in Clui; 11 students are under arrest in Bucharest because they participated in the Transvlvanian excesses. Other students were also arrested. They all will be tried by a court-martial. Public officials who will be found guilty 13. Abon-El-Sebab will be dismissed. Students whose culpability will be established will be expelled from the universities. The victims will be compensated. The

amount of \$5,000,000 lei was already appropriated as the first installment for the repair of the synagogues, Titulescu de-

victim of the disturbances is Roumania herself, the Foregn Minister states. The only consolation lies in the fact that no single death has occurred

> Numerous British, American and continental European concerns have withdrawn credits from Roumanian industry and commerce as a result of the student excesses, according to a despatch from Bucharest to the "New York Times.'

The Roumanian government has sent instructions to the Prefect of Police at Oradeamare to visit the American, Wilfred Keller, and apologize. According to Keller, the Prefect of Police, an eyewitness to his being attacked, had refused aid.

Government witnesses also requested Keller to name an indemnity sum for his injuries and the printing plant in which he is interesten. Keller, who is Jew who by his services to America said to be recovering slowly, referred deserves to be honored with a statue. them to the American Minister.

When information that Jewish congregations in Roumania had sent out Unknown Jewish Soldier, an appeal to hold a three-day mourn-Court Justice Louis D. fear that public opinion would be embittered. The leader of the opposition, M.

Maniu, is preparing several interpella-The newspaper says that the dis- tions for the next meeting of parliathe victims.

GOVERNMENT PREVENTS WARSAW KEHILLAH AID TO POLITICAL PRISONERS

(Jawish Telegraphic Agency)

Warsaw, Dec. 16-A decision of the Kehillah Executive to include in its budget an amount to support political prisoners will be overruled by the Government Commissioner, it was learned today.

At the last session of the Executive. a resolution introduced by the Poale Zion included in the budget for 1928 an item of 10,000 Zlotys to aid the political prisoners. The governmental commissioner objected to this item, declaring that the support of political prisoners is outside of the Kehillah's sphere of activity. This decision can also be viewed as an anti-state move, he declared, adding that he will annul the provision.

ALTMAN FOUNDATION GIVES \$50,000 GIFT TO FEDERATION

A gift of \$50,000 from the Altman Foundation was made to the New York Federation for the Support of Jewish Philanthropic Societies. Announcement of the gift was made in a letter from Col. Michael Friedsam, president of the Foundation, to Sol M. Stroock, president of the Federation.

Col. Friedsam, in announcing the gift, wrote: "It seemed to us, considering the circumstances of this present campaign, that it would be desirable to make this special gift and we do it with the realization that there is no organization better equipped to use it more effectively or for a finer purpose."

ADVOCATES MONUMENT

TO LATE OSCAR STRAUS The erection of a monument to the

late Oscar S. Straus is advocated by "The Jewish Tribune," New York weekly, as a result of a canvass conducted among its readers to select the

Others who were suggested were: Nathan Straus, Haym Salomon, the Supremo an appeal to hold a three-day mourn-ing in synagogues throughout the world reached the government officials of the bound of the property of the control of were much chagrined because of the California, Chief Justice of the New York Court of Appeals Benjamin N. Cardozo, Otto H. Kahn, Julius Rosenwald and Henry Morgenthau.

> Nathan J. Miller, formerly head of the settlements in New York.

NEWS LETTER J. D. B.

British House of Lords Debates Dead Sea Concession; Political as ed to this aspect of the question because Well as Economic Aspects of Concession Emphasized

(By Our London Correspondent)

London. Dec. 9.-When the question of the concession to exploit the salts of the Dead Sea, heatedly debated in the House of Commons, was raised in the House of Lords, the government was asked to make a statement with regard to the granting of the concession. Lord Islington asked the government to reply to the following points:

(1) Whether they have received applications for the concession and from

what quarters.

(2) Whether they have in contemplation the selection of any one applicant as suitable for negotiation, and if so, whom. (3) Whether, in view of the great

value and the important nature of the products, the Government can state what conditions they intend to impose for the protection of all the interests concerned. and to ensure the adequate development of the enterprise. Lord Islington said: "This question

deals with a subject which, I understand, has been under the consideration of the Government now for some time past, and ii the reports in the public press be true, the consideration has extended to certain negotiations that have taken place with individuals. If the reports are only approximately correct which have been made by expert chemists of high repute, confirmed also by an expert Departmental Committee of the Government, in regard to the salt deposits in and around the Dead Sea, I think there is little doubt in the mind of anyone who has studied these reports that, both in regard to quantity and quality, there exist in and importance. It is stated that the deposits in and around the Dead Sea are these salts around the Dead Sea can be mined with even greater facility than is done by the Germans, and at a considerably lower cost.

This concession undoubtedly is one of quite exceptional importance. It is not have no doubt it would find its way with monopoly. If they die the value of only important in regard to the potential value of the deposits intrinsically, but it is of great importance for reasons of a very far-reaching character, both political and economic.

"So far as the political aspect is con-Jordania. The line of demarcation, I crease in the early future. believe between those two territories, "During the War this monopoly was Majesty's Government is fully aware of

Government are the trustees, lies right have taken into full consideration, that to down the centre of the Jordon and the whomsoever the concession is granted. Dead Sea. It may be assumed, therefore, the group ultimately selected shall have that any concession that is granted will no connection direct or indirect with the have to lie across these two respective countries. I should like to point out, by way of emphasising this political aspect of the matter, that these two territories, the market may be freed and more reasonable with the control of the matter. although under British mandatories, are sonable prices assured. This deposit is controlled under quite different jurisdic- undoubtedly a matter of very great imtions. You have in the one case in Pal- portance to our Empire and of immense estine a British Government and a Jewish executive, with a population in which Arabs largely preponderate, while in Trans-Jordania you have an Arab king, King Abdullah, with a practically wholly Arab population. It is obvious, therefore. I think that to whomsoever this concesision is granted most careful provision should be made that the claims of these two countries and of their people should be protected and satisfied. In considering a concssion of this character, therefore, there will inevitably arise questions of a political and racial character. which may develop into matters of very serious moment. The situation in that event, I would add, would not be confined within the areas of those two countries, but would unquestionably extend

far away to the east.

"There is one other very important aspect of this concession. This deposit, with its immense amount of chloride of potassium, which, I believe, is estimated by experts to represent something around 1,000,000,000 tons of potash, to say nothing of the other auxiliary chemicals of the greatest possible value, that are to be : cess, to establish potash industries in found in this area, contains products that country, but it would appear that which are daily becoming more necessary Germany has largely regained the that area deposits of quite immense value which are daily becoming more necessary dermany has allow that area deposits of quite immense value for fertilizing agricultural land over the American market and is now forcing whole world. In this country undoubted prices up with a view to killing all ly, if the cost of this particular fertilizing competition. As Lord Islington said. summar in character to those now mined by the Germans in the Strasbourg and product could be brought within reason able dimension, it would be of the great himistration, it may be presumed that ministration, it may be presumed that ministration, it may be presumed that est possible value, especially in the care influence is this new roducts. It is in very great demand great supply which will be available. It at the present time in many other parts is vital to make provision, when you of the Empire, in Australia, in Canada, are granting those concessions, so that and in the Sudan. And if the price of the concessionaires shall not be allowed this potash became more reasonable, I to join up with Germany or any other great advantage into practically all the these enormous deposits in the Dead Sea countries of the Empire. At present the would be largely lost. supply of potash is almost exclusively in merely a Departmental matter; it is a the hands of a German monopoly and, in matter which involves large political, correspondence with that monopoly, the economic and other considerations which cost of potash to agriculturists is excerned, these deposits lie partly in the tremely high. It is, I believe, somewhere criment as a whole. mandated territory of Palestine, and part- round about £8, 10s, 0d, a ton at the ly in the mandated territory of Trans- present time, with the prospect of an in- State for Dominion Affairs, Lord Lovat,

under mandatories of whom the British used by the Germans as a very formid-

able weapon against us, with the result that potash increased in cost until in the extreme periods of the War it was something over £100 a ton: I have alludregarding a matter which I am sure they importance, therefore, to the whole of the consumers of the world. Under all the peculiar circumstances surrounding this concession, seeing that it stands in a different category from many concessions which are granted, and that so many interests of vital importance are concerned I urge that it should not be dealt with exclusively as a Departmental matter. It may become of such immense importance to the Empire and the world that it should stand quite outside of Departmental consideration and should be most carefully considered and ultimately decided upon by the Government as a whole,' he declared.

Lord Danesfort spoke of the concession as a vital question not only in the interests of the mandated territories concerned, but of this country and the Empire as a whole. He dealt with the effects of the German potash monopoly. "I believe," he said, "that the Germans control something like 70 per cent. of the market and the French perhaps something like 30 per cent. As far as America is concerned, they endeavored, no doubt with a certain degree of suc-

The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of replied to the question, saving: "His

J. D. B. NEWS LETTER (Continued from page 2)

the great importance of the Dead Sea deposits. They are fully aware of their importance not only in themselves but of their possibilities and also of the political questions which may arise in working them. The were further alive to the agricultural world interest which those deposits have as a possible means of breaking down the monopoly which exists at The present time, but I do not wish noble Lords to go away with the belief that there is absolute certainty as to the extent to which these deposits can be worked. After all, we are at the experimental stage in this matter and much has to be proved and worked out before we are certain that the deposits can be developed to the extent which noble Lords suggest. The Government, naturally, is also aware of the strategic importance of the product. We all know what we suffered during the War on account of this monopoly and, especially with a gentleman like Lord Plumer in partial charge of arrangements, we may be quite certain that this question will not be over-

looked.

"It has been asked whether applications have been received for the concession, and from what quarter. Applications were received in 1925. The offers that were then submitted were not regarded as acceptable and the applicants were informed that they might have to the end of 1926 to revise their applications. These applications were then considered. The applicants included Dr. Norton of the Palestine Salts Corporation, Mr. Maitland Edwards and Major Henry, Messrs. Tottie and Bicknell, Major Tulloch and Mr. Novomeysky. After careful consideration of all the applicants, of their financial position and of their knowledge and connections, the Government have decided in principle to grant a concession to Major Tulloch and to Mr. Novomeysky, based on the offer which they have put before them. May I say that there is nothing signed or sealed yet. The question is in negotiation and therefore I cannot do more than indicate the general lines on which such agreement, if it is come to. will be made. May I say in this connection that in considering to whom this concession should be given, it is of the first importance that the group receiving the concession should be in a position to work it. They must have capital, they must have knowledge. and they must be tied by the concession so that they are certain to carry on this work.'

Lord Islineton: "May I intervene to ack if the noble Lord can tell me whether the Government is satisfied that these qualifications are possessed by the two gentlemen whose names he gave as being probably the recipients of the concession."

"They are satisfied," Lord Lovat replied, 'that these gentlemen and the group who are working with them, the

MARRANOS IN PORTUGAL RETURNING TO JUDAISM (Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

London, Dec. 16—Many Marranos, descendents of the victims of the Inquisition who outwardly embraced the Catholic faith but secretly remained Jews, are returning in numbers to Judaism, the London Committee to Help the Portuguese Marranos Return to Judaism reported today.

In an appeal for further funds to carry on the work, the Committee reports that increasing numbers of Marranos in Oporto have formally entered the Jewish faith.

The movement to return to Júdaism

is spreading in various Marrano

centers. A kehillah has been estab-

lished in Braganca which has a popu-

lation of approximately 800 Crypto-Jews. In Bilarinho, where nearly a for the 500 inhabitants are Marranos, the community has formed a kehillah.

Inancial backing they have, are suitable for carrying out the work. As I have stated, the object of the Government is to get the work done and to get it cone independently of any combines which costs at the present time. A feature of costs are the present time. A feature of concession, in whatever form it ultimaterial concerns and the suitable of profits to the countries concernsales of profits to the countries concernped, which the Government regard as the

most satisfactory way of dealing with a concession of this kind and which to a great extent may eliminate, or at all events lessen, some of those political difficulties to which the noble Lord has referred. I do not think it would be acvisable, in fact it is certainly not advisable at this stage, to go any further into the actual conditions surrounding the contract or agreement, but I would assure the noble Lord that the Government have no intention of confining themselves to a single department if they require advice, as they no coubt will require advice, on any portion of the contract. They are anxious that this should be a real live concern which will compete with the existing monopoly. They attach the very greatest importance to it, and they have taken full time to consider who would be the best group to carry on the work and the terms under which they can achieve the objects which they have in view."

The Community Center of Congregation Beth Israel, Richmond Hill, L. I. will be dedicated today. Justice Mitchell May and Rabbi Simon R. Cohen will be the speakers at the exercises. Dr. Mordeasi Soltes will be the speaker at a dinner to be given next Sunday evening, marking the week of exercises in connection with the dedication of the new center. Nathan Tannenbaum is chairman of the committee.

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