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POLISH GOVERNMENT MOVES TOWARD RECLAMATION OF SWAMP LANDS IN PINSK AREA

Jewish Leaders See Possibility for
Settling Jews there, if Project
Is Realized

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Warsaw, Feb. 8.—A move which may open a wide area for settling Jews on the land in Poland was made today by the Polish Government.

The cabinet today adopted the plan submitted by Minister Moraczewski for establishing a special bureau which is to prepare a plan for draining swamp lands in the Pinsk area. It was stated that a preliminary estimate made by the Government showed that the cost of the amelioration work in the Pinsk area would amount to about \$50,000,000.

The plan, which is now assuming the aspects of reality, is being followed by Polish Jews with intense interest in view of the possibility it may open for Jewish settlement work on the reclaimed land.

The Jewish colonization society, Tor, which was formed in December, 1926, included in its program a clause to further the efforts to secure the reclamation of the Pinsk swamps for the purpose of creating there a large Jewish agricultural settlement.

The possibility of Jewish agricultural work in the Pinsk area engaged the attention of American Jewish relief leaders and was brought into the discussion at the recent Reconstructive Relief Conference held in Chicago.

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ARAB ANTI-ZIONIST BODY DISORGANIZED, RECALLS GENEVA REPRESENTATIVES

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Geneva, Feb. 8.—The Syrio-Palestine Committee, the body which has maintained the anti-Zionist opposition since the issuance of the Balfour Declaration is now disorganized because of internal difficulties.

The Secretariat of the League of Nations was notified by the Syrio-Palestine Executive Committee that it recalls the credentials of Emir Cheikh Arslan, Ishan Djabis and Riad Souh, who had represented the committee in Geneva.

The committee had in recent years continually sent memoranda to the League of Nations against Zionism. The executive, which has headquarters in Cairo, has split into two factions.

AGRO-JOINT NOT BEHIND SIBERIAN COLONIZATION PLAN FOR JEWS

Proposal Involves Great Difficulties, Time for Action Has Not Arrived, Rosen Declares in Statement

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Moscow, Feb. 8.—The Agro-Joint, the agency of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee in Russia, is not backing the plan for large Jewish colonization work in Bureya, Siberia, Dr. Joseph Rosen, head of the Agro-Joint, declared in a written statement to the correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency here.

The plan was formulated by the

NORVIN R. LINDHEIM, WELL KNOWN ZIONIST LEADER, DIES

Norvin R. Lindheim, well known New York attorney and Zionist leader, died suddenly yesterday morning. He was 48 years old. Death was due to heart failure.

Mr. Lindheim was a member of the Administrative Committee of the Zionist Organization of America, to which post he was elected last summer at the Atlantic City convention. He was also a member of the Finance Committee of the United Palestine Appeal and of the Governing Board of Hadassah.

No definite arrangements for the funeral have yet been made. It was stated the funeral will take place on Friday.

POLISH GOVERNMENT PARTY SEEKS TO GET JEWISH VOTES

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Warsaw, Feb. 8.—A strenuous effort to gain the support of Jewish voters for the government party in the forthcoming parliamentary elections is being made in the outlying districts of the Republic.

Yiddish, which has never before been taken cognizance of, is now being employed by the campaign committee of the government party and placards have been posted urging the Jewish population to support the government candidates.

MARTIN BUBER CELEBRATES HIS FIFTIETH BIRTHDAY

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Berlin, Feb. 8.—Martin Buber, well known German Jewish writer and proponent of Zionism, was the recipient of many congratulatory messages today, on the occasion of his fiftieth birthday.

Comzet, the governmental department for Jewish colonization work, and is being propagated by the Jewish section of the Communist party and the Yiddish Communist dailies, "Stern" of Charkoff and "Emes" of Moscow.

"In all our work," Dr. Rosen declared in his statement, "we have been placing settlers only in such districts and on such tracts as have been selected and thoroughly investigated by our own agronomists. The Agro-Joint had nothing to do with the selection of the Siberian tract and we are therefore not participating in this project.

"In our opinion the proposition presents very great difficulties and has not yet been sufficiently investigated to be ready for action," Dr. Rosen declared.

ROUMANIAN OFFICIALS ASK STUDENTS WITHHOLD COM- PROMISING MEMORANDUM

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Vienna, Feb. 8.—The Roumanian authorities are endeavoring to suppress the publication of the facts concerning the anti-Jewish excesses in Transylvania as threatened by the Christian League of Roumanian students, reports in Bucharest newspapers state.

It is stated that the Government has promised the Christian League considerable concessions on the condition that it withholds publication of the memorandum which shows that a member of the Government had exercised influence on the initiators of the excesses in Transylvania.

SIR HERBERT SAMUEL URGES UNITY FOR PALESTINE JEWS

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Jerusalem, Feb. 8.—The opponents of a unified Jewish community in Palestine received an indirect rebuke from Sir Herbert Samuel, former High Commissioner and author of the communities ordinance which was recently promulgated.

In reply to a letter congratulating him on the occasion of the going into effect of the communities ordinance, Sir Herbert wrote that the communities' unification is an inseparable part of the Jewish National Home.

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JEWISH REFUGEES IN FAR EAST COMPELLED TO EMIGRATE TO SOUTH AMERICA

The rupture between the Nanking Government and Soviet Russia has seriously affected Russian Jews in Shanghai, Hankow and Canton. The condition of these Jews, according to the report received by the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society of America from the Central Information Bureau at Harbin, is deplorable. The report states that Jews who have settled in the Far East cannot engage in manual labor since they are unable to compete with the Chinese coolies. They are engaged in business and many of them were employees in mercantile houses. The Government institutions in which Jews found employment have been liquidated.

Many Jews in Northern China earn a livelihood by engaging in the fur trade, particularly in raw skins. Lately, America ceased importing these skins and many American firms in Tientsin and Harbin, have either liquidated their affairs or decreased their operations. These two factors have compelled many to emigrate.

A Jewish immigrant by the name of Vigdorowitch had been manufacturing soap which removed stains from silk and other thin material. Many young men had been peddling this soap and earning between \$8 and \$10 a day. Many of these young men would sell the soap in the interior of the country. Owing to the suspicion with which Europeans are regarded, this means of earning a livelihood has come to an end.

POLISH GOVERNMENT GIVES PENSION TO AGED JEW WHO PREDICTED RESTORATION

'Red Headed Tinsmith' Foretold Polish Republic 30 Years Ago
(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Warsaw, Feb. 8.—For his belief in the resurrection of Poland and his willingness to jeopardize his life to aid the Polish patriots who plotted against the Czaristic yoke, an aged Jewish tinsmith was granted a monthly pension from the Government.

The tinsmith, a resident of Kobryn, will be the guest of honor at a banquet being arranged by Polish patriots who were active in the revolutionary movement thirty years ago. A fund to aid him is being raised by several Polish noblemen who remembered his loyalty during the revolutionary struggle. A street in his native town will be named after him.

The story which is holding interest here goes that the services of the aged Jewish tinsmith were recalled recently by the Polish estate owner, Ostromecki, when he was going over the records of the Polish revolutionary struggles. He recalled that once a secret meeting of the Polish patriots, who formed a so-called secret Polish government, held at Ostromecki's estate near Kobryn, decided to test the responsiveness of the population to the Polish patriotic cause by calling in the "red headed tinsmith" who worked on Ostromecki's estate. When asked by the secret group members, "Will we ever have a Polish state," the Jewish tinsmith replied: "Poland will come back to life again and the Jews will regain Palestine." In saying this the tinsmith offered his loyal services. The patriots were so elated over the prediction that they entered his statement in the protocols of the meeting.

After finding this record, Ostromecki, together with several of his comrades, sought out the "red headed tinsmith," who is a popular figure in Kobryn. They found him living in poverty, and instituted an action with the authorities to secure him a pension.

Nathan Straus is giving a reception tonight at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel to his associates in the United Palestine Appeal, which is opening its campaign for \$2,500,000 on February 15.

Judges O. A. Rosalsky and Grover M. Moseowitz, chairman of the New York and Brooklyn sections of the campaign respectively will be guests of honor.

Purim will be observed this year on Tuesday, March 6.

The Jewish Welfare Board has issued a bulletin on the observance of the holiday, giving information and suggestions for programs.

The board has prepared a set of questions and answers on the significance and observance of the holiday which may be utilized in connection with games and reprinted in association publications.

MINORITIES ORGAN DEPLORES CONDITION OF JEWISH POPULATION IN TRANSYLVANIA

Educational Opportunities Have Been Reduced to Minimum
(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Bucharest, Jan. 21.—A review of the position of the Jews of Transylvania appears in the "Glasul Minoritarilor," the "Mirror of the Minorities," in the Roumanian language.

The paper says that before the war there was no country in Europe, with the exception of Russia, in which the position of the Jews was so bad as in Roumania. In 1912 only 4,600 of the 241,000 Jews in the country had the right of citizenship; 98 per cent. of the Jewish population were deprived of all rights and were subjected to the arbitrary action of the authorities.

When Transylvania came under Roumanian rule, the Jewish population experienced a distinct change for the worse. One of the most apparent effects was that produced on the Jewish school system. The Jewish schools were refused public rights, and in many cases it was made almost impossible for them to function. In 1923-24 the Jewish Lyceum in Temesvar had 421 pupils. This year it has only 272. In 1923-24 the Jewish Secondary School in Cluj had 660 pupils; this year it has only 302. The Medical Faculty at Cluj University has this year only one Jewish student, a girl student, whereas before the anti-Semitic excesses took place at the university there were about sixty Jewish students in the Medical Faculty. In Oradea Mare there were 430 Jewish students in the secondary school last year and now there were only 246. In the Roumanian Universities, the number of Jewish students at present is much below the proportion of Jews to the population. At the same time many of the big endowments bequeathed to the universities came from Jews like Elias Jacques and Aristid Blanc.

In the matter of State subsidies to the Jewish communities, the Jews take the lowest place of all, obtaining the smallest subsidy, whereas according to population they are the second largest community, coming immediately after the Greek-Catholic population. The Greek Catholic Community with thirteen million souls, obtained a subsidy of 290 million lei. The Protestant Church, with 700,000 souls, obtained nearly nineteen million lei. The Jews with \$47,700 souls, obtained only 400,000 lei. Even the Mahomedans, with 200,000 souls, obtained nearly four million lei and the Unitarians with 75,000 souls obtained two and a half million lei. In proportion to their numbers the Jewish communities should have received in State subsidies last year twenty-five million lei.

POLISH GOVERNMENT MOVES TOWARD RECLAMATION OF SWAMP LANDS IN PINSK AREA

(Continued from Page 1)

James N. Rosenberg, vice-chairman of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee in referring to this plan then said:

"Here is a matter fraught with deep significance and I hope my words may, perchance, fall like seeds on fruitful ground in Poland. I raise a question, the answer to which lies not in the deliberations of the Chicago conference nor studies in America, but which must come from Poland. It must come not merely from the Polish Jews but from the Government of Poland. Poland has lately floated a loan of some seventy million dollars. This money is to be used largely for the economic rebuilding of the country.

"A handful of Polish Jews have lately organized an agricultural society. Inspired by the success of the Russian work, they yearn for the soil. Such yearning is to be heeded and should receive the fullest sympathy. To be specific, I call attention to a tract of four or five million of acres of marsh and swampy lands in the Pinsk district belonging in large part, as I am informed, to the Polish Government. This land adjoins similar land in White Russia, drained, ditched and cultivated by Russian Jews. Such land cannot be used unless it is ditched and drained. Land in White Russia, similarly located, costs \$30. to \$40. an acre to drain. With modern machinery adapted for ditching and draining, the cost could be reduced considerably.

"This land, as I am reliably informed, now lies idle and unproductive. Twenty-five to thirty acres will support a family. This would not be farming such as in the Ukraine and the Crimea, where large acreage per family is needed. One million of these acres ditched, drained and equipped should support 40,000 families.

"Is it possible to hope that the Polish Government would make a grant of this land? Is it possible to hope that the Polish Government would, like Russia, make substantial loans to help in the development of these lands through the settlement of the Jews? Is it possible to hope that a program might be evolved whereby American aid could be enlisted?

"To none of these questions do I dare venture an answer; but I do draw attention to the existence of these lands, and the existence of what at least furnishes the hope for a possibility of agricultural Jewish work in Poland.

"It is not unthinkable that the success of the Jewish agricultural work in Russia is known and realized by the Polish Government, and that Poland,

J.D.B. NEWS LETTER

Jewish Students Take Leading Part in Athletics

(By our Special Correspondent)

Ann Arbor, Mich., Feb. 6.—Unofficial figures just compiled show that more than 800 Jewish men and women are included in the approximate total of 10,000 students registered at the University of Michigan January 1, the largest percentage ever enrolled in this institution.

A review of the 1927 school year at Michigan reveals Jewish students taking an active part in practically all phases of University extra-curricular interests. In athletics, particularly, this is found to be true, the showing of Jewish athletes going far to dispel the antiquated theory that Jewish prowess is confined to the mental fields.

In football, although without the leadership of Ben Friedman, Cleveland, all-American captain of the year before and one of the greatest quarterbacks in athletic history, who entered professional sports after graduating, the University has several Jewish stars. Friedman is one of the winners of the Chicago Tribune Trophy, awarded annually to the player deemed most valuable to his team in the Big Ten. Ray Baer, Louisville, at guard, finished his last of three seasons as regular on the squad, receiving mention by prominent sports writers as among the four best guards in the country. Baer is also a brilliant student, winner of the Eta Krom award, a sociology prize. Others on the football squad included Samuel Babcock, Detroit, and Harold Greenwood, Chicago, two veterans, both of whom have won their letters.

Completing his studies as a medical student, there is Richard H. Freyberg, of Goshen, Indiana, captain a year ago of the Michigan track squad, and winner of the Big Ten Conference medal given annually to the athlete ranking highest in scholarship. Nathan P. Feinsinger, Buffalo, now a senior law student, was a star member of the same team, in addition to Harold Lasser, Newark, a dash man.

Clarence Batter, New Haven, Meyer Rosenberg, Detroit, divers, and Maurice U. Shorr, Chicago, back stroke star, were members of the University of Michigan national championship swimming team, regarded as the greatest college aquatic squad ever assembled.

The University tennis squad has been

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which will gain immeasurably in economic strength by increasing her crops, might give favorable consideration to such a plan. Here, then, at least lies a hope, a potential direction for activity, a goal for which to strive," Mr. Rosenberg declared.

STORY OF CATHOLIC WHO EMBRACED JUDAISM IS DESCRIBED IN NEW BOOK

The reasons which induced a devout Catholic, on the point of entering the priesthood, to embrace Judaism, are related in Aime Palliere's "The Unknown Sanctuary," which is announced for publication by Bloch Publishing Company. Mrs. Stephen S. Wise is working on the English translation and the book will be ready in early Spring.

Palliere will this Spring visit the United States, at the invitation of Dr. Stephen S. Wise, to deliver a series of lectures. He was born in 1875, in Lyons, France, and was preparing for the priesthood. When seventeen years of age, curiosity led him into a synagogue. It happened to be Yom Kippur, and the solemnities and profound religious mood of the Day of Atonement made an indelible impression on him. The following Yom Kippur saw him at the same synagogue, this time equipped with the Jewish prayer book. Three years later he embraced Judaism. He became a disciple of Rabbi Elia Benamozegh, the eminent Italian rabbi, whose posthumous French work on "Israel and Humanity" he prepared for publication in 1914. With Rabbi Bauer he directed the Jewish review "Foi et Reveil". Under the pseudonym of Loetmol, he has written numerous articles for the Jewish press, presenting the universal aspect of Judaism.

M. Palliere is assistant preacher of the synagogue of the Rue Copernic, in Paris; president of the Universal Union of Jewish Youth; vice-president of the Keren Kayemeth le Israel, the Central Commission of France for the National Jewish Fund; member of the directing council of the Federation Israélite. He is author of "Jerusalem, A Religious Center for Israel and Humanity," and "Judaism and its Distinctive Character."

IMMIGRATION LEGISLATION BEFORE HOUSE COMMITTEE AS HEARING IS CONTINUED

(Jewish Daily Bulletin)

Washington, Feb. 8.—The House Immigration Committee held a hearing yesterday on the proposed legislation for uniting separated families.

No progress was made the committee listening to a number of individuals who appeared before it, in support of the bill of Congressman Dyer of Missouri for the admission of wives of American citizens of Oriental race, including Chinese and Japanese who are now excluded. Those who appeared before the committee included Assistant Secretary of Labor Husband, Congressman Dyer, Mr. Brandt and Flornoy of the State Department.

Traffic in the Holland Tunnel was suspended for two minutes at noon yesterday, out of respect for the late Emanuel Watson Bloomingdale, Vice Chairman of the New York State Bridge and Tunnel Commission, who died Monday.

BEDOUNS THANK PLUMER FOR GIVING \$100,000 LOAN

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Jerusalem, Feb. 8.—Gratitude for a \$100,000 loan to cultivators and graziers, was sent to Lord Plumer, High Commissioner of Palestine by Bedouin leaders.

"You have saved us from famine, and have been to us like a merciful father," said the Mayor of Beersheba. "If not for your timely help to this district, its inhabitants would have perished." He added, "We hope you will provide the amount necessary to repair our water supply and build a modern cistern to collect the waters for their just distribution."

Another Bedouin sheik declared: "When you visited us last year you saw the signs of hunger written on our faces. We prayed you might return to see us enjoying a bountiful year. By your good deeds famine has been replaced by plenty. You have provided fodder for our cattle, you have transferred to more prosperous districts those who could not find their living here, using for the purpose fast-flying railways. And on top of these favors you have loaned us \$200,000."

The completion of the \$100,000 bond campaign for the purpose of erecting a community center on Ocean Parkway at Neptune Avenue, Long Island, was announced by Leon S. Kaiser, chairman of the campaign committee. Mr. Kaiser announced that the issue had been over-subscribed by \$12,400.

The campaign was conducted by a committee of the Jewish Center, of which Mr. Kaiser and Rabbi Louis B. Michaelson were the leaders, aided by a civic committee under the direction of George V. McLaughlin, William J. Ward and Miss Mary E. Dillon. The campaign was directed by A. N. Tuvim. The plans for the center provide for a library, class-rooms, club rooms, social hall, synagogue, ball room, roof garden, gymnasium and swimming-pool. The center will be erected at a cost of \$250,000.

The executive committee of the Hartford, Conn. Community Chest has endorsed the campaign of the Hebrew Women's Home for Children for \$100,000 which to build a new home, William S. Conning, president of the chest, announced. The Hebrew Women's Home for Children is a member of the chest and is the first to conduct a public campaign for capital funds, although subscriptions will be solicited from Jewish residents only.

Mr. Conning in a letter to Alfred M. Silberman, chairman of the campaign, stated: "As you know, the Community Chest does not raise or furnish capital funds, only asking the subscribers to contribute for the current expenses of the member agencies. Consequently, under the rules of the chest, agencies after obtaining the approval of the chest must raise all such capital funds either from a small group or a general campaign among its friends such as you are conducting."

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J. D. B. NEWS LETTER

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captained during the last two years by Jewish students. Last year it was headed by Irwin Orlan, St. Louis, and the year before by Earl D. Krickbaum, Cleveland.

Nat N. Rasnick, Newark, won his letter in 1927 as a member of the basketball team as did Louis Weintraub, Chicago, at third base on the baseball squad. Samuel Hart, North Bay, Ontario, and Gabriel J. Joseph, of Fargo, North Dakota, are regulars on this season's hockey team. Maxwell Rubin, Chicago, was among the Varsity wrestlers of last season, while Benjamin R. Berkowitz, Detroit, is now campus boxing champion.

In the University handball championships, four Jewish students competed in the finals. Benjamin Juliar, Mt. Clemens, defeated Harry Seligson, Detroit, in the singles, while Seligson and his partner, Harry Gorelick, also of Detroit, took the doubles title from Juliar and his partner, Louis Sosnow, Jr., Irvington, New Jersey.

In addition to the activity listed above, Jewish fraternities and sororities have been prominent in the intramural competition on the campus itself, two fraternities in particular, Phi Sigma Delta, and Sigma Alpha Mu, leading both Christian and Jewish organizations in activities.

Jacob Firestone, a pioneer resident of St. Paul, died recently at the age of 80 years. He came to St. Paul in 1873 from Hungary and retired from business several years ago. A fund of \$10,000 has been set aside by the children of Mr. and Mrs. Firestone to be known as the Jacob and Rosalie Firestone Memorial Trust, the income of which will be devoted to charitable purposes. In addition gifts are being made to the Jewish Home for the Aged, the Jewish Orphan Asylum at Cleveland and the Denver National Hospital.

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