

## NUMERUS CLAUSUS BILL PASSED BY HUNGARIAN SENATE IN THIRD READING

Discussion Which Was to Last a Week Suddenly Interrupted to Prevent Further Attacks on Discriminatory Measure

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Budapest, Mar. 15 — The numerus clausus modification bill, which changes the form but retains the discrimination against Jewish students in Hungarian universities and colleges, has become a law.

The Upper Chamber passed the Government bill in its third reading today, notwithstanding the previously announced intention of the Government to continue the discussion in the Senate until the end of the week. The reason for the sudden termination of the discussion is obviously due to the fact that the many attacks upon the Government policy of discrimination voiced by the leading spirits of the Hungarian upper chamber were extremely painful to the Bethlen Government. The bill was passed in the third reading by a vote of 70 to 30.

During the debate preceding the vote new attacks on the measure were made. A particular impression was made by the address of Count Johann Hadik, who declared that he will vote against the bill because it introduces into Hungary a caste system in education instead of allowing merit, character, diligence and knowledge to have free play. No culture is possible without the freedom of study and education,

he stated.

Baron Elemer von Simontsits polemized sharply with Count Teleki's defense of the numerus clausus. Count Teleki's argument is based on what one might term "bread anti-Semitism." It is not true, he stated, that the Christian youth has no opportunity because of the Jews. The Jews in Hungary have never driven out the Christians from commerce and industry. It was the Hungarian Christians who considered it to be "shameful" to engage in commerce and industry.

Von Pap, president of the Bar Association, spoke against the measure, declaring that the numerus clausus humiliates and insults Hungarian Jewry. It is therefore an anti-state law and contrary to the constitution.

The numerus clausus was defended only by Count Esterhazi and Count Szechenyi. They argued that "there is no justice in subjugating 94 percent of Christians to 4 percent Jews."

## POLISH PRESIDENT'S DECREE CHANGES COMPOSITION OF JEWISH COMMUNITIES BODY

Nationalists See Move as Curtailment of Autonomy

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Warsaw, Mar. 15 — The Supreme Council of the Jewish communities in the Republic of Poland, the body which is to be created to head the autonomous administration of the affairs of the Kehillahs and to be Polish Jewry's official representative before the Government, will be composed of sixty-three members.

A decree issued yesterday by Ignac Moscicki, President of Poland, made considerable changes in the law promulgated previously to govern the organization of the Supreme Council.

In setting the number of members of the council at 63, the decree orders that instead of 14 lay members and 7 rabbis, the council is to be composed of 34 lay members and 17 rabbis. In addition, the Government has the right to appoint eight lay members and four rabbis to compose the council.

The new decree is viewed in Jewish

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## NEW ANTI-SEMITIC DISTURBANCES AT BUCHAREST UNIVERSITY; AUTHORITIES INTERVENE

Four Ringleaders are Arrested; University Will be Closed, if Further Incidents Occur, Authorities Declare

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Bucharest, Mar. 15—New anti-Semitic disturbances, calculated to frighten the Jewish students away from the lectures, occurred at the University of Bucharest today, but were checked by the intervention of the authorities.

A group of anti-Semitic students attempted to prevent the Jewish students from entering the law school, attacking many of them. The authorities immediately intervened, arresting four of the ringleaders. The authorities de-

clared that the university will be closed, thus causing the students to lose a full semester, in case the slightest incidents will occur.

## GOVERNMENT OF TYROL SANCTIONS SCHECHITA

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Vienna, Mar. 15—Schechita does not involve cruelty to animals, the Government of the Austrian Tyrol has declared to the local Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

The society has applied to the Government demanding that it take proceedings against the Jewish ritual slaughterers in the Bregenz district, on a charge of cruelty to animals. The Bregenz district in the Tyrol is within the Austrian Federal Republic but close to Switzerland, where the Schechita is prohibited.

## JEWISH SCHOLAR IS NAMED TO LITHUANIA UNIVERSITY

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Kovno, Mar. 15—Professor Wolf Lazerson has been appointed professor of psychology at the University of Lithuania. Professor Lazerson was formerly at Kiev University.

## OSCAR SLATER WILL GET NEW TRIAL, COURT RULES

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Glasgow, Mar. 15—The petition that a new trial be granted Oscar Slater, who was released from Peterhead prison after serving eighteen years on the charge of having murdered an aged Glasgow woman, has been granted. The case was referred to the Scottish Court of Criminal Appeal. It is expected that the court will be asked to hear new evidence in the endeavors which are being made to establish Slater's innocence.

Slater's release was made after a committee of the House of Commons had declared that in their judgment Slater was unjustly convicted.

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## ROUMANIAN JEWS IN U.S. ASK CRETZIANO FOR STEPS TO PRE- VENT ANTI-JEWISH OUTRAGES

Minister Invites Federation's Leaders to Discuss Matter; Issue Joint Statement; American Jewish Congress

Opposed Move

(Jewish Daily Bulletin)

Washington, Mar. 15.—At the invitation of the Roumanian Minister at Washington, George Cretziano, a delegation representing the United Roumanian Jews of America called at the Roumanian Legation yesterday and exchanged views with the Minister on the question of the anti-Jewish excesses in Roumania.

The delegation was headed by Bennett E. Siegelstein, president, who presented the Minister with a brief containing various recommendations and making certain demands. Among the demands were the dissolution of the Christian Students National Union, which, they held, was "nothing more than an anti-Semitic organization"; an "open door" to the universities and protection to Jewish students; abolition of the Christian Students National Day, and that the Roumanian Government give the fullest administrative protection to the Jewish population of Roumania, as well as to all other minorities, irrespective of creeds and faiths.

Following the conference, Minister Cretziano authorized this statement:

"The delegation and the Roumanian Minister, after exchanging views on the Roumanian subject, are in full sympathy with the conditions abroad and are sorry for past occurrences. Both will do everything possible to carry out the sug-

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## J.D.B. NEWS LETTER

### Ergotism, Disease of Rye Bread Eat- ers, Afflicts Manchester Jews

(By Our London Correspondent)

London, Mar. 5.—The outbreak of ergot poisoning at Manchester due to eating rye bread is described in the "British Medical Journal" by Dr. James Robertson and Dr. Hugh T. Ashby.

It was noticed, they write, that the disease is confined to the Jewish population of the city, and it is found that the symptoms are only met with in that portion of the Jewish community which uses rye bread as an article of diet. In no case is the condition met with among those who eat white bread.

We have carefully collected and recorded cases, they state, and have had analytical and physiological tests made on the rye in order to prove the cause of the symptoms met with. Early in the investigations it was observed that the general symptoms complained of were coldness in the extremities, numbness and lack of sensation in the fingers—a sensation like an insect creeping over the skin—headaches, depression, gastric disturbances, shooting pains, twittings in the limbs, and staggering gait. It was further observed that the patients who complained of these symptoms were Jews and later that these Jews ate black or rye bread. On the other hand, none of the symptoms complained of were observed among that portion of the Jewish population who ate white bread. It was then suggested that the rye bread might be the source of the trouble. From this it was concluded that the symptoms were due to ergot, which, as is well known, so readily contaminates the rye. It was also noticed that the symptoms were much more pronounced in the Russian, Polish and German-born Jews than in the English-born Jews. This is explained by the fact that black bread is the bread commonly used on the Continent, whereas in this country its place is taken by white bread. Further, on account of its slightly bitter taste the

### DR. LEONARD STEIN, Z. O. LEADER, ARRIVES IN U. S.

Dr. Leonard Stein, political secretary of the World Zionist Organization, arrived here from London on the steamer Corona.

Dr. Stein has come to this country in the interest of the Zionist Organization and in connection with the Jewish Agency. Dr. Stein stated he will remain in the United States about six weeks and that his visit here is in connection with Dr. Weizmann's forthcoming arrival.

black bread proves more palatable than the comparatively tasteless white bread. In addition to this, black bread is found to be more satisfying and is a little cheaper than white bread.

In some households it is found that one member may show no symptoms of ergotism whatever, whilst all the other members of the family are variously affected. Questions elicit the information that the unaffected member does not eat rye bread. In many of the cases first seen rye bread was stopped as an article of diet; this was followed by an early diminution in the symptoms, and a complete disappearance of them in most cases.

Rye is by far the most susceptible grain to infection by the parasitic fungus *Claviceps Purpurea*. The grain is infected just as the flowers are opening, and the fungus enters at the end of the grain. The infection is only possible at this time, as the shell later becomes too hard for the fungus to penetrate.

The symptoms observed in these Jewish patients, they proceed, correspond very closely with those produced by chronic ergot poisoning. The severity of the symptoms produced seem to increase with age, children being slightly and elderly people more acutely affected. This may be due to the elderly people having taken rye bread for many years. The foreign-born Jews, who have always eaten rye bread, are the most affected.

The first symptoms of coldness of the extremities combined with numbness are especially observed in tailors, buttonholers, etc., who find because their fingers are numb they have difficulty in keeping up with their work. They often notice that they prick their fingers without feeling it.

Raynaud's disease amongst the Jews during this winter would appear to be more prevalent than heretofore. We have also come across a man, aged 47, who has a definite dry gangrene of both hands. The gangrene of this man is not associated with diabetes or any similar condition, and it is possible that, as a rye bread consumer, his gangrene is due to ergot poisoning.

It has been observed that these cases quickly improve when rye bread as an article of diet is discontinued.

A large number of the symptoms are due to general contraction of the arteries all over the body, and it is probable that if the poisoning should become more severe such serious conditions as Raynaud's disease and gangrene will become more frequent. Ergot has the power of contracting the pregnant uterus, and it is likely that chronic ergot poisoning may cause abortions in early pregnancy. Unfortunately no record is available of these cases as the Notification of Birth Act

## PUBLICATION OF 'PROTOCOLS' CAUSES WIDE AGITATION IN GREECE

Salonica Jews Protest to Authorities and Editors; Expulsion of Jews, Turks and Armenians from Frontier Districts Asked

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Salonica, Mar. 15.—The Protocols of the Elders of Zion, the infamous falsification of the anti-Semitic international long proven a forgery and discarded, are now being published in the Greek press, giving great concern to the Jewish community and causing wide agitation in the country.

The republication of the protocols was started by "Macedonia," the organ of the followers of Venizelos, Republicans. The Royalist organ "Phos," immediately followed suit and published the protocols.

The Kehillah of Salonica immediately submitted a protest to the editor of "Macedonia" and to the Governor General Calveiras. The editor of "Macedonia" explained that he undertook the publication of the protocols not for anti-Semitic reasons. He is willing, he stated, to publish a refutation of the protocols. The editor of the "Phos" also explained that he published the protocols for competitive reasons and is prepared to allow space

only applies to children born after the expiration of the twenty-eighth week of pregnancy.

"Epidemic Ergotism is well known as an affliction of medieval Europe," the "British Medical Journal" writes in an editorial article, "but it has been generally assumed that this is one of the plagues that the advance of civilization has banished. It will therefore come as a surprise to many to read the account of a recent epidemic of ergot poisoning described by Drs. Robertson and Ashby. This epidemic has occurred, moreover, not in the wilds of Eastern Europe, but in Manchester.

"Records of epidemic ergotism date back to the ninth century, and all through the Middle Ages terrible outbreaks of poisoning occurred amongst rye-eating populations after wet summers. Large numbers were killed in those epidemics, and many only survived after losing the greater portion of their limbs from gangrene. Before the advent of steam transport the unfortunate inhabitants of districts which depended on rye often found themselves faced, after a wet summer, with the alternative either of starvation or of poisoning from the consumption of ergotized rye. The improvement of communications due to the advent of steam transport naturally reduced the frequency and severity of such epidemics, but it did not abolish them, for several have been recorded during the last half-century in Eastern Europe."

for the Jewish point of view.

Another question that now agitates the Jewish community in Greece is the disclosure made by the newspaper "Rizostatis," a Communist organ. The paper published a report revealing that Prefect Djanetos, in a confidential report to the Governor General of Thrace, demanded that Jews, Turks and Armenians be expelled from the Evrou frontier district. Jews, Turks and Armenians, even when they are Greek subjects, should be prohibited from travelling in this district, he demanded.

Upon publication of this report, the Salonica Kehillah telegraphed to Athens asking whether it was authentic. No denial, however, was issued.

Monteche Bessantchi, Jewish deputy from Salonica, then raised the question in parliament. "The prefect of Evrou demands the expulsion of Jews for the purpose of combatting Communism. All agree in the necessity of combatting Communism but what the prefect demands is the persecution of Jews," he declared.

Minister of the Interior promised to investigate the matter and invited the deputy to a further discussion on the subject.

## PALESTINE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IS TO BE COMPOSED OF SEVENTY-ONE MEMBERS

Vaad Leumi Accepts Mizrahi Proposal to Give Rabbis Majority in Rabbinate Election Body

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Jerusalem, Mar. 15.—The National Assembly of Palestine Jewry, provided for in the Palestine Communities Ordinance which grants Palestine Jews internal autonomy and representative institutions, is to be composed of 71 members, according to a decision of the Vaad Leumi, the National Council of Palestine Jews. Franchise is to be granted to men and women alike above the age of 18; men and women are to be eligible for office at the age of 25.

The granting of the franchise to women was the bone of contention between the ultra-Orthodox group in Jerusalem and the other sections of the Jewish population grouped around the Zionist Vaad Leumi. The ultra-Orthodox threatened to avail themselves of the right granted to them in the Communities Ordinance to create separate organizations in case women would be granted the right to vote.

The Vaad Leumi has also accepted the proposal made by the Mizrahi, the organization of Orthodox Zionists, with regard to the procedure in the election of the Palestine Chief Rabbinate

## JEWISH COMMITTEE AIDS STATE INSTITUTION IN MATES IN CALIFORNIA

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Oakland, Calif., Mar. 15.—The sixth annual report of the Jewish Committee for Personal Service in State Institutions of California has just been made public.

The committee aids Jewish inmates in State institutions and assists them toward rehabilitation.

The committee recommends a mental hygiene program for the State, with a thorough survey of State institutions, a suitable psychopathic hospital service and a complete system of out-patient work and an after-care program.

Rabbi Rudolph I. Coffee, president of the committee, announces that, following a recent meeting in Los Angeles to consider the mental hygiene problems of the State, Gov. C. C. Young indicated his approval of the movement and that steps are to be taken in the near future to put plans into practice.

Rabbi Coffee announced that the Community Chests of San Francisco and Los Angeles have agreed to increase their contributions to the Jewish Committee's funds.

## KEREN HAYESOD INCOME DURING FEBRUARY \$34,496

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Jerusalem, Mar. 15.—The income of the Keren Hayesod for the month of February was \$34,496. The income for the previous month was \$42,006.

and its council. This question, too, was one on which opinions were sharply divided and which was one of the causes of dissention. The ultra-Orthodox expressed their fear that the lay elements of Palestine Jewry, less interested in religious matters, would be given too much control over the election of the spiritual leaders.

The Mizrahi, therefore, proposed that the assembly which is to be charged with the election of the Chief Rabbinate and its council be composed of 51 percent rabbis and 49 percent laymen. This proposal was accepted by the Vaad Leumi.

David A. Brown, national chairman of the United Jewish Campaign, will deliver the principal address at the tenth anniversary celebration of "The Jewish Forum" on Sunday evening, March 25th at Mecca Temple.

The Arrangements Committee Executive consists of Judge William Elias, Chairman; Congressman Sol Bloom, Commissioner Albert Goldman and Maurice H. Katz, Vice-Chairman; Joseph H. Herbst, Treasurer; and A. A. Redelheim, Secretary.

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## CHRISTIANS WON'T HAMPER REBUILDING OF PALESTINE CATHOLIC DIGNITARY SAYS

### Charges Religious Indifference among New Jewish Settlers Threatens Permanency

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Rome, Mar. 15.—The Jews have no reason to fear difficulties being put in the way of Palestine colonization from the side of the Christians. This is to be much more feared from the side of the Arab world, and above all it depends on the question whether the majority of the Zionist immigrants will profess religious indifference. This was the statement of Bishop Mgr. d'Herbigny, President of the Papal Oriental Institute, who has returned here from a visit to Palestine made on behalf of the Pope, in the course of an interview with the representative of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

"I had an opportunity during my last visit to Palestine," he said, "to observe closely the work of Jewish colonization, which is indeed being carried on with unusual enthusiasm and determination. One can say that the Jewish colonists have achieved very important successes in the last few years. But their efforts will have a permanent value only when they are accompanied by a religious spirit and a feeling for tradition."

The Bishop charged that "the majority of the new Jewish settlers in Palestine are indifferent to religion."

Mgr. d'Herbigny then turned to the question of the anti-Semitism which is manifesting itself very strongly in certain European countries and in some cases assuming violent forms. He expressed his utmost abhorrence of all anti-Jewish prejudice, in whatever form it appeared. "The Catholic Church," he said, "has always condemned every form of enmity against the Jews, and in particular it has condemned acts of violence. Even the Ghetto," he declared, "was originally created, not in order to segregate and humiliate Jews, but to protect them against the mob. And even the Inquisition was set up to release the Jewish population from the arbitrary law courts of the medieval times."

Mgr. d'Herbigny protested against the movement in certain countries to prohibit Schechita. "Such a prohibition," he said, "would be a flagrant violation of Jewish religious feeling and an attack upon their religious liberty. We must above all strive always to attain to a better understanding between Jews and Christians, to avoid all prejudices and to develop in common the sentiments of love and charity."

## ROUMANIAN JEWS IN U.S. ASK CRETZIANO FOR STEPS TO PRE- VENT ANTI-JEWISH OUTRAGES

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gestions and recommendations made and filed so that peace and happiness will prevail in Roumania."

Besides President Siegelstein, the delegation included Herman Speier, Secretary; Leon Fisher, Morris Florea, Solomon Sufrin, Bruno Berk, Paul R. Silbermann and Samuel Kanter, all of New York.

The text of the brief presented by the delegation to Minister Cretziano read:

"We, in behalf of the United Rumanian Jews in America, appreciate the spirit which has prompted your Excellency's invitation and your commendable desire to afford us an opportunity of exchanging views on questions in which we are mutually interested.

"The members of our delegation, however, will be lacking in candor as well as in sense of duty to our brethren, if we do not frankly give expression to our feeling of deep sorrow at the events which have recently transpired in Roumania, and our continued anxiety for the safety and welfare of the Jews of Roumania whose fate is identified with the future of Roumania, and whose prosperity is bound up with the advancement in our native land.

"The facts with regard to the unfortunate occurrences and excesses in December have been fully stated in publications here and in Roumania. We have no desire, nor do we believe it to be necessary to reiterate the mournful facts at this time. But your Excellency will permit us to observe that the suffering which has been caused cannot easily be dispelled, and that the accumulated burden of insecurity and hostility cannot be lifted unless there be exerted sufficient strength to overcome the dread of stimulated animosities and fear of violence, against which there seems to be no restraint, and above all, the agonizing atmosphere of continuous insecurity.

"We must therefore most earnestly urge, and obtain assurances in the form of official utterances and acts and guarantees, that efforts equal to the gravity of the situation will be put forth by your Government to ameliorate the said conditions, and in order to end such fears, worries and anxieties, and to establish real peace and harmony among all the elements of the population."

To this end, and in order to clear the way for a future understanding, the brief requested—

1. The dissolution of the Christian Students National Union, and by such act of dissolution, the Roumanian Government should make clear to its people in general and to the Roumanian students in particular, that the Government is entirely sincere in its suppression of anti-Semitism. Failure on the part of the Roumanian Government to suppress the

## POLISH PRESIDENT'S DECREE CHANGES COMPOSITION OF JEWISH COMMUNITIES BODY

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nationalist circles as a move to considerably curtail the autonomous rights of the council and the Kehillah's administration. The increase in the number of members to be appointed, not elected, was effected to meet the demand of the so-called assimilationist group, while the nationalist group demanded that the entire membership of the Supreme Council is to be elected by the Kehillahs and the number of the council members be set at 70 to correspond to the number of the ancient Sanhedrin in Jerusalem.

Union would inevitably be regarded as proof of the lack of wholeheartedness in the Government's desire to suppress and repress anti-Semitism.

2. "Open Door" of the universities and protection to the Jewish students while in attendance. As long as Jewish students are terrorized by force to absent themselves from the universities no assurances, however well meant, by the Government, can be accepted as effective.

3. "Abolition of the Christian Students' National Day. The Government should, at least for the present, abolish the 10th day of December as a national holiday for the convening of so-called Christian students, in view of the horrors to which recent celebrations thereof gave rise."

The American Jewish Congress, of which the United Roumanian Jews of America are a constituent body, announced through its Washington branch that it was opposed to the meeting yesterday between the deputation and the Roumanian Minister. Although the Congress did not stand in the way of the delegation's acceptance of Minister Cretziano's invitation to discuss the Roumanian Jewish situation, it did, however, state that the officers of the Congress, including its President, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, were opposed to the conference.

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