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## GREEK GOVERNMENT CANNOT AID JEWS FORCED FROM HOMES BY JAPS PLANNING

Delegation Goes to Athens to Plead  
Cause

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Salonica, Feb. 15.—A delegation of the Jewish community went to Athens to present to Premier Venezolos the deplorable condition of a large number of poor Jewish families. Many of them are living in cellars and the unhygienic ruins of old barracks. Even these are now being taken from them, as they are being demolished. The result will be that many Jewish inhabitants will be forced on the streets without any habitations.

The delegation asked the intervention of the government to find a solution to this grave problem, because the resources of the Jewish community are entirely exhausted and they are unable to afford assistance.

The Prime Minister expressed his regret, declaring that the government is over-burdened with the heavy tasks of the settlement of refugees and cannot grant assistance in this direction.

## HUNGER DEMONSTRATIONS OCCUR IN KISHINEFF

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Kishineff, Feb. 15.—Several hundred men and women gathered today before the headquarters of the Famine Relief Committee here demonstrating in a demand for immediate aid.

Police had to be called to disperse the crowd.

The capital of Bessarabia has in the last few days been overcrowded with refugees from the famine zone in the province. The relief work undertaken by local institutions, government and municipal agencies has proved insufficient to cope with the growing demand for bread.

## TOWN WITHOUT "POOR JEWS" BARS JEWISH ACTORS TROUPE

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Warsaw, Feb. 15.—The town of Bidgocz, which claimed it had no poor Jews when a legacy was left to aid the needy Jewish population in the town, has now barred a Jewish actor troupe.

The local Jewish artisans' society arranged a performance of the Warsaw Yiddish troupe. On the eve of the performance, after all preparations had been made and tickets sold, word was sent by the township authorities that the play could not be put on.

## CHIEF RABBI GUTMAN DIES IN JASSY

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Jassy, Feb. 15.—Chief Rabbi Mordecai Gutman died here at the age of 68. Rabbi Gutman was known throughout Roumania as a Talmudic scholar.

## LARGE NUMBER OF RUSSIAN JEWS LOSE FRANCHISE, COMMUNIST PRESS REPORTS

Includes Loss of Privilege; As High  
as 50% in Some Towns

Moscow, Feb. 15.—Large numbers of Russian Jews have been disfranchised, in some towns the number reaching as high as fifty per cent of the Jewish population, reports in the Communist press declare. The problem is serious, the papers point out, because the loss of other privileges is involved.

Many Soviet officials approach the matter bureaucratically, demanding strict adherence to the written law, despite the orders of higher officials to use discretion in application of the law. Numerous declassified Jews and former traders who have been employed as workers for three and four years are denied the vote.

The question came up before the Central Committee of the National Minorities Council, which issued an order to the local officials to alter their tactics.

## MEMORIAL TO OSCAR S. STRAUS TO BE ERECTED IN WASHINGTON

House Committee Favorably Reports  
Resolution, First for a Jew

(Jewish Daily Bulletin)

Washington, Feb. 15.—The House Library Committee yesterday ordered a favorable report on the resolution of Congressman Celler of Brooklyn, authorizing the erection of a monument or memorial in Washington to the late Oscar S. Straus, Ambassador to Turkey under President Taft, and Secretary of Commerce and Labor under President Roosevelt.

After hearing the statements of Congressman Celler, Leo J. Rowe, director of the Pan-American Union, Herbert Knox Smith, formerly associated with Oscar Straus in the Department of Commerce and Labor, Representative Fred M. Davenport and Representative Robert Luce, the committee voted unanimously for the favorable report on the resolution. It was stated here that this is the first time a monument to a Jew was authorized to be erected in the national capital.

Messages endorsing the resolution were received from Henry Morgenthau, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, George B. Cortelou, Dr. Lee K. Frankel, Charles P. Neill, Robert Underwood Johnson, and Dr. Cyrus Adler.

The resolution read: "Resolved, that the director of Public Buildings and Parks of the National Capital be and hereby is authorized and directed to select a suitable site and to grant permission to any association or associations organized within two years of the date of approval of this resolution for that purpose, to erect as a gift to the people of the United States, on the

(Continued on Page 4)

## MINERAL WEALTH IN DEAD SEA IS WORTH \$4,000,000,000. SAYS SIR HERBERT SAMUEL

Would Cover Costs of All Nations in  
World War

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

London, Feb. 15.—The mineral wealth of the Dead Sea, the reputed bed of Sodom and Gomorrah, is estimated to be eight hundred million pounds Sterling and equivalent of \$4,000,000,000, a sum which would be sufficient to pay the expenses of all nations who participated in the World War, declared Sir Herbert Samuel, former High Commissioner of Palestine in a lecture he delivered last night at the Westbourne Park Baptist Church.

The difficulty, however, is, the former High Commissioner stated, that there must necessarily be great delay in obtaining and working the concession for the extraction of this wealth. Sir Herbert expressed the belief that Palestine, when developed fully under the British Mandate, would create an opportunity for three million Jews to settle and live there under the best conditions.

"There is in every respect cause for satisfaction with the British work in the Holy Land," he said.

## COLD WEATHER IN EUROPE INCREASES JEWISH SUFFERING

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

London, Feb. 15.—The extremely low temperature throughout Europe has caused hardship and tremendous need in many Jewish communities.

The Warsaw community distributed coal, wood, meals and tea to many needy families. Special field kitchens were set up in many Jewish streets. The kitchens were provided by the military authorities.

In Kovno, Lithuania, the situation in the hunger stricken districts is catastrophic. Many are unable to find work and are without any means of livelihood. Hunger increases the suffering from the unusual cold.

## WEIZMANN SUFFERING FROM SEPTIC THROAT AND FATIGUE

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

London, Feb. 15.—A bulletin issued by the Zionist Executive on Dr. Chaim Weizmann's health declares that the Zionist leader is suffering from a septic throat and general fatigue. His medical advisers have ordered him to undergo a rest cure.

After many years of incessant, arduous work, his complete recovery must be gradual. However, he is progressing as well as can be expected and there is no need for anxiety, the bulletin states.

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**INTERMARRIAGE AMONG  
JEWS ON THE PACIFIC  
COAST INCREASING**

Bublik, Mizrahi President, Returning  
from Tour, Describes Conditions

The impressions of an Orthodox Jewish leader of American Jewish life on the Pacific Coast were described by Gedaliah Bublik, Jewish writer and president of the Mizrahi, Orthodox Zionist Organization, who returned this week from a tour in the far west in behalf of the organization.

To a representative of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, the president of the Mizrahi stated that what he had observed in the far west convinced him of the necessity for vigorous measures to keep Jewish life intact in that region of the country. Intermarriage of Jews and Christians is on the increase in the western centers. The number of Jews who join the ranks of the Christian Science church is great. The older generation of religious Jews has a difficult struggle against the assimilationist tendencies which are growing among the youth, he stated.

The Orthodox element in the west is not numerically strong, but it is conducting an energetic struggle for existence. The leaders know that it is a question of "to be or not to be" and efforts are being made to safeguard the growing generation by the inculcation of a Jewish religious training through the Talmud Torahs and public lectures on Jewish topics. The majority of the Jews in the west, Orthodox or not, thirst for a Jewish word. They flock to lectures on Jewish topics, even on "Orthodoxy." Their hospitality is hearty, he stated.

Speaking of economic conditions, Mr. Bublik stated that though average business conditions are not bad, of late a large number of middle-class Jews are suffering greatly from the competition of the chain stores which drive the small trader out of the market.

**APOSTOLIC DELEGATION TO U.S.  
UNWARE IF JEWS AFFECTED  
BY CANON LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Has No Information on Legal, Political,  
Religious Effect on Jews

The Apostolic Delegation to the United States, the Papal representation at Washington, is not in possession of any information as to whether the recent agreement concluded between the Italian government and the Vatican, including the enforcement of the Canon Law of the Catholic Church in Italy, would affect Italian Jewry.

This statement came in reply to an inquiry by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency directed to His Excellency, Rev. Pietro Fumasoni-Biondi, as to whether, and if so how, the Jewish community of Italy would be affected in its legal, political and religious status under the agreement.

The reply read: "His Excellency, the Apostolic Delegate, is in receipt of your communication of February 12th, requesting to know whether, and if so how, the Jewish community in Italy will be affected under the agreement concluded by the Holy See and the Italian government."

"I regret to have to inform you that this Delegation has no information concerning the matter."

**PALESTINE GOVERNMENT  
BUDGET PUBLISHED**

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Jerusalem, Feb. 15.—The budget of the Palestine administration for 1929 was made public here. Included in the allotments are £103,000 for health, £144,000 for education, £69,000 for agriculture, £368,000 for police and prisons, £145,000 for the maintenance of the Transjordanian frontier force, £31,000 for other defence measures, £182,000 for ordinary public works, £328,000 for extraordinary public works and £100,000 for payment on the public debt.

**CONGRESS GIVES HIGHER RANK  
TO ELSBERG, SUBMARINE HERO**

(Jewish Daily Bulletin)

Washington, Feb. 15.—Both houses of Congress have adopted a bill to elevate Lieut.-Commander Edward Elsborg of the United States Navy, stationed at Westfield, to the rank of Commander. The appointment is made in recognition of his heroism during the rescue work several years ago of the two American submarines S-51 and S-54. The bill now awaits the signature of President Coolidge.

**NAHUM SOKOLOW TO  
ARRIVE FEBRUARY 26**

Nahum Sokolow, Chairman of the Zionist Executive, will arrive in New York on the Aquitania, on February 26th, according to an announcement issued by the National Office of the United Palestine Appeal.

It had previously been expected that Dr. Sokolow would be in this country the latter part of January, but the unexpected death of his son, Dr. Heinrich Sokolow, noted Berlin engineer, cancelled these arrangements.

**PALESTINE CHIEF RABBI  
UNITE IN PLEA TO ALL JEWS TO  
JOIN: PALESTINE COMMUNITY**

Issue Joint Appeal for Membership in  
Kenesseth Israel

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Jerusalem, Feb. 15.—A united appeal, issued today by the Chief Rabbi of the Ashkenazic community, Dr. A. J. Kook, and Rabbi Jacob Meir, Chief Rabbi of the Sephardic community, urges all Palestine Jewry to join the Kenesseth Israel, the unified community provided for in the Palestine Communities Ordinance.

Previously Rabbi Meir had opposed the Kenesseth Israel, advocating separate Orthodox communities.

Jerusalem, Feb. 15.—Sir John Chancellor, Palestine High Commissioner, received a delegation of the Mizrahi, Orthodox Zionist Organization, in an audience yesterday which lasted for more than an hour. The members of the delegation, which included Rabbi Fishman, Chief Rabbi Ben Zion Uziel of Tel Aviv, Rabbi Ostrowsky, Rabbi Berman, Rabbi Levy and David Sirkis, described the educational activities of the Mizrahi and stressed the organization's support of the Kenesseth Israel.

The High Commissioner agreed, it is stated, that the separatist policy of those who oppose the Kenesseth Israel is ruinous. Neither he nor the government are supporting the separatists, the reference being to the ultra-Orthodox Agudath Israel.

**PORTUGUESE MARANOS RETURN  
TO JUDAISM, ERECT SYNAGOGUE**

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Oporto, Portugal, Feb. 15.—The community of Maranos in Bregansea who have recently officially returned to Judaism have started the erection of a synagogue here.

The president of the synagogue, Jose Furtado Montanha, in a communication in behalf of the descendants of the victims of the Inquisition, urged the municipality of Bregansea to name a street in the city after Orbio de Castro, the famous Marano leader who because of the Inquisition fled to Amsterdam, where he became the leader of the community. A memorial tablet has already been placed on a street in the town.

**ZIONISTS TO MARK DATE OF  
PEACE CONFERENCE HEARING**

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

London, Feb. 15.—Zionists throughout the world were urged to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the hearing granted by the Peace Conference at Paris to the Zionist delegation, consisting of Dr. Weizmann, Nahum Sokolow and M. M. Ussishkin, on February 27, 1919.

In a communication issued to the constituent bodies of the organization, attention was drawn to this date and the suggestion was made that appropriate public meetings be held on this occasion.

## JUDAISM, DOCTRINE OF INFINITE PROGRESS, SYMPOSIUM VIEW AT UNION CONVENTION

Judaism Difficult of Concrete Definition, Says Dr. Schulman in Summary  
(Jewish Daily Bulletin)

San Francisco, Feb. 15.—Judaism as understood by the exponents of Reform cannot be described by any other concrete definition than "the religion of infinite progress."

This view was stressed by Dr. Samuel Schulman, Rabbi of Temple Emanu-El, New York, one of the leading exponents of Reform Judaism, at the close of the symposium held by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations in convention here. Summarizing the views expressed on "Judaism and the Modern World," as the symposium was termed, Dr. Schulman told the delegates that the symposium had failed to positively define Judaism. "Judaism should be considered from the standpoint of modernity. To Judaism, Messiah has never arrived. This means that Judaism is the religion of infinite progress," Dr. Schulman stated.

The speaker stated that he would found a new order of modern priesthood of Israel, with the youth devoted to piety and sincerity. Science, he stated, has failed to supply more than an outline of the world. Modern man is not a God. Science can explain neither the meaning nor the purpose of the world, nor the complete processes thereof, he stated.

"In the first place God is not nature and in the second place God is not man," said Dr. Schulman. "If nature is not God, then genuine science holds no danger for religion. The business of religion is to lead man to God, to whom nature is an instrument."

"The genius of Judaism is not to describe God exhaustively. Judaism continues the consistent invitation to man to discover more and more about God. It does not see the realization of the ideal in the past; it looks always to the future."

"In the days from February 12 to February 22, which bring to our mind through the memory of Washington and Lincoln the genius of American democracy, its liberty, its order and its vision, I would like the American people to use these days as days of reflection, somewhat as the Jewish religion uses the ten days from the New Year to the Day of Atonement," Dr. Schulman declared.

At the conclusion of his address the audience rose, according to an ovation to Dr. Schulman.

The convention heard a preliminary  
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## RECHOBOT GUARD NOT KILLED BY ARABS

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)  
Jerusalem, Feb. 15.—Official investigation into the death of Joseph Ninevitch, night guard of the colony Rechobot, revealed that he was not murdered by unknown assailants, as had been previously reported.

The investigation revealed that Ninevitch died of wounds inflicted by a bullet from his own hunting gun.

## J. D. B. NEWS LETTER

### Sees Danger of Famine in Russia

By Our London Correspondent

London, Feb. 4.—There are many Bolshevik leaders who frankly declare that the country is passing through the worst economic crisis it has had to face since the panic year of 1922. They also allow that a famine is within the bounds of possibility, but are hopeful the country may just manage to weather the storm, always provided the machinery of distribution is equal to moving stocks from one district where there is plenty to those where there is want, Sir Ellis Ashmead-Bartlett, the famous war-correspondent, writes in an article in the "Daily Telegraph" today, on the situation in Russia.

The reasons for the shortage of cereals, he says, are as follows: "There was a failure of crops in certain districts in the Ukraine, which has had a most disastrous effect, as it restricted the export of grain, which was needed to balance the imports of manufactured goods. The Commissar of Finance was thus faced with a deficit in the National Budget. To prevent this, enormous stocks of butter, cheese, milk and other dairy produce were exported last year, which helped to balance the budget, but have left a corresponding gap in the supplies for home consumption. The mass of the population must now do without them. Difficulties have been increased by a failure in the potato crop. As a set-off to the losses in Russia proper, there was a bumper harvest throughout the grain-producing regions of the East. Thus, if only sufficient grain can be moved southwest from Siberia and locally distributed in the regions where want prevails, it will be possible to pull through until the next harvest. But this is highly problematical. There is only a single line from Siberia, and there are few regional branch lines. The railway is, therefore, sorely taxed to handle the supplies needed for the big cities and regions threatened with famine, the writer says."

### Ukraine Said to Have 300 Million Poods of Wheat Shortage

"In the Ukraine alone there is said to be a shortage of 300,000,000 poods of wheat (a pood is about 36 lbs. avoirdupois), and the government has only been able to afford to purchase 40,000,000 poods from abroad. I am told that the capacity of the Siberian Railroad, owing to the shortage of rolling stock, is insufficient. Every vehicle on two wheels has been mobilized."

"The government does all in its power to prevent a shortage in Moscow and Leningrad, as it is essential to keep the industrial population—the backbone of the Communist party—content, but this is no easy task. The Commissars responsible say to you openly: 'We are selfish, and are obliged to be so. Whatever else happens, we shall keep enough grain in

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## ENGLAND NEEDS PALESTINE FOR VITAL CORRIDOR CONTROL, 7th DOMINION LEAGUE SAYS

Sponsors State Reasons for Their Action

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

London, Feb. 15.—The theoretical and political reasons for the movement to link Palestine permanently with the British Empire as its Seventh Dominion were stated by the sponsors of the Seventh Dominion League in their appeal entitled "Control of a Vital Corridor," published in the London "Daily Telegraph."

The appeal to British public opinion, published over the signatures of Col. Josiah Wedgwood, Sir Martin Conway, Sir Robert Hamilton, Lord Hartington, Major Hills, Dr. Drummond Shiels, Sir Leslie Scott, Et. Com. Kerworthy, stated:

"The general public regards the Zionist movement as solely concerning Jews. Biased anti-Semites regard Zionism with an unimproved prejudice. This attitude is shared by a portion of the Jewish communities, fearing that the success of Zionism may react against Jewish interests in the countries where they reside and diminish the completeness of their adopted citizenship," the appeal states. "British sympathizers with Zionism claim that an increasing success in the Zionist movement will simultaneously be of paramount British interest, entirely independent of the Jewish attitude toward the national home."

"The geographical position of Palestine," the appeal goes on, "lying between the Persian Gulf and the Levant, makes Palestine a great frontier zone, joining Europe and Asia. The Suez Canal has not altered the fundamental fact that the security of the canal depends chiefly upon the power controlling Palestine. This fact has been demonstrated by experience during the World War."

"Our movement is not directed against the Arabs. Our desire is to further Arab development, but we remember the historical fact that Palestine and Syria were not originally Arab countries. It has always been of high

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## HOUSE PASSES BOX IMMIGRATION BILL

(Jewish Daily Bulletin)

Washington, Feb. 15.—The three bills relating to immigration and naturalization recently reported by the House Immigration Committee came up for consideration and vote in the House this afternoon.

The Box Bill to exclude aliens temporarily employed on the Canadian side of the American border was passed. After the adoption of the Box Bill the Free Bill was taken up. This bill provides for the admission within the preference class of expert technicians needed in American industries. A great deal of opposition to this bill developed, led by Congressman Sabath of Chicago, who proposed an amendment to place technicians within the non-quota class of immigration. The amendment was defeated.

## JUDAISM, DOCTRINE OF INFINITE PROGRESS, SYMPOSIUM VIEW AT UNION CONVENTION

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report of the Commission on Research, of which Dr. Lee K. Frankel is chairman, on the questionnaires sent out by the Commission on religious observance. The questionnaires were directed to the members of Reform congregations in eleven cities in the United States having a Jewish population of over 50,000. A. N. Franzblau, director of the Commission, stated that twenty-nine congregations had consented to submit membership lists for the study which seeks to determine "the nature of our constituency and their Jewish attitudes and practices."

More than twenty-seven thousand questionnaires have been sent out. So far 1% have been returned. The report and recommendations are to be ready for submission by August.

Mayor Rolph of San Francisco addressed the convention, tracing the history of the local Jewish community. Following his address, Adolph S. Ochs, chairman of the Hebrew Union College Endowment Fund, announced that another \$250,000 had been raised for the Fund throughout the country during the day. Of this sum \$47,000 had been raised in San Francisco. The total raised since the beginning of the convention is over \$300,000, Mr. Ochs stated.

Rabbi Morris M. Feurlicht of Indianapolis spoke at the final symposium on "Judaism and Personal Religion."

A resolution was adopted urging the Executive Board to "Recreate the Committee of Social Justice, designed not for the solution of specific factional controversies but for the pronouncement and promotion of the sympathetic attitude of Judaism toward those who are struggling for more equitable and just conditions of life in fields of industry, commerce and social relations and toward progressive efforts in the realms of industrial, economic and sociological aspects of human relationship; and

"That the achievements of the ends in view be subserved by fostering, through cooperation and financial assistance whenever and wherever the same is deemed fitting and proper, the efforts of the Central Conference of American Rabbis to apply to the solution of modern social problems the lofty idealism of Judaism.

A scholarship at the Hebrew Union College will be established by the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, which held its eighth biennial assembly in conjunction with the Union convention. The Sisterhoods voted to establish the scholarship in the name of Mrs. J. Walter Freiberg of Cincinnati. The Sisterhoods also appropriated \$5,000 for the Federation of Young People's League, affiliated with the Sisterhoods.

Twenty-one new members were named to the Executive Board of the National Federation. They are: Mrs. Myer Kirsh, Cleveland; Mrs. Samuel Kibie, Far Rockaway, N. Y.; Mrs. J. Jaffa, Denver; Mrs. Oscar Robinson,

## ENGLAND NEEDS PALESTINE FOR VITAL CORRIDOR CONTROL. 7th DOMINION LEAGUE SAYS

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importance to civilization to maintain a free passage through the corridor uniting the Mediterranean Sea with the Persian Gulf. It is further essential that a peaceful, friendly power command such a gateway. The Suez means more to the British Empire than to any other great empire. Therefore, it is most vital in British interests that the line of British communications remains ever open and protected from the dangers of hostile control. It lies in the general interest of civilization that the Jews realize their ideal of a National Home in Palestine which meets, in particular, the interests of the British," the appeal states.

"The age long aptitude of the Jewish race to live amongst other races, gives them peculiar qualifications to people and govern the land lying between diverse civilizations which need mutual interpretation. The burden of military defence for the Jews and the British Empire would be minimum because no nation could attack Palestine without shocking the whole world Jewry. Lord Balfour foresaw that the fulfillment of the Zionist aspirations will simultaneously promote and stabilize peace in an area which has been torn by war during the course of centuries," the appeal declares.

As a tribute to his years of service to communal and philanthropic organizations, Supreme Court Justice Mitchell May will be tendered a dinner on April 7 in the Hotel Astor. The Executive Committee for the dinner headed by Supreme Court Justice Harry E. Lewis.

Detroit; Mrs. Max Epstein, St. Louis; Mrs. Stanley Blumenthal, Seattle; Mrs. Edgar Herzberg, Milwaukee; Mrs. Simeon Lazarus, Columbus, O.; Mrs. Milton Gundershimer, Baltimore; Mrs. Sam Schoen, Atlanta; Mrs. Herman Marks, Newark, N. J.; Mrs. Jonas Frankel, Cincinnati; Mrs. Hugo Hartmann, Winnetka, Ill.; Mrs. Saul Lavine, Pittsburgh; Mrs. Arnold Hartman, Nashville, Tenn.; Miss Jeannette M. Goldberg, Philadelphia; Mrs. Adolph Rosenberg, Cincinnati; Mrs. Harry Reiberger, Brooklyn; Mrs. Ben Isaacs, New Orleans; Mrs. Benjamin Lowenstein, Cleveland; Mrs. Joseph Stein, Cleveland.

San Francisco, Feb. 15—The biennial convention of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations concluded its sessions here this afternoon with the election of the following officers:

Ludwig Vogelstein of New York, Chairman; Julius Rosenwald of Chicago, First Vice President; Jacob W. Mack of Cincinnati, Second Vice President; Maurice D. Rosenberg of Washington, Third Vice President; Marcus Saul, Fourth Vice President; M. Henry Buckman of Cincinnati, Treasurer; Charles Shohl of Chicago, Honorary President.

The next meeting of the Executive Board will be held in Cincinnati on June 1 and 2, 1929.

## MEMORIAL TO OSCAR S. STRAUSS TO BE ERECTED IN WASHINGTON

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public grounds of the United States in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, a monument or memorial to the memory of Oscar S. Straus, provided that the site and the design of the monument or memorial shall be approved by the Commission of Fine Arts and that it shall be erected under the supervision of the director of public buildings and public parks of the national capital and the United States shall be put to no expense in or by the erection of said monument or memorial."

## J. D. B. NEWS LETTER

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Moscow and Leningrad. But even before I left Moscow, bread queues had started, and there had been several mild riots among the workers. This shortage was said to have arisen because the government was obliged to send a large quantity of wheat into the Kaluga district, which was faced with a crisis. The government spokesmen explained it otherwise. They declared that it was due to a failure to supply the local bakeries in time.

"Your first impression, therefore, on entering Moscow, is that a horrible famine is already sweeping through the land, but you must be careful to remember that everything is relative, and that these scenes of misery, however heart-breaking to the foreign observer, do not constitute a state of famine in Russia, either in the eyes of the people or of the government. A famine to the Russian means absolute starvation, when roots are devoured and thousands perish. We can only hope things will not come to this pitch, but it would require a bold prophet to say they will not, in some districts," Sir Ellis writes.

## Spectre of Famine

"When the only ambition of nine-tenths of the population is to obtain enough food to keep body and soul together," Sir Ellis says, "the hours wasted in obtaining, or failing to obtain, what is sought for become the ordinary daily occupation. The search for food is a profession in Russia which is followed by millions as a natural way in which to pass their lives.

"If I were asked to prophesy, I would say that there is a great shortage of what we consider the necessities of life throughout Russia this winter; that there will be local famines involving many deaths in some parts, but that there will not be a general devastation of whole districts, as has often happened in the past.

"A change in the government would be a national disaster for the next few months. All the reins are now in skilled hands, the most qualified to distribute the resources of the country. That the foolish economic policy of the distributors is largely responsible for the shortage is, in the face of a national disaster involving millions of innocents, beside the point," Sir Ellis declares.