

Vol. VI. Price 4 Cents.

Monday, November 25, 1929.

Entered as 2nd Class Matter
at Post Office, New York, N. Y. No. 1524.

ARABS CHARGE GOVERNMENT FAVORED JEWS THROUGH LAND GRANTS, CIVIL SERVICE POSTS AND RELIEF FUNDS

Luke Denies Favoritism, Says Disproportionate Number of Jews in Civil Service Due to Cultural Superiority; Stoker Tries to Invoke Article 6 of the Mandate, Terms of Which, However, Never Carried Out

By GERSHON AGRONSKY

(Staff Correspondent, Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Jerusalem, Nov. 23—The attempt to fasten upon the Palestine Government proof of its favoritism toward the Jews, as a result of a pro-Zionist policy was continued yesterday afternoon at the session of the Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry.

With H. C. Luke, Chief Secretary of the Palestine Government, still in the witness chair, Aouni Bey Abdol Sadi, a secretary of the Arab Executive, who is acting as Arab counsel, sought to draw from his statements that through land grants, civil service positions and relief subsidies, the Jews were being benefited while the Arabs were neglected.

Aouni stated yesterday afternoon that the Palestine Government had earmarked one hundred thousand pounds for the compensation of victims of the recent disturbances. Luke agreed that such a sum had been allocated but denied that any compensation had yet been paid out.

The Arab counsel then asserted that the Arabs had failed to receive their share of the ten thousand pounds allocated by the government for immediate relief, adding that Sir John Chancellor was surprised to hear that the Arabs had received no benefits.

To halt the questions placed by the Arab counsel, Mr. Luke replied he did

not know, the questions being put with an obvious intention to receive just such an answer.

The question of employment in the Civil Service was again raised yesterday. Luke agreed with Aouni's assertion that there were more Jews in the Civil Service than Arabs, in proportion to the population. He said he was not aware that many educated Arabs, who had served under Turkey, were now unemployed. It is possible that there are some Russian Jews among the government officers, but there is no discrimination against Moslems. He hopes, he said, the cultural advancement of the Moslems will make them eligible for public service. The disproportionate number of Jews in government service, he further accounted for by the fact that many Jewish officials were technically qualified in certain fields, where the Moslems were not qualified.

Not satisfied with the answer, Aouni singled out the case of Dukhan, a Jew, Assistant Director of the Land Department of the Palestine Government, insinuating that there are hun-

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ARABS DEMAND DOUBLE PAYMENT FOR LAND BOUGHT BY CANADA J.N.F.

Claim Compensation Under New Law Effective Since Land Purchased

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Jerusalem, Nov. 23—An Arab deputa-tion interviewed Assistant Civil Secretary Mills Friday regarding the eviction of 265 squatter Arab families from the Canadian Jewish National Fund land. The deputa-tion, while not challenging the legality of the sale, is claiming compensation under the Cultivators Protective Ordinance, which has come into force since the Canadian purchase was made.

It is officially admitted that the Jewish National Fund has paid compensation for the land but that the recipients had since reoccupied the land and are threatening to resist eviction by force in order to demonstrate to the Inquiry Commission an alleged injustice.

ANTI-SEMITIC RIOTS CONTINUE AT BRATISLAVA

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Prague, Nov. 23—The anti-semitic riots in the university at Bratislava continued today. The Jewish students did not attend classes in the medical faculty while the Jews attending the law faculty were thrown out. Last night the anti-semitic students attacked the students' dormitory, awakening and beating the Jewish students. The anti-semites also injured a professor who tried to defend the Jews.

MANDATES COMMISSION DISCUSSES BRITISH PROPOSAL FOR INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION TO SETTLE WALL DISPUTE

Expect Decision to Be Rendered This Week; Extraordinary Session May Be Postponed to April, Since Inquiry Commission's Report Will Not Be Ready in March

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Geneva, Nov. 23—The Mandates Commission of the League of Nations spent all day Friday dealing with the unexpected memorandum of the British Government containing the proposal that a special international commission be appointed to settle the Walling Wall question in Palestine. Although the British government had agreed to making public the memorandum, the Mandates Commission decided to deal with the matter in strict confidence. It did not even issue the usual communique that the Commission was in session.

In connection with the British Government's proposal, it is timely to recall what Article 14 of the Mandate for Palestine says on the matter of an international commission: "A special

Commission shall be appointed by the Mandatory to study, define and determine the rights and claims in connection with the Holy Places and the rights and claims relating to the different religious communities in Palestine. The method of nomination, the composition and the functions of this Commission shall be submitted to the Council of the League for its approval, and the Commission shall not be appointed or enter upon its functions without the approval of the council."

The plan for the Commission failed in 1922, the year in which the Mandate was given, because the Council of the League of Nations did not approve of the composition and functions of the Commission as suggested by Great Britain and because the Catholic pow-

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SUES FOR CHILD'S CONVERSION WITHOUT HIS CONSENT

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Cairo, Nov. 23—Eli Moghnhage, the father of one of the six children converted by a Christian mission here without the knowledge of their parents, has brought an action for persuasion of a minor and asks for damages to his honor. The Jewish community is looking forward to the suit with interest, and on the result of the trial will depend whether or not other parents will follow Moghnhage's action.

BOYCOTTERS ARRESTED, ARABS CLOSE SHOPS

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Jerusalem, Nov. 23—The Arab shops in Jaffa were closed yesterday as a protest against the arrest last night of eight boycott agitators. The prisoners are being tried under the Prevention of Crimes Ordinance. The Arabs are threatening a sympathy strike in Jerusalem and Nablus.

JEWISH DAILY BULLETIN

Published every day in the week except
Saturday and Jewish high holidays

JEWISH DAILY BULLETIN Co.
Executive and Editorial Office
611 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Isaac Landau President
Samuel Bismuth Treasurer
Sylvain Birnbaum Secretary

Vol. VI. Monday, Nov. 25, 1929. No. 1524.

Member of Jewish Telegraphic Agency
New York 611 Broadway
London 24 High Holborn
Berlin Eisenbahnstrasse 6
Warsaw Ulica Aleja Jerozolimski Nr. 18
Jerusalem Hasselblad Bldg.

Subscription Rates
U.S. and Canada Foreign
One Year \$10.00 \$15.00
Six Months 6.00 8.00
One Month 1.00 1.50

Entered as second-class matter Nov. 14, 1929,
at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under
the Act of March 3, 1879.

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MANDATES COMMISSION STUDIES BRITISH MEMO ON WALL COMMISSION

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ers objected to an American being named as chairman.

So far as the Jewish Telegraphic Agency's correspondent has been able to learn, in the present memorandum, the British Government states that in view of the continuous conflicts over the Walling Wall, it suggests that the Council of the League of Nations create immediately a special commission for the sole purpose of settling the Walling Wall dispute. It further suggests that the recommendation for such a commission might best come as the opinion of the Mandates Commission in the matter.

At Friday's session the Mandates Commission discussed whether, as an advisory body to the Council of the League, it was entitled to reply directly to the mandatory power and not through the Council itself. In view of the fact that the British memorandum was sent directly to the Mandates Commission instead of to the Council, which is the ordinary procedure in such matters, the Mandates Commission decided to reply directly to the British Government.

It is believed the decision will be made known some time this week, the Commission expecting to sit until Tuesday.

There was a long debate regarding the memorandum itself, the majority of the members being of the opinion that Article 14 of the Mandate made no provision for a special commission to deal solely with the Walling Wall dispute. The final decision on the matter, however, will not be reached until the day when a specially selected committee of four members will report on the suggested form of the reply to the British Government.

In certain circles here it is assumed that Great Britain's proposal is connected with the recent visit of the secretary of the League of Nations to the Vatican and to London. It is further felt that it is likely that the British

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dreds of Arabs just as qualified as he is.

The Arab counsel insisted upon having produced the government circular instructing officials to assist in the Jewish relief measures, on the ground that the language of the circular was such that the Commissioners might be prejudiced against the Arab case.

Mr. Luke declined to answer whether the Government favors the sale of land to the Jews, and stated that he is uninformed whether the majority of Jewish settlers are ignorant of agriculture. He declared his belief that the number of farmers among the Jewish immigrants and explained that Chalutz means pioneer, whether he be a laborer or a farmer. He said he thought Jewish agriculture was more expensive than Arab. To the question whether it was desirable that the Arabs should be replaced by Jewish fellahen, he said he did not know. Sir Walter Shaw answered: "That is obvious."

Luke denied that the Jewish National Home must be erected irrespective of the prejudices of the Arabs. At the same time, he stated, the old established Jewish colonies have unquestionably benefited the whole country.

He said he was unaware that 915 Arab cultivator families in the Emek had been dispossessed.

Aouni suggested that the increase in crimes was due to the dispossession of the Arabs. Luke explained that the government is not obliged to assist evicted cultivators, beyond the limits set forth by the Tenants' Protection Ordinance. Shaw suggested that the Mandate which undertakes to safeguard the civil rights of the Arabs might save the Arabs from dispossession. R. Hopkin Morris, another member of the Commission, suggested that no question of civil rights is involved since the terms of land sales are carried out. Merriman added that the law provides compensation for any Arab evicted. Stoker intervened to quote Article 6 of the Mandate which promises state and waste lands to the Jews, asserting that this is a hardship to the Arabs. He failed to state that the Jews have not been given a single acre of land under this provision.

Aouni referred to the purchase of land in Wadi Hawara, south of Hedera, by the Jewish National Fund with the \$1,000,000 fund provided by the Canadian Zionists. He alleged that the police are now trying to evict the Arab squatters. Luke stated that an Arab

Government desires to make a definite proposition on Palestine at the forthcoming meeting of the Council of the League of Nations in January and that it is now approaching the Mandates Commission directly in order to give them time for discussion before

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deputation from Tulkarem had applied to him for an interview concerning this matter, while Shaw remarked that the tion.

Commission yesterday had received a telegram complaining against the evic-

That the Jewish colonies are in continuous difficulties and that their morals are displeasing to the Arabs, was charged by Aouni. Sir Henry Batten, at this point, requested Aouni to bring his own evidence to prove his allegations. Aouni replied that his case is to show that the Zionists prejudice the Arab position.

Answering the question of whether or not the Jewish immigration is responsible for the higher cost of living, Luke read a section from the 1927 report of the Palestine Government. The report stated that increased immigration has caused a general rise in values particularly in movable property. R. Hopkin Morris read another section of the report which stated that the cost of living had fallen nearly twenty-seven percent.

Returning to the question of unemployment in 1929 when the government spent \$65,000 in unemployment relief, Aouni charged that although unemployment prevailed, the government allowed new immigration in 1928. Luke replied that the return of prosperity enabled the renewal of immigration. He was unaware, he stated, that the Jewish immigration had caused Arab unemployment.

Aouni harped on crime statistics, to the amusement of Sir Walter Shaw and R. Hopkin Morris. The greater number of Arab prisoners, the Chief Secretary of the Palestine Government testified with some exasperation, may perhaps be accounted for by the new legislation classifying new offenses. He denied that the collective punishment ordinance was designed to benefit the Jew against the Arab. Shaw impatiently interrupted the Arab counsel to ask how the legislation caused the recent disturbances.

Turning to the Walling Wall dispute and the recent outbreaks, Aouni attempted to produce the address of Chief Rabbi Kook on August 18th, but was checked by Sir Walter Shaw. Merriman assured the Commission, however, that Rabbi Kook would be called.

Aouni again introduced the statement of the Moslem leaders, deploring "every drop of bloodshed in the Holy Land."

Luke said he did not recollect hearing a rumor that the Jews had bombed the Mosque of Omar, and was reminded by Aouni that the Palestine High Commissioner had asked the Arab Executive to deny these accounts in Iraq.

Evidently dissatisfied with the Arab interpreter, Merriman announced that he has arranged for an interpreter of his own.

JEWISH CONGRESS REPUDIATES MAGNES'S STATEMENT— SCORES NULLIFICATION OF BALFOUR PAPER

Views of Chancellor of Hebrew University Have Wide Repercussion, Create Sharp Division of Opinion in Jewish Circles

The statement of Dr. Judah L. Magnes, Chancellor of the Hebrew University, calling upon the Zionists to abandon their political ambitions in Palestine and to establish for themselves a cultural center and aid in the establishment of an international Holy Land for Jew, Christian and Moslem alike has had the widest repercussion in the United States, creating sharp divisions of opinion among responsible Jewish groups and personalities.

The conduct and utterances of Dr. Magnes were repudiated by the American Jewish Congress. Responding to the requests of the various organizations throughout the country which are affiliated with it, the American Jewish Congress issued the following statement, through its Administrative Committee, after a special meeting called for that purpose.

"The Administrative Committee of the American Jewish Congress expresses its sense of outrage over the utterances of the Chancellor of the Hebrew University which have come from Palestine. We deplore the utter irresponsibility which has been exhibited by one holding so high an office. We believe that the action in relation to Palestine, especially at this time of crisis should be taken only by the duly constituted authorities.

"The recent utterances in Palestine have broken what has, since the disaster of August and September, been the virtually unbroken front of the Jewish people, placing its confidence in the readiness and capacity of the Agency to act in protection of our honor and in defense of our rights and labors in the rebuilding of Palestine.

"To speak in terms of concession that are tantamount to surrender and at a time when the British Commission of Inquiry is sitting in judgment upon the recent events and their causes, is, in substance, to admit that terrorism including massacre, pillage and rapine, has availed to extort from the Jews terms which would have been unthinkable if those deeds of terrorization had not been wrought.

"We know that the time must come when Jews will meet again, as they have often met heretofore, with Arabs in order to confer upon problems of common interest. But we, as a people, cannot meet by our representatives with those self-styled leaders of the Arabs who are responsible for the shedding of the blood of our people.

"We join in the deep feeling of the Jewish people throughout the world that nothing could be more destructive than to call, as the Chancellor of the Hebrew University has called, for the relinquishment of the Balfour Declaration. The Balfour Declaration was accepted by us and by the world as a declaration of the resolve of Great Britain and the nations of the world to facilitate the establishment of a Jewish Homeland in Palestine.

Though up to this time its terms have not been fully redeemed, we have confidence in the integrity of the British Government and of its ultimate purpose and ability fully to redeem its pledge to facilitate our endeavor to establish a Jewish National Home in Palestine.

"That the Chancellor should call upon his fellow Jews 'to renounce all ideas of political domination' and that he should repeatedly demand such renunciation of such domination is to speak of something which he well knows does not exist and carries implication which is bound to inflict the gravest possible hurt upon the Jewish people.

"To protest against the conduct of the Chancellor in making it appear that the Jews are opposed to the establishment of a Parliamentary Assembly in Palestine, when, in fact, it was the Jews who accepted the proposal of Sir Herbert Samuel, for the establishment of such a Parliament, even as the Arabs rejected it. Whenever that Parliamentary Assembly comes into being, it must be under the terms which are consonant with the purpose explicit and implicit of the Balfour Declaration, and of the Mandate to the British Government from the League of Nations. A Parliamentary Assembly that would undo the Balfour Declaration would become an instrument of tyranny which would defeat the just aspirations of the Jewish people and the purposes of the British Government which have been sanctioned and confirmed by the civilized world.

"Most of all we deplore the misleading impression created by the utterance of the Chancellor that there is an irreconcilable conflict between the Jewish National Home in Palestine and an International Holy Land for Jew, Christian and Moslem. Surely he must know that no such antithesis exists. We Jews of all people most desire that in addition to Palestine becoming a Jewish National Home, it shall always be an international Holy Land wherein the religious rights of Jew, Christian and Moslem shall alike be held sacred by men of all faiths.

"Finally, we believe that a most grievous wrong has been done to the Jewish people within and without Palestine, insofar as it has been summoned by the Chancellor to do justice and to make peace with the Arab, as if the Jewish rebuilders of Palestine had been bringers of war and doers of injustice to the Arabs. The Balfour Declaration has resulted in the emancipation of the Arab serfs of Palestine. The resettlement of Palestine has brought a new economic, educational and social level of life to the Arab people. To call upon the Jews of Palestine to be peaceable in relation to the Arab is to ignore and obscure the

fact that the Jews have done everything that a people could do in order to establish peaceable relations with the Arabs. The Jewish resettlement of Palestine has not only brought health and well being to the Arabs, but has found the Jews prepared to do everything in order to establish a just and lasting peace with their Arab neighbors," the statement concludes.

The statement was prepared by a special committee appointed by the Administrative Committee, including Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Honorary President of the American Jewish Congress; Bernard S. Deutsch, President of the Congress; Hon. Carl Sherman, Israel N. Thurman, Baruch Zuckerman, Nathan D. Perlman, and Bernard G. Richards, Executive Secretary of the Congress.

"Is that the answer to the Arab atrocities in Hebron and Safed?" exclaimed with astonishment Jacob Fishman, managing editor of the New York "Morning Journal," when he arrived yesterday in New York and heard about Dr. Magnes's convocation address at the Jerusalem Hebrew University. "I cannot understand how a clear-minded Jew could, at the present moment, deliver such an irresponsible speech, giving up practically all Jewish claims to Palestine," Fishman declared in an interview with a Jewish Daily Bulletin representative.

Mr. Fishman returned on the "Mauritania," coming direct from Palestine, where he had spent five weeks after attending sessions of the Zionist Congress and the Jewish Agency at Zurich.

"While in Palestine, I heard about Dr. Magnes's irresponsible political activities," Fishman further stated, "but nobody could assume that he would come out with such a statement, offering the Arabs a parliament and giving up even the Balfour Declaration. We all want peace with the Arabs, which sooner or later is bound to come, but now, with the wounds of Hebron and Safed still open, it is a crime to come to the Arabs resignedly. This would mean justifying their atrocities on the Jews."

After the Inquiry Commission will be through with its work, England will have to do something in order to carry out the Mandate in Palestine, Fishman stated. When the Jewish Daily Bulletin representative informed him about Britain's proposal that the Mandates Commission of the League of Nations should agree to the appointment of an international committee to make an inquiry on the last Palestine events, Fishman replied, "This is not so very favorable for us, because it proves that England is trying to throw her shoulders her responsibility in Palestine."

The following additional statements concerning Dr. Magnes's views have been made to the Jewish Daily Bulletin:

James G. Heller, Chairman of the Administrative Committee of the Zionist Organization of America—Dr.

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JEWISH CONGRESS REPUDIATES VIEWS EXPRESSED BY MAGNES (Continued from Page 3)

Magnes's intentions are doubtless excellent, but his judgment is execrable, as far as one can judge at this distance. His statement was ill-advised in the extreme and is bound to make more difficult the task of Jewish work in Palestine.

"How can there be Jewish culture in Palestine without Jews? Our right to peaceful settlement in Palestine is still as strong as ever and as little directed against the Arabs. As ever, one of the primary duties of the Zionists at such a time is to maintain discipline and not to issue such statements as that of Dr. Magnes."

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver of Cleveland, member of the Administrative Committee of the Zionist Organization of America—"It is difficult on the basis of the incomplete reports of Dr. Magnes's statement and attitude to form any judgment. If Dr. Magnes, facing the realities of the situation in Palestine squarely recommends that a decisive political action shall be taken and adequate political machinery set up which shall recognize the existence in Palestine of two nations, his suggestion should receive calm and deliberate consideration, not abuse. Quite a number of Zionists, both here and abroad, believe that the ideal political form for Palestine is one which obtains in countries like Switzerland and Canada by which two or more distinctive groups, living in one territory, are enabled to fulfill their national aspirations in peace and in cooperation. Under proper constitutional set up and adequate constitutional guarantees, the idea of a Parliament for Palestine is feasible and may be desirable.

"Clearly the status quo is unbearable. With the Mandatory Government willingly playing one group against the other, with an Arab population becoming yearly more politically self-conscious and resentful and with a Jewish population beguiled by a vague and variously interpreted Balfour Declaration, the situation in Palestine is bound to become worse and not better. Only a decisive political arrangement which will not do violence to the legitimate national aspirations of both Arabs and Jews can clear the air.

"If Dr. Magnes counsels the Jews to surrender the political basis of Zionism and content themselves with an exclusively cultural program, then his counsel is one of defeat and surrender. It is a violation even of Achad Ha'Amism. By surrendering our political position in Palestine, Dr. Magnes hopes to pacify the Arabs. What guarantee has he for that? Political weakness on the part of a minority has never inspired the dominant majority to generosity or good will.

"As regards the tactical opportuneness of Dr. Magnes's utterances, I am too far removed from the scene of action to pass judgment."

Jacob De Haas, former Secretary of the Zionist Organization, and a mem-

ber of the Organization for the Reorganization of the Zionist Organization—"This is not the first time that Dr. Magnes has made proposals for nullifying the Jewish National program. In 1908-9, here in New York, he took the same attitude towards the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate.

"He and Dr. Bergmann have taken unwarranted advantage of their respective official positions. Neither has any authority in political matters and as private individuals their views would not have been cabled abroad. It is, however, just as well that their active attempts to create a new political situation should be known, even though this propaganda disturbs British and Jewish attitudes towards Palestine and affords the Arabs cause for jubilation.

"Neither of these gentlemen is particularly equipped to formulate and decide upon such complex problems as are involved in the setting up of any type of constitutional government in Palestine. It took many months to formulate the American system and here the factors are homogeneous. The undertaking on the part of anyone to write a constitution out of hand for Palestine takes my breath away. England has been laboring with that kind of a problem in Egypt since the 90's and in India for twenty years, and the English have centuries of practical experience with the evolution of democracy.

"I do not propose to discuss the Magnes-Bergmann plans, for I will not aid in this improper agitation. Zionism seems to stand in need of a Logan Act in order to prevent a repetition of such unauthorized political adventures."

Joseph Krinsky—"On my return from Palestine in 1913, I stated that the Balfour Declaration has united the Arabs and divided the Jews." It is more true than ever today. England made a vague and equivocal promise which politically and juridically it can never fulfill. It is biologically and economically impossible for the Jews ever to form a majority in Palestine.

"It is unjustifiable and impossible for the Arabs to be prevented from ultimately demanding and securing the right to vote and to govern the country through majority rule, although perhaps for another generation Palestine will have to continue under the suzerainty of a Mandatory Power.

"The Jews have the possibility of being the 'Kulture Trager' of the West to the East and the establishing in Palestine of a world center of Judaism and Hebraic culture. That can and should be done in harmony with Arab growth and progress."

Judge William M. Lewis, National Chairman of the U. P. A.—"Regard for the individual should not affect loyalty to a cause. By his untiring service, by the charm of his personality and by his extraordinary accomplishments as Chancellor of the Hebrew University, Dr. Magnes has endeared himself to the hearts of lovers of Zion the world over. How happy we were years ago when what seemed

MANDATES COMMISSION STUDIES BRITISH MEMO ON WALL COMMISSION (Continued from Page 2)

the matter is brought up at the Council sessions.

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency learns on authoritative information that the action of the British Government in asking for an international commission is not due to the fact that the Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry now sitting in Palestine is unable to cope with the situation. The Inquiry Commission is not called upon to settle any problems but merely to investigate the riot causes. The Palestine Government, however, which is anxious to have the Walling Wall question and the status quo definitely fixed in order to avoid further complications, has urged the appointment of such a commission upon the British Government.

The suggestion that the narrowing of an international commission is the result of Italian pressure is merely vague speculation.

It is believed the extraordinary session of the Mandates Commission will be held in April and not in March inasmuch as the Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry will not have completed its report by March.

to be an ill wind for this promising Rabbi in American Israel, proved in the end to be of such great value to the land of our fathers. That regard and admiration I hope will remain. It should not, however, interfere with a clear and dispassionate understanding of the principles for which we Zionists have labored all these years. The ideals for which Zionism stands antedate Magnes even as they antedate Balfour and San Remo. Palestine is now living through a crucial moment. Because of that, it would seem the part of wisdom to refrain from emphasizing those things which are calculated to add to the present already difficult days in Palestine. We Jews are creatures of time; hasty action or ill-considered statements are fraught with infinite danger. Whether what has transpired in recent months is a clash of passion or ideals, time will tell. But even a Daniel should not come to judgment at this moment. Dr. Magnes is entitled to his opinion, but what I would urge and emphasize at this time is not the formulation of opinions but encouragement of the fullest inquiry and discussion. Out of them I am sure will come clarity of thought and maturity of judgment. As an incurable optimist, I am satisfied that only in that way will we bring Eretz Yisroel and the people of Israel in closer, more permanent and happier relationship."

James N. Rosenberg: "Too many people are making too many statements. It should be left to Felix M. Warburg as Chairman of the Administrative Committee of the Jewish Agency. Let us stop all conversation, and have peace, industry and prosperity in Palestine."