

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL OF AMERICA CALLS ON AMERICAN JEWS TO OFFER SPECIAL PRAYERS MARCH 7 AGAINST RUSSIAN RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION

Council Representing Millions of Jews of All Shades of Opinion Adopts Resolution Protesting Abridgement of Religious Liberty; Jews Join Other Religious Groups; American Jewish Congress Calls Conference, Feb. 26, to Plan Nation-wide Protest

A resolution protesting against the suppression of religion in Russia, and calling upon the Jews in America to offer special prayers on the Sabbath of March 7, was adopted by a special committee of the Synagogue Council of America, last night, and made public through the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. This Council represents the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, the Rabbinical Council of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Central Conference of American Rabbis, United Synagogue of America, and Rabbinical Assembly of the Jewish Theological Seminary. The text of the resolution follows:

"The Synagogue Council of America, representing synagogal and rabbinical organizations which comprise millions of Jews of all shades of Judaism, joins with other religious bodies in the United States in solemn protest against the abridgement of religious liberty taking place with increasing violence in the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics.

"In the name of the Jewish people, whose very survival has in every generation been bound up with liberty of conscience, we appeal to the conscience of humanity against the measures which the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics is carrying out to suppress Church and Synagogue and to persecute those whose hearts beat with reverence for the Divine Father.

"We call upon our brethren of the House of Israel in this land of freedom to repair to their synagogues on the Sabbath, March seventh, to offer up public prayer that the campaign against religion in Soviet Russia may come to a speedy end, giving way to that brotherhood which is the flowering of God's spirit on earth."

It was agreed that, in pursuance of this resolution, the constituent organizations are to be asked to communi-

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Murderer of Mamaan To Be Extradited from Transjordan

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Jerusalem, Feb. 20—Ahmed Tapish, accused of the murder of the Jew Mamaan from Safed, will be extradited from Transjordan while a Druse rebel also suspected of a part in the Safed massacre has been captured at Kuneitra while on his way to Damascus and handed over to the Palestine police. According to the latest reports the Transjordanian defense force is chasing the northern marauding gangs. One has been killed in a setto outside of a village near Tiberias and Ibrahim Yakoubi, a Safed gangster, was captured after having been wounded. He was removed to the Tiberias hospital.

Polish Rabbis Hear Minsk Jewish Leaders Will Be Executed by Soviets

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Warsaw, Feb. 20—Rabbi Israel Schapiro, known as the Grodskiser Rebbe, has received an alarming report that the Soviet government is preparing to execute the leaders of the Minsk Jewish community who were arrested last Saturday by the Russian secret police on a charge of counter-revolutionary actions. On hearing of the report a delegation of rabbis called on the American consul here and asked him to intervene. As a sign of mourning all of the rabbis rent their clothing. Special prayers have been arranged for the arrested leaders.

A similar report has been received by Rabbi Chaim Ozer Grodzenski of Vilna who has sent out a number of telegrams to Jewish leaders and rabbis in all parts of the world asking them to intervene to prevent the executions. The Jewish population here became greatly excited as the report spread.

Arab-Christian Quits American Delegation

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Jerusalem, Feb. 20—The Arab delegation going to America will consist of Emir Adel Arslan and Emir Shekhib Arslan, since Nassim Sibah, a Christian writer of Cairo, has resigned. Adel Arslan lives in Cairo while Shekhib Arslan lives in Geneva. Both the Moslem Supreme Council and the Arab Executive vainly tried to dissuade Sibah from resigning.

Bernstorff Says Public Opinion in Germany and Government Backs Pro-Palestine Movement

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Hamburg, Feb. 20—An imposing meeting of the German Pro-Palestine Society, with 1,500 invited Christian and Jewish notables, under the chairmanship of Count Von Bernstorff, former German ambassador to the United States, was held here today. Count Bernstorff declared that the government and German public opinion were backing the pro-Palestine movement. He also revealed that the late Imperial government had instructed the German ambassador in Turkey during the War to influence the Turks in favor of a Jewish national home in Palestine.

Count Bernstorff said that the assumption of the Palestine mandate by England was in no way diminishing the rights of Jewish citizens of other countries but that the high cultural achievement in Palestine was serving all humanity. He read a statement from Max Warburg, brother of Felix Warburg, and noted Hamburg banker, describing the new type of Jewish farmer and industrial worker that was flourishing in Palestine together with the Hebrew language. Mr. Warburg's statement declared that the Jews desire peaceful collaboration with the Arab world and that the Jewish national home did not harm anybody, but required self-respect for the Jews.

In a letter to the meeting, Dr. Albert Einstein said that the Palestine upbuilding is the greatest occurrence of importance in Jewish history and that at present the vital necessity is to increase the tempo of immigration and the work of upbuilding. Kurt Blumenfeld, president of the German Zionist Federation, analyzed the political aspects of the Mandates which recognized the historical connection of the Jews with Palestine.

Russia to Give 2,225,000 Roubles in 1930 for Crimean Colonies

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Moscow, Feb. 20—The Soviet government has decided to spend during this year two and a quarter million roubles to aid the Jewish colonies in the Crimea, according to an official announcement today.

The Agro-Joint announces that it will bring this Spring sixteen new tractors from the United States for the Crimean Jewish colonists, and also that it will spend there 750,000 roubles during the coming year for aid to the Jewish agriculturists.

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Philadelphia Jewess to Finance Ten Scholars from Jerusalem

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Philadelphia, Feb. 20—Mrs. Jennie Miller Faggen, well-known philanthropist, will make it possible for ten outstanding Jewish scholars recruited from rabbinical seminaries in Jerusalem to devote their time exclusively to the preparation of an edition of the Talmud similar to the Torah Shelemah, it was announced here today by Rabbi M. M. Kasher, noted Hebrew scholar and author of the Torah Shelemah, who is now on a visit to this country.

As explained by Rabbi Kasher this new edition of the Talmud will include every commentary down to the Shulchan Aruch, which means that the edition will represent one thousand years of study of the Talmud by leading scholars throughout the world.

Rabbi Kasher is now in the United States completing arrangements for the publication of the Torah Shelemah which when completed will be in twenty-five volumes. The second volume now off the press in Jerusalem was made possible through the generosity of Mrs. Faggen, who will pay approximately \$400 a month for a number of years. This will enable these scholars to give themselves entirely over to this work.

Approximately five years, Rabbi Kasher estimates, will be required to gather the material. This finished, the next step will be to put it in proper form for publication. To carry out this work properly Rabbi Kasher plans to interest all Talmudic scholars of Palestine and Europe. He hopes to produce a monumental work.

In addition to her other philanthropies, Mrs. Faggen is now supporting a number of students in leading rabbinical seminaries of Poland.

Minister Blames Writer of Gospel of St. John for Anti-Jewish Prejudice

(Jewish Daily Bulletin)

Baltimore, Feb. 20—The writer of the Gospel of St. John, unscrupulous politicians and many schools and colleges, were accused Monday night of religious prejudice at the religious good-will dinner at the Southern Hotel.

Jews, Catholics and Protestants participated in the function, given under auspices of the Religious Good Will League, Inc.

The Rev. Dr. C. C. Morrison, editor of the "Christian Century," said the fourth Gospel, in ascribing the crucifixion and the hostility leading up to the crucifixion of Christ to the Jews, shows as much prejudice which ascribes the death of Socrates to the Greeks.

The Rev. Dr. George Johnson, of the Catholic University of Washington, cited the last Presidential election when, he said, millions of Americans voted against a candidate for no other reason than that he was a Catholic.

Rabbi Louis J. Schwefel, of Washington, who claimed there was too much religious prejudice in hundreds of colleges and schools of education, and among groups of supposedly intelligent people a class distinction, said that the hope of relieving the world of prejudice lay in teaching the truth about the different people to youth.

Jews to Demand 30 Percent of Reorganized Palestine Police

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Jerusalem, Feb. 20—As a result of the investigations of Inspector-General Dowbiggin, newly arrived police director for Palestine, it is learned that the Jewish leaders have decided to demand that the Jews should constitute 30 percent of the reorganized police force and that the Jewish constables should form a special group with Hebrew as the language of instruction for giving commands.

In the meantime it is known that the police training schools will reopen soon with practically no Jewish recruits while some hundred Arabs have applied. Mayor Hana Boulos of Tiberias told Inspector-General Dowbiggin that the security of Tiberias was impaired owing to its proximity to Transjordan where arms-carrying is permitted and all the Galilean robberies have been traced there without apprehending the criminals.

Would Exempt Widowed Mothers of American Citizens from Quota

(Jewish Daily Bulletin)

Washington, Feb. 20—Senator Tydings of Maryland, yesterday introduced a bill in the Senate to exempt from the quota widowed mothers of American citizens. The bill was referred to the Committee on Immigration. A bill for exempting from the quota parents of American citizens has already been introduced in the House of Representatives by Congressman Dickstein.

Says Aliens Coached to Reply to U. S. Immigrant Officials' Questions at Ellis Island

(Jewish Daily Bulletin)

Washington, Feb. 20—During the discussion in the House of Representatives on immigration precipitated by Congressman Dickstein's speech attacking registration of aliens, Representative Knutson, of Minnesota, the Republican "whip," charged that before the present immigration act was passed, "concentration" camps were organized in some European countries to coach immigrants to answer the questions that would be propounded to them by immigration officials on reaching the United States.

Representative Knutson made the still more weird accusation that "the people who operated those concentration camps" would give the immigrants money with which to enter Ellis Island, and after the aliens were admitted, "that money was taken from them and sent back to Europe and used over again. That system was a fraud."

According to Knutson, he obtained this information on a visit to Europe, during which he claims he conferred with consuls, and also made an investigation at Ellis Island upon his return to the United States. Upon being challenged by Congressman Dickstein with the blunt statement that "the gentleman does not know anything about it," Knutson insisted he was correct, declaring "I know the truth of what I have stated."

Authorities Arrest Safed Arab After Long Shooting Affray

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Jerusalem, Feb. 20—The authorities continue to round up and arrest Arabs in connection with the disturbances in Safed last August. One Arab who had long defied the authorities though surrounded, continued to fire on the troops for many hours, expending over five hundred rounds of ammunition. The troops replied with an almost equal number of shots and finally captured the man, who was wounded in the hand and stomach.

Ludwig Denies He Said He Was Not a Jew

(J. T. A. Mail Service)

London, Feb. 7—Emil Ludwig, the eminent German biographer and writer, in a letter to the "Jewish Guardian," explains a recent interview with him by a Greek newspaperman in which Ludwig was alleged to have said that he was not a Jew. Mr. Ludwig says, "I never made any comparison whatever between Christianity and Judaism as any Greek or other journalist. All I said was that I never wrote a line under other than my name; and that I, born as a Jew, and baptized in my youth, left the Church when, after the murder of Rathenau, anti-Semitic propaganda in Germany made me think it right to stand up for my race."

Vatican Is Attempting to Turn Palestine into Part of Papal State Says English Minister Resident in Haifa

Propaganda which aimed to make Palestine an appendage of the Papal State and which was fostered by a combination of Moslems and Catholics who publicly proclaimed themselves as being against the Jews and Protestants, was the real reason behind the riots of last August. This was the statement made recently by the Rev. Dr. W. M. Christie of the Mount Carmel Bible School, Haifa, in a paper read at the Victoria Institute, London, according to a letter from the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Mail Service.

The Balfour Declaration, wrote Dr. Christie, has been much discussed and much condemned, but this was because it has been misunderstood and misrepresented. It gave the Jew not a single right or privilege that men of every other nationality had not all along possessed. It abolished the regulation made only against the Jew, which prevented his entering the land and acquiring property, but that law had already become obsolete by means of backsheeh which passed into Arab and Turkish pockets.

"What of the National Home that has been so much denounced?" asked Dr. Christie. "That, too, gave the Jew nothing he did not possess before—the opportunity of acquiring the nationality of the country of his residence, i.e., he might give up his old nationality and become a Palestinian. He had found security in the past in not being Turkish, now he might, under British Mandate, be better as a Palestinian than anything else. And in not a single point has there been an infringement of the terms as I have explained them. Immigration has been carefully controlled and limited, with a view to absorption. The unsuitable have been eliminated by the Zionists, and those who have come in have done so in the spirit of goodwill. Every yard of land acquired has been purchased, very often at high prices, the intermediaries being generally the Effendi class who bought at low rates from the peasantry and resold to the Jews at enormous profits. But the land once got, the Jew has tried to make the most of it. When you see a green spot in Palestine today you may be sure it is a Jewish colony. We knew the Plains of Esdraon and Gennesaret when they were covered with thorns and thistles, but now the former is covered with sheaves of golden grain, and the latter is fast becoming what Josephus called it—the ambition of nature."

"Whence then," proceeded Dr. Christie, "the hostility that led to the disastrous outbreak in August? And what part does the Wailing Wall play in it? I begin with the latter question, and the answer is that the incident, connected with the Wailing Wall are merely created as an excuse and ground of offence. After the Fall of Jerusalem in A.D. 70, the Jews began to weep and pray over the ruins, and gradually the western wall became the center for this worship. There was no question of Jewish right in Turkish

days. From the time of the introduction of printing, prayer-books were provided with the prayers for this shrine. In 1894 and on later occasions, benches, chairs and carpets have been seen on the pavement at the Wailing Place, for the convenience especially of older worshippers.

"The hostility has a different cause and comes from a different source," declared Dr. Christie. "It has something to do with international jealousy and more to do with ecclesiastical intrigue. From the close of the War it has been taught in Syria that the cutting away of Palestine from the north is a wrong, and that both ought to be under one mandate, and that in the hands of France. The treatment Lord Balfour received in Damascus was a demonstration allowed, if not engineered, in favor of the same idea. Beginning at the close of the War, too, there was a propaganda begun in Palestine and mainly by pupils trained in the schools of a sect having great influence in Syria. The Jews were first approached and informed that if they would throw Palestine into the hands of France, they could secure even better terms than the Balfour Declaration gave them. They rejected this, and then the Arabs were informed that they were to be displaced and the land given to the Jews. This created feeling and led to the incidents of 1921."

"When the Crown Prince of Italy visited Palestine eighteen months ago the propaganda began anew, but with this difference: it was proposed that Italy should get the Mandate. The whole movement means that neither Italy nor France should have the Mandate, but that Palestine should become an appendage of the Papal State. If confirmation of this were wanted it can be found in the assertions openly made. 'There will be peace in another month, for the Pope will be the man in authority,' and further by the fact that there is a combination of Moslems and Latins, publicly proclaimed as being against the Jews and Protestants and having as a badge the Latin Cross inserted in the Moslem Crescent, and worn as an ornament, generally as a scarf-pin."

"If this was the powder, the spark was formed within the Holy Land. The Effendis had made money at the expense of the peasantry, who now saw what the land could produce and what they had lost, and it was in the interest of the Effendis to turn attention away from themselves to the Jew. False statements were made to incite the peasantry. These formed the spark and thence the conflagration. The Effendis themselves are intensely fanatical and they found an equally fanatical cool in the Moghrabiyeh Arabs, who did all the evil work in Safed, and who were the nearest aggressors at the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem."

"What should now be done? Without hesitation I say 'maintain the mandate.' Explain it, if necessary, but make no modifications or concessions."

Roumanian and Bessarabian Officials Attempting to Appease Kishinev Jewry

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Vienna, Feb. 20.—The Roumanian government and the Bessarabian authorities are endeavoring to conciliate the Jews of Kishinev and to allay their resentment arising from the recent disturbances. Yesterday Minister Panhalipa, police prefect Holban and Mayor Regrescu came to the office of Chief Rabbi Zirelson offering the regrets of the government and the Roumanian people at the anti-Semitic occurrences. Panhalipa assured Rabbi Zirelson that there was no anti-Semitic movement in Bessarabia, citing as proof that the Roumanian people resent anti-Semitism and the fact that the government is establishing a Jewish teachers' seminary in Kishinev.

Minister Panhalipa asked Rabbi Zirelson to announce to the Jewish communities and also in the Kishinev synagogues that the authorities were not guilty in the recent disturbances. Rabbi Zirelson promises to submit the minister's declaration to a special meeting of the rabbis.

Palestine Only Ex-Turkish Domain to Pay Share of Debt

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

London, Feb. 20.—Palestine is thus far the only country detached from the pre-war Turkish empire that has completely discharged its obligations with regard to its share of the Ottoman public debt, declared Arthur Henderson, British foreign secretary, replying to a question from Sir Herbert Samuel in the House of Commons. He also said that negotiations in this matter were still pending with the Iraq and Syrian governments.

The simultaneous publication of the Inquiry Commission's report in England and Palestine will probably be impracticable said Drummond Shiels, under-secretary for the Colonies, replying to a question from Michael Marcus. Shiels also said that the Colonial Office had not yet received an interim report from Inspector Dowbiggin regarding the police organization in Palestine.

Let the Arab know that the Jew has got nothing more than he himself may have in any country in the world—the right to settle, to acquire property, and to become a citizen. Britain must retain the mandate. No other country can deal even-handed justice to all races and creeds. There is no room for fanaticism in what is the Holy Land of all, and under the influence of the Papal State, there would be no tolerance and little liberty. And in dealing with all, there must be the firm hand. It must be felt and seen. The Iranian Moslem bogey must have no place. Islam is as much divided as the Christian world is, and, with the family of Osman gone, it has no political head. Firmly administered law and even-handed justice will prove the secret of British success."

Cleveland Kashruth Case May End in Few Days

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Cleveland, Feb. 20.—The Cleveland kashruth case reached its peak yesterday when Benjamin Botwin, a former Hebrew teacher, took the stand in behalf of Benjamin Cohen and Swift & Co. in their fight for a permanent injunction against the kosher board and the rabbis' union to prevent them from informing the Jews that meat from Swift & Co. is not kosher since the slaughterers there have been banned.

Botwin, banned by all the orthodox rabbis of Cleveland, was once a slaughterer too. When the difficulties arose between the kosher board and Benjamin Cohen he suddenly proclaimed himself an orthodox rabbi and declared null and void all the decisions of the rabbis' union concerning kashruth. He is now a slaughterhouse rabbi and chief supervisor in the Swift plant.

The former Hebrew teacher declared that whatever decisions the rabbis had reached were contrary to Jewish law and he recommended that they be ignored. On the witness stand, armed with all kinds of Jewish tomes, he attempted to convince the court that what the rabbis who testified before him had said was contrary to law. Reading from his religious works, he tried to disprove the claim that the rabbis can ban a slaughterer or that supervision over slaughterhouses and meat shops is required. He also endeavored to prove that an issue proclaimed by several rabbis can be dismissed by another rabbi.

As matters stand now, there appears little or no hope of a settlement outside of court. A last attempt was made at yesterday's trial but it led only to unnecessary prolongation. It is expected that the case will end in a few days.

Brith Abraham Order Will Establish Palestine Colony

A colony will soon be established in Palestine by the Independent Order Brith Abraham, which will bear the name of the Order. This was decided upon Wednesday night at a meeting of the I. O. B. A. Executive Board, which was addressed by Emanuel Neuman, American President of the Jewish National Fund.

Mr. Neuman appealed to the Order to buy land through the National Fund. He spoke of the importance of increased land purchases in Palestine at the present time, showing how this would make possible the settlement of hundreds of new chalutzim who are now arriving each month in Eretz Israel.

Congressman Nathan D. Perlman, Grand Master of the I. O. B. A., presided at the meeting. On motion of Judge Gustave Hartman, the Grand Master appointed a committee to work out the details of the plan of establishing the colony as well as to create the funds necessary for its realization. It was also decided to indorse the work

Asks Jews to Offer Special Prayers Against Persecution of Russian Jews, March 7

(Continued from Page 1)

cate the decision of the Synagogue Council to their member societies, urging them to carry out the recommendation regarding special services on the Sabbath of March 7.

The special committee appointed by the Synagogue Council, which took these steps, consists of S. Herbert Golden, Chairman, and Rabbis Herbert S. Goldstein, Isaac Landman, David de Sola Pool, and Jonah Wise. The officers of the Synagogue Council are Rabbi Elias L. Solomon, President, Rabbi Samuel Schulman and Albert Wald, vice-chairmen, Rabbi Israel Goldstein, honorary secretary, Ben Altheimer, treasurer, and Rabbi J. B. Pollak, secretary.

A call for an extraordinary conference of representatives of national and central Jewish organizations to be held at the Hotel Governor Clinton Wednesday evening, February 26, to consider plans for the organization of a nation-wide protest against the suppression of the Jewish and other religions in Russia by the Soviet Government, was issued last night by Bernard S. Deutsch, president of the American Jewish Congress, and Carl Sherman, chairman of the Special Committee on Russia of the organization. The conference call followed a meeting yesterday of the Sub-Committee to Act on Religious Repressions in Russia and was made to all the organizations taking part in the Special Conference held December 8 in protest against Soviet persecution of Jewish leaders.

At the conference plans will be presented for the organization of a nation-wide mass demonstration in which every Jewish community and every synagogue is to take part to express the protest of American Jewry against the suppression and persecution of religious groups by the Soviet Government.

It is expected that among those who will attend the conference will be prominent Jewish communal leaders from New York and other cities.

Among the members of the special committee which, together with the officers of the American Jewish Congress, is making arrangements for the extraordinary conference are: Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Hon. Nathan D. Perlman, Rabbi Moses Hyamson, Dr. Joseph Tenenbaum, Rabbi Eliezer Silver, Israel N. Thurman, Jacob Leichtman, L. M. Rabinowitz, Morris Weinberg, Bernard G. Richards, Rabbi Max Raksin, Harry Roggen and Baruch Zuckermand.

of the Jewish National Fund and to call upon all the lodges of the I. O. B. A. to support the Keren Kayemeth in its efforts to redeem the soil of Palestine for the Jewish people.

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Co-Ed's Suit Against Wisconsin U. Dormitory Still Pending

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Madison, Wis., Feb. 20.—Possibilities for a settlement out of court in the \$10,000 Langdon hall-Gordon law suit were definitely quashed Tuesday afternoon, when Michael Wittenburg, Milwaukee, attorney for Mildred L. Gordon, a student in the university and plaintiff in the "discrimination" action, declared emphatically that "we shall not ask any quarter in the procedure of the case."

"We have endeavored to avoid a disagreeable situation to both parties," stated Mr. Wittenburg over long distance telephone, "and the defense has repeatedly refused to act as gentlemen in the matter. When the attorneys for the Mendota Building corporation have insisted upon neglecting my communications, and dealing through third parties, a peaceful settlement is impossible. They have entirely disregarded professional courtesy at every point, and we do not intend to ask for any quarter," he concluded.

William Ryan, Madison, representing the owners of Langdon hall, a university women's dormitory, professed ignorance of any action coming from the plaintiff's attorney. Asked whether he thought outside settlement was still possible, he refused to commit himself, saying:

"We didn't ask to start this disagreeable affair. My clients have had no indication of a willingness to go through with a peaceful settlement. In my opinion, the plaintiff should be willing to settle outside of court; it is tremendously embarrassing to his client," stated Mr. Ryan.

With Judge Carl Z. Luse, before whose court the case is scheduled to appear, not sitting in session, opinion has been that the suit will be delayed until next December for trial. Indications, however, have been made by the attorney for the plaintiff, that a move will soon be made to hasten the proceedings.

Special Session of Mandates Commission Not To Be Held

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Geneva, Feb. 20.—The extraordinary session of the Mandates Commission of the League of Nations which had been reported postponed from March will probably not be held according to a list of the Commission's meetings just published. The extraordinary session, provisionally fixed for April 2 no longer figures in this list.

It is likely that the Mandates Commission will consider the Palestine disturbances at the regular session in June when the annual report on Palestine to be submitted by the British government will be ready. The suggestion to hold an extraordinary session in April was made in order to enable the Council of the League of Nations to discuss the Palestine situation at its May session but the delay in the publication of the Inquiry Commission's report will prevent the Palestine question from coming before the Council until September, a full year after the troubles of last Summer.