

Vol. VII. Price 4 Cents.

Thursday, March 6, 1930.

Entered as 2nd Class Matter
at Post Office, New York, N. Y. No. 1607.

Dispute Marks Jew's Libel Suit Against Arab Paper

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Jaffa, Mar. 5.—An acrimonious controversy reminiscent of the Inquiry Commission hearings, occurred during Chilik Weizmann's libel suit on behalf of Nitram, an explosives concern, against the Arab paper "Felestin" for insinuating that the company dealt uncontrolledly in explosives and asking whether this was less dangerous than arms smuggling.

Weizmann and his assistant, Scott, appeared before the assistant district commissioner in Jaffa, with Maughanem defending the "Felestin." Maughanem tried to inveigle Weizmann into a political discussion by questioning him about his relationship to Chaim Weizmann, his hatred for the Arabs and the Arab press.

Maughanem finally pleaded that the "Felestin" allegation was not libelous. A judgment is due March 24, when Weizmann's personal action against the paper commences.

Last Minute Withdrawal of Tax Reduction Harms Jews

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Warsaw, Mar. 5.—The withdrawal at the last minute of the proposed reduction in the turnover tax by the Polish ministry of finance will aid in the growth of pauperization among the Jewish masses, declares the Jewish Senator Rothenstreich in an editorial in today's "Hajnt," entitled "Should such a minister retain his post?", referring to Finance Minister Matuszewski. He appeals to the Sejm not to follow the government's policy and to save the town population.

In the meantime, Christian and Jewish merchants' unions are conferring regarding a joint protest against the withdrawal of the proposed reduction. A demonstration is planned for Saturday, and a delegation will visit the finance ministry and the Sejm when a vote on the draft of the law is taken.

Jews to Get 80% of Government Riot Compensation Appropriation

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Jerusalem, Mar. 5.—Eighty percent of the \$500,000 appropriated by the Palestine government for compensation to the victims of the riots will go to the Jews and twenty percent to Arabs, the Hebrew paper "Hatzman," published in Tel Aviv, learns. The Palestine Emergency Fund has appropriated a sum adequate for building a commercial and Jewish center in Safed to contain forty shops.

Filderman Group Returned in Bucharest Kehillah Elections

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Bucharest, Mar. 5.—The elections to the Bucharest kehillah (Jewish community) passed quietly, with only one list of candidates running, that headed by Dr. William Filderman and Eli Berkowitz. The newly-elected kehillah executive was installed at a celebration attended by government representatives.

The only other party in the running was a political cooperative group that withdrew at the last moment. All other Jewish political groups did not participate in the elections because they felt that as long as the government had not confirmed the kehillah's constitution the executive of the last kehillah should have directed the election.

The municipal elections also caused a split in the Jewish population of the larger towns, because a united independent Jewish ticket as well as the pact with the government party failed. The Bucharest Zionists presented their own ticket without considering the other Jewish parties, while in Czernowitz, too, there was a split, with Senator Meyer Ebner joining with the Nationalists. So far as is known only the Jewish community of Kishinev put up a united Jewish ticket.

Reports of Economic Plight of Jews of Russia Grossly Exaggerated, Soviet Representative in United States Says

Reports from Moscow to the effect that collectivization of the colonies and farms in the Soviet Union will not be carried out by military force, found full support in the new head of the Russian Trading Corporation in the United States, P. A. Bogdanov, who recently came to New York to take over his new post. The chairman of the board of the Amtorg Trading Corporation declared in an exclusive interview granted the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that, "The collectivization of Soviet farms is not being pushed by knocking the peasants over the head with a stick. The collectivization of farms is carried out in accordance with the economic conditions of various sections. For instance, collective farms cannot at present be introduced in the outlying culturally backward districts. This can be done later when ever the most backward peasants will see the results of collective farms and will then realize the advantages of them.

"The same attitude applies also to the collectivization of the Jewish colonies," Mr. Bogdanov further stated. "Although the new Jewish colonies

One Big Commune Made of Jewish Colonies in New Zlatopet

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Moscow, Mar. 5.—All of the Jewish colonies under the village soviets of Zelonopolie and Sladkovne in the New Zlatopet autonomous region, have been converted into one large commune with 9,000 hectares of land. The conversion was carried out by the so-called labor brigade sent by the "Shtern," Jewish Communist newspaper, into the Jewish colonies of Ukraina to aid in collectivization.

Since Joseph Stalin explained this week that no Communistic form would be forced upon the villages, this new commune will undoubtedly be dissolved even before it develops its work because not all of the colonists have approved of the communization.

Henderson to Publish Russia's Religious Law

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

London, Mar. 5.—Arthur Henderson, British foreign secretary, announced today that he would shortly make public the text of the Russian law on religions, enacted April 8, 1929.

The complete text of this law was made public in the United States by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency on February 14.

were mostly built on the collective principle right at the start, we have to be careful and not rush the collectivization of those Jewish colonists where the majority of the colonists are opposed to that new form."

Discussing the widespread reports of religious persecution and closing of churches in Soviet Russia, Mr. Bogdanov said:

"All these reports are terribly exaggerated. The Soviet government does not persecute those observing religion, and the stories which were published recently in the American press that 70,000 churches were closed by the Soviet government are ridiculous. There are not that many churches in Russia. Only seven percent of all the churches, synagogues and mosques were converted for other purposes since the revolution. And this is being done only in places where the churches are not being used for religious purposes."

Mr. Bogdanov expressed great surprise over the agitation against Soviet Russia which now prevails among the Jews in America, whose attitude, he

(Continued on Page 4)

JEWISH DAILY BULLETIN

Published every day in the week
except Saturday and holidays
by the

JEWISH DAILY BULLETIN CO.

Executive and Editorial Office

611 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Jacob Landau President
Samuel Binstock Treasurer
Sylvain Birnbaum Secretary

Vol. VII. Thursday, March 6, 1930. No. 1607.

Member of Jewish Telegraphic Agency
New York 61 Broadway
London 24 High Holborn
Paris 42 Rue Le Pelletier
Berlin Eisenbahnstrasse 6
Warsaw Ulica Aleje Jerozolimskie Nr. 15
Jerusalem Hasolel 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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Einstein Greets Allied Jewish Campaign; Hadassah Pledges Its Cooperation

Dr. Albert Einstein, world-renowned discoverer of the "relativity theory," has sent greetings to the Allied Jewish Campaign, which will be officially launched at a national conference in Washington Saturday night and Sunday. His greetings, cabled from Berlin, are as follows: "Sacrifice for the sake of others is in the last analysis Jewry's strongest unifying bond, and at the same time the most convincing proof of its vitality. What you will give for the Jews of Eastern Europe and for Palestine, you will give to the Jewish people. By so giving, your own strength will grow and you will safeguard and develop for us and for all mankind all that has value in our tradition."

The officers of the Allied Jewish Campaign also made public yesterday a statement by Mrs. Robert Szold, president of Hadassah, the women's Zionist Organization of America, pledging the cooperation of its 50,000 members to this combined effort to raise \$6,000,000 for the purposes of the

(Continued on Page 4)

Four Jews in Running for Supreme Court Bench

Four Jews are being prominently mentioned for the position on the Supreme Court bench of New York, left vacant as the result of the promotion of Judge Sherman to succeed Justice Proskauer, whose resignation from the Appellate Division goes into effect March 10. Those in the running for the vacant judgeship are Jonah J. Goldstein, prominent attorney, Benjamin Schrieber, Mayor Walker's campaign manager, Sol Stroock, philanthropist and educator, and Bennett Siegelstein. Those in a position to know, feel that Mr. Goldstein and Mr. Schrieber have the inside track.

Annual Social Agencies' Reports Stress Reorganization of Omaha Jewish Community

(Jewish Daily Bulletin)

Omaha, Neb., Mar. 5—Reorganization of community welfare work along the lines suggested in the recent Jewish Communal Survey made by the Bureau of Jewish Social Research of New York, was stressed in annual reports and messages given at the joint annual meeting of the Jewish Welfare Federation and the Jewish Community Center at the Jewish Community Center, last night.

William L. Holzman, president of the Jewish Community Center, reported an increase in annual attendance at the Center from 81,859 in 1927, to 113,456 in 1928, to 127,474 in 1929. These figures mean, he said, that the entire Jewish population of Omaha (10,000), might have used the building twelve times in 1929. Among the activities which have shown great growth are the Center Sunday School with an enrollment of 300 children, the orchestra, and the Center Players Guild. Mr. Holzman reported that a mortgage reducing campaign conducted last year resulted in pledges totalling \$23,000.

Dr. Philip Sher, president of the Jewish Welfare Federation, emphasized the importance of community reorganization in his annual message. The Federation report, given by Samuel Gerson, executive director of the Jewish Welfare Federation and the Jewish Community Center, revealed that Omaha had subscribed \$5,500 to the Palestine emergency fund, and had paid 80 percent of its pledges to the United Jewish Campaign.

Mr. Gerson described the progress made by the family welfare department of the Federation which cared for 28 major care cases, 21 minor care cases, and 49 personal service cases a month. The Federation also dealt with 408 transients. Loans totalling \$13,755 were made by the Jewish Free Loan Society.

Officers of the Jewish Community Center were all reelected. They are William L. Holzman, president; Mrs. Morris Levy, honorary vice-president; Henry Monsky, vice-president; Sam Beber, secretary and Abe Goldstein, treasurer. Trustees reelected for five years are William L. Holzman, H. H. Lapidus and Henry Monsky. Officers of the Jewish Welfare Federation are Dr. Philip Sher, Harry A. Wolf, first vice-president; Harry Silverman, secretary and Harry Friedman, treasurer.

Beertuvia To Be Resettled by Former Legionnaires (Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Jerusalem, Mar. 5—The Palestine Emergency Fund has decided to resettle Beertuvia with fifty families, the heads of which are mostly ex-legionnaires. The ex-legionnaires are compensating the old settlers who do not desire to return. While the final number of settlers depends upon the availability of a water supply, some twenty ex-soldiers will start the work of rebuilding within a fortnight.

Huge Protest Meeting Against Russian Religious Persecution at Town Hall March 16

Preparations are going forward in virtually every Jewish community throughout the country for mass demonstrations on March 16, proclaimed as a National Jewish Day of protest against the Soviet campaign of religious persecution, the American Jewish Congress announces. New York City will lead the country with a huge mass demonstration at Town Hall on the afternoon of March 16. Similar meetings will occur simultaneously in other boroughs of New York.

Leading Jewish centers have allied with the public protest initiated by the American Jewish Congress at an extraordinary conference of national and central organizations last Wednesday. Mass meetings have already been arranged in Tampa, Fla., Los Angeles, Cal., San Antonio, Tex., Newark and Paterson, N. J. Arrangements for mass demonstrations are now going forward in Chicago, St. Louis, Cleveland and Philadelphia.

National benefit and fraternal organizations have issued appeals to their membership in every district to participate in the program of public condemnation of the suppression of the Jewish faith by the Soviet authorities, telegraphic advices indicate. The Independent Order B'nai B'rith, through its president, Alfred M. Cohen, has called on its five hundred lodges with a constituency of 85,000 to arrange a protest program on March 16. The Independent Order Brith Abraham has urged similar action on its membership of 135,000.

Communists' Meeting Called to Offset Jewish Protests

A counter-demonstration, to offset the protest meetings that are being called for the same day by Jewish organizations against religious persecutions in Soviet Russia, is being called by New York Communists for Sunday, March 16, in the afternoon. The meeting will take place in the Bronx Coliseum, and according to the "Freiheit," Yiddish Communist daily, it will include "a revolutionary mass-pageant which will depict the reconstruction work of Socialism in Soviet Russia." Hundreds of workers, says the "Freiheit," will take part in the pageant.

Jewish Open Forum Revived in Detroit (Jewish Daily Bulletin)

Detroit, Mar. 5—The Jewish Open Forum of Detroit, financed in part by the Jewish Welfare Federation and in part by voluntary contributions made after lectures, will be revived Sunday, March 9, with an address on "The Price of Unity Among American Zionists," to be delivered by Jacob de Haas.

If You Are Pleased with the "Jewish Daily Bulletin" Tell Your Friends to Subscribe.

Says Arabs Need Leader to Speak to Them as Dr. Magnes Spoke to Jews

Praising Dr. Magnes for his recent pronouncement on the subject of peace in Palestine, which it calls "one of the most Christian-minded which have yet appeared," "Lines of Communication," a journal published by St. George's Cathedral in Jerusalem, declares in a recent article that if an Arab leader were to arise in Palestine who would speak to the Arabs in the same moderate tone that Dr. Magnes has spoken to the Jews, there would be more hope for peace in Palestine.

"Dr. Magnes has suffered before, and is clearly prepared to suffer again, for his opinions and his courageous expression of them," says the editorial. "But it is men with such courage as his who become in the end, even if they do not themselves see that end, the true leaders of their peoples. If among the Arab writers who have applauded him we could see a leader arising who would speak in the same tone, and with the same transparent sincerity, we should have real hopes of a great and rapid improvement in the situation."

"We are not unfamiliar, even in British politics, with the phenomenon of moderate and statesmanlike leaders being run off their balance by their own rank and file. That, in our view, is the greatest danger on both sides in Palestine today. Noise attracts attention, and a violent leader can always get a following for a time—till he tries to draw rein. The man who has control from the start goes further—and straighter. We cannot believe that he is to be found only on one side."

A. Z. A. 3-Day Convention Opens in Detroit Friday

(Jewish Daily Bulletin)

Detroit, Mar. 5.—The 3-day sixth international tournament of the Order Zadik Aleph, junior branch of B'nai B'rith, will open Friday and will last through Sunday night. Friday will be devoted to contests in basketball and debating. Basketball teams participating will be from Birmingham, Ala., Jersey City, N. J., Des Moines, Ia., Portland, Ore., Toledo, O., Windsor, Ontario, Pueblo, Colo., Superior, Wis., and West Town Chapter of Chicago.

Debating teams coming to Detroit for the contest will be from Chester, Pa., Beaver Valley, Pa., Little Rock, Ark., Vancouver, B. C., Winnipeg, Canada, and Detroit Chapter 63.

The oratorical contest will be held in Windsor, Sunday afternoon, participants coming from Denver, Colo., St. Louis, Mo., Memphis, Tenn., Oakland, Cal., Minneapolis, Minn., and Detroit Chapter 63.

Trophies and awards to winners will be presented at the banquet which will close the tournament on Sunday evening in Windsor. Philip Klutznick of Omaha, national secretary of A. Z. A., will be the speaker.

Huge Jewish Diamond Syndicate Controls Market

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

London, Mar. 5.—It has been revealed today in King's Bench division of the High Court that a powerful diamond syndicate, headed by Solomon Barnato Joel, and including a considerable number of outstanding figures in the industry has been controlling the world's diamond output and practically monopolizing the entire market.

The United Diamond Fields of British Guiana, Ltd., an independent competitor, has made the accusation against the syndicate, which involves Otto Oppenheimer, brother of Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, a member of the diamond syndicate. The hearing was adjourned before Sir Patrick Hastings who is representing the Guiana company, had finished his charges.

Asks Prayer, March 7, for End of Soviet Religious Policy

A call to the members of 250 congregations in various parts of the country that are its constituent members, "to repair to their synagogues on March 7 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," was this week issued by the United Synagogue of America, representing the conservative wing of American Judaism, and made public through the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

The call is in line with the resolution recently adopted by the Synagogue Council of America which asked that the Jews of America set aside March 7 as a day of prayer.

George Srere, Los Angeles Philanthropist, Is Dead

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Los Angeles, Mar. 5.—George Srere, 50, prominent capitalist, realtor and philanthropist, died here today after a long illness. Mr. Srere donated the Bluma Srere Hospital at the Jewish Consumptive Relief Association in Duarte in memory of his mother.

Says Polish Federation of Jews Has Kept American Public Informed

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Warsaw, Mar. 5.—Although the "large constructive plans" of the Federation of Polish Jews of America have not been realized, A. Goldberg, writing in the "Hajnt," says that the Federation has done much to make known the economic problems of the Polish Jews among Jews and non-Jews in the United States.

3,353 Jews Entered Canada in 1929

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Ottawa, Mar. 5.—Figures just made public by the Ministry of Immigration show that during 1929 there entered into Canada, 3,353 Jewish immigrants. During the previous year, 3,632 Jewish immigrants had entered Canada. The general number of immigrants who entered Canada in 1929 was 164,993.

Research Refutes Anti-Semitic Charge Late Isaac M. Wise Slandered Christianity

The allegation of German anti-Semites in their organ "Weltkampf" and other papers, that Isaac M. Wise, founder of American Reform Judaism, had published an article in the "Deborah," a German edition of the "American Israelite," of which he was the editor, on the eve of Christmas 1880, making fun of Christianity, is refuted as the result of an investigation made at the request of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency by Adolph S. Oko, librarian of the Hebrew Union College. Mr. Oko conducted a thorough search of the files of the "Deborah," and he declares that no such article ever appeared.

The "Weltkampf" and other anti-Semitic German publications had asserted that shortly before Christmas, 1880, there appeared in the "Deborah" the following: "We are lucky that the crucified one came into the world . . . since the Jews have to thank the son of Mary for the greatest profits that they make throughout the year. . . . It is far better anyhow to have Christmas than the small-pox, and if the Virgin had only seen fit to bless us with another child during the Summer so that we should have had two Christmas days, I wouldn't mind donating the Chinese to her."

On the basis of this apocryphal article, the German anti-Semitic press had of late launched violent attacks on the Jews for "slandering" Christianity. The Jewish press in Germany had long insisted that this article was a fabrication and the researches in the files of "Deborah" by Mr. Oko in Cincinnati appear to bear this out.

The writer of the anti-Semitic article had also said that Dr. Stephen S. Wise had written the "Deborah" article. Dr. Wise, when informed of this, sent the following statement: "If the statement were made in 1880 in the 'Deborah' I was six years old, and while I was a 'wunderkind' I did not write articles for the 'Deborah' in 1880."

Jewish Women's Council Launches Membership Drive

The first membership appeal in the Thirtieth Triennial period of the National Council of Jewish Women, has been launched under the direction of Miss Gertrude Feibleman of Indianapolis, whose appointment as national chairman of the Department of Extension and Field Service has been announced by the president, Mrs. Joseph E. Friend.

Sections of the National Council of Jewish Women throughout the country have announced the completion of their plans for the observance of Council Sabbath on Friday evening, March 14, and Saturday, March 15, with special features in the services of the local synagogues and temples, including addresses by Council speakers.

Reports of Economic Plight of Jews of Russia Grossly Exaggerated, Soviet Representative in United States Says

(Continued from Page 1)

said, is more hostile than that of the non-Jewish Americans.

"They should know how much the Soviet government tries to improve the situation of the Jews in Russia," Mr. Bogdanov stated. "Surely it cannot be denied that the Jews in Russia are now being treated better than ever before."

"The story about the execution of eighteen rabbis in Minsk, which caused such a great uproar here, proved to be a myth. First, it must be stated that only a few of them were rabbis, and then they not only were not executed, but all except three were released as soon as it was established that they were not engaged in anti-Soviet activities. I want to make it as clear as possible that we don't persecute in Soviet Russia for religious activities, and if several rabbis were arrested, this was probably done for some reason other than religious. All reports to the contrary which were spread abroad are not true."

"The Jews ought also to remember that the Soviet government was the first and only one that granted the Jews in Russia full political rights, making them equal to all other Soviet citizens, and that our government is the only one which successfully combats anti-Semitism and pogroms in Russia."

The Soviet representative in America termed as highly exaggerated the reports of the economic plights of the Jews in Russia.

"It may be true," he said, "that a number of Jewish merchants suffered because of the new economic system in Soviet Russia. But the Jews in America should not forget the great efforts which the Soviet government is making with the aim of improving the economic situation of the Russian declassed Jews."

"Since 1924," Mr. Bogdanov stated, "the Soviet government turned over for Jewish colonization in Ukraine and Crimea a total of 468,714 hectares (1,157,724 acres) of land. This includes 184,000 hectares in Ukraine and 227,000 hectares in Crimea. Aside from that, 3,900,000 hectares have been allotted in Bira-Bidjan. The Jewish agricultural population in Bira-Bidjan is 1,500 persons, and in other regions 22,209 families. This includes 15,000 families which migrated from other regions. According to the Five-Year Plan, it is expected to transfer to agricultural work 48,000 Jewish families."

"During the current year, the Soviet government expects to spend for Jewish colonization 16,000,000 roubles, and for public organizations 3,000,000 roubles," Mr. Bogdanov continued. "The expenditures of the government for the colonization of Jews on the land from 1924 to 1930 amounted to 9,500,000 roubles. Aside from that, Russian and foreign public organizations spent

21,000,000 roubles. In this connection it must be taken into account that the government has also given free land and forest resources, has covered 70 percent of the transportation costs, has given certain privileges in regard to taxation, and has permitted imports of equipment duty free."

"Collectivization on the Lenin Fund (area) in the Kherson Region is completed. In other regions, collectives accounted for over 50 percent of the area in 1929. In the Ukrainian Republic there are 154 tractors, 8,125 horses and on Jewish farms, 67 oxen. In Crimea there are 134 tractors, 11,461 horses and 1,611 oxen," Mr. Bogdanov declared.

The Soviet representative in the United States stated that the Jewish population of Soviet Russia in 1925 was 2,600,000 while in 1929 it mounted to 2,700,000. The social composition of adult Jews is given as follows:

	1925	1929
Workers	149,000	183,000
Employees	260,000	286,000
Peasants	88,000	116,000
Handicraft Workers	197,000	247,000
Traders	120,000	59,000
Unemployed	96,000	119,000

Total

910,000 1,010,000

Mr. Bogdanov said that during the current year it may be expected that considerable changes will be effected in the last three categories. The Committee (Comzet) expects to draw 31,000 workers into industry and 12,000 into agriculture during the year. The greater part of the remaining Jews in these groups, particularly in the last two categories will be given aid to transfer themselves into the other categories, through the decision of the Central Executive Committee of the Soviet Union.

Peter A. Bogdanov, who arrived from the Soviet Union recently, has been elected Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Amtorg Trading Corporation to succeed Saul G. Bron, who has been appointed Soviet trade representative to Great Britain.

Mr. Bogdanov, who was formerly the head of the Soviet Supreme Economic Council (which supervises state industry) was born in 1882 of a family of well-known Moscow merchants, and public men. In 1909 he was graduated from the Moscow Technical Institute as mechanical engineer. For a number of years he was connected with the Moscow Municipal Administration in various engineering capacities. Since 1918 he has been actively engaged in the upbuilding of Soviet industry, first as director of a chemical trust, then as head of the Metal Division of the Supreme Economic Council, later (1921-25) as Chairman of that body and, since 1925, in charge of the economic and administrative activities of the North Caucasus Region.

Mr. Bogdanov was appointed head of the Soviet Supreme Economic Council

Einstein Greets Allied Jewish Campaign; Hadassah

Pledges Its Cooperation

(Continued from Page 2)

Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Agency for Palestine. Mrs. Szold's statement reads: "The 50,000 American women who are members of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization, enter wholeheartedly into the Allied Jewish Campaign with pride in the harmony effected by American Jewry and with confidence in the success of the huge undertaking. Hadassah has labored for eighteen years on a specific constructive project in Palestine, building up a system of non-sectarian medical and public health work that is a widely-felt influence in the Near East. Hadassah faces the future of its own special aims in Palestine and of the general program of construction there with that well-grounded hope that only the strength of unity can bring. The Joint Distribution Committee has made a great contribution in bringing relief to great numbers of our brethren in Russia and other parts of Eastern Europe. The opportunity which is now offered to American Jewry for the first time to unite their efforts for Jews wherever they are situated, is unique, and I hope will be entirely successful."

Yiddish Paper Welcomes

Yevsektzia's Dissolution

The news that the Yevsektzia or Jewish section of the Communist Party in Russia, has been abolished, is greeted with joy in an editorial in the "Day" of March 5, which feels that the Jews of Russia have been harmed by its activities.

"We don't doubt for a moment that the dissolution of the Yevsektzia will be regarded by Russian Jewry as a great blessing," says the editorial. "It is like the eradication of the Asiatic pest, from which Russia suffers so often, like the elimination of a painful sore. As long as the Soviet policies went from bad to worse, from force to terror, it tolerated the Jewish terrorists, their acts of revenge, their intrigues and persecutions, their cynical disregard of the feelings of the great majority of Jews. But now that the inquisition has been abated, the instrument which served the inquisition has been thrown out."

Not only in Russia, but throughout the world wherever a Jewish heart beats, it will be a joy to learn that the Yevsektzia is dead."

eil in 1921, after the introduction of the New Economic Policy, and under his supervision the reorganization of industry from the war basis to its present commercial basis was effected.

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