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NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE OF A SEVENTIETH BIRTHDAY MR. NAHUM SOKOLOV SAYS AT DINNER IN HIS HONOUR; NEVER BEEN SEVENTY BEFORE: IN A MAN'S LIFETIME CERTAIN DATES BOUND TO STAND OUT: EVERYTHING BEEN TO ME - IN ZIONISM LITERATURE JOURNALISM COMMUNAL WORK - A LABOUR OF LOVE: EVERY DAY I SEE ZIONISM MORE WONDERFUL AND NECESSARY: IT IS NOT TO BE GOT WITH CATCHWORDS: MUST NOT LOSE HEART BECAUSE CLOUD FOR TIME SEEMS TO HIDE REALISATION OF IDEAL: IT CANNOT BE OUR HISTORY IS TO END IN PERSECUTION AND DISPERSION.

London, Feb. 5th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

I beg for your indulgence if I am rather timid in addressing you to-night. I have had no experience in speaking on a seventieth birthday. As a septuagenarian this is my maiden speech, a sort of Septuaginta, Mr. Nahum Sokolov said in returning thanks last night at the dinner given him at the Savoy Hotel by the Zionist Organisation and the English Zionist Federation in honour of his recent seventieth birthday.

Dr. Ch. Weizmann presided, and Professor Albert Einstein, Mr. Felix M. Warburg, Sir Herbert Samuel, Professor S. Alexander, and other famous personages sent messages. The Chief Rabbi, Dr. J. H. Hertz, Sir John Russell, Director of the Rothamsted Agricultural Experimental Station, the Polish Ambassador, M. Skirmunt, Mr. Wickham Steed, former editor of the "Times" and now proprietor and editor of "Review of Reviews", Mrs. Dugdale, niece of the late Lord Balfour, Mr. Ch. N. Bialik, the famous Hebrew poet, Sir George Jones, M.P., Mr. Daniel Hopkin, M.P., Professor Selig Brodetsky, Mr. Harry Sacher, and Mr. Leon Simon spoke in tribute to Mr. Sokolov.

In the course of a man's lifetime, Mr. Sokolov continued his speech, certain dates are bound to stand out prominently like the sign-posts on a road. I need hardly say that few sign-posts on my earthly pilgrimage will stand forth in my memory as the illustrious gathering of to-night.

First and foremost, Mr. Sokolov said, I express my deep gratitude to you, Dr. Weizmann, for your kind words from the chair.

We were and we are bound together in a great work for our people, in the greatest Jewish history since the beginning of the Diaspora ever knew.

I know how much you desire, how much you patiently endure and how great your achievements already are, and, I confidently hope, will be in the future.

We were passing through a terrible time; but I think the turn of the tide has come in the political situation, and truth has marched many steps onward. My dear friend Weizmann, may the heaven above you and the one in your heart never have more clouds than you need for a beautiful cool shade!

I want to express my warmest appreciation to the Polish Ambassador for his kind wishes, Mr. Sokolov proceeded. Poland is dear to us, he said, as another symbol of the victory of the national ideal, as a country with over three million Jews, as the land of our pioneers. May it prosper in progress, justice and peace!

I am deeply sensible of the honour bestowed on me, Mr. Sokolov pursued, but I am sure I do not really merit the eulogies. Everything has been to me in Zionism as in literature, in journalism as in communal work - a labour of love. I am happy that it has fallen to my lot to be one of the messengers to Israel and to the Gentiles. I have received for our cause much valuable assistance from our Jewish masses, and have been fortunate in forming some very precious acquaintances and great friends in the non-Jewish world. Every day I live I see Zionism more wonderful, more comprehensive, more necessary.

It is not to be got with catchwords. Catchwords may work miracles with the pen, but the facts of life are too stubborn to heed them. It is not to be got without trouble. We must not lose heart because a cloud for a time seems to hide the realisation of our ideal from us. Uninterrupted sunshine is not possible. It is not good for the soul. We must, unfortunately, have our occasional dark days. In the day of prosperity let no man exult, in the day of adversity let no man faint; the successions of fortune alternate. But truth and justice must ultimately triumph. It cannot be that the piety and the tears and the sweat and blood of our fathers and our youngsters are thrown away. It cannot be that our history is to end in the chaos of persecution and dispersion.

Zionism was considered by its adversaries as a dream. It was a dream as long as the Jews were asleep. Once we are not asleep, Zionism is a reality. The greater our trials, the greater cause we have to exert all our resolution and fortitude. "For Zion's sake I will not hold my peace" until Eretz Israel will become a blessing to the world.

Statesman Scholar Man Of Vision Of Encyclopaedic Knowledge Linguist Of First Magnitude Man Of Action Combining Poetic And Prophetic Spirit With Cool And Scientific Judgment: Synthesises All Valuable And Precious In Jewish And Hebrew Tradition With Achievements Of Modern Civilisation: Dr. Weizmann's Eulogy Of Mr. Sokolov: He Succeeded In Paving Way For Acceptance Of Balfour Declaration.

A statesman, scholar, man of vision, of encyclopaedic knowledge, a linguist of the first magnitude, a man of action and one who combines the poetic and prophetic spirit with a cool and scientific judgment, Dr. Weizmann said of Mr. Sokolov in his opening speech. He is one of those rare men in Jewry to-day who synthesises all that is valuable and precious in Jewish and Hebrew tradition with the achievements of modern civilisation.

Dr. Weizmann went on to refer to the copies of the "Haze-firah" that came into the little villages of the ghetto and the articles signed N.S. which those who read them associated with "Ness", a miracle. They brought a message from the wide world to the ghetto. So they associated Sokolov with a miraculous personality.

Mr. Sokolov, said Dr. Weizmann, undertook the work of explaining to the Allied Powers during the war the aims and aspirations of the Zionist movement and he succeeded in paving the way for the acceptance of the Balfour Declaration.

Mr. Sokolov One Of The Architects Of The Zionist Movement And The Jewish National Home Says Chief Rabbi: But Home Is A Place Where You Can Call Your Soul Your Own And In Last Ten Years Been Three Pogroms In Jewish National Home.

Mr. Sokolov was one of the architects of the Zionist Movement and of the Jewish National Home, a herald of the Hebrew renaissance, a statesman of ideas and faith, the Chief Rabbi, Dr. J. H. Pertz said.

A home was a place where you could call your soul your own, the Chief Rabbi went on. During the last ten years there had been three pogroms in the Jewish National Home. A home must be a castle. It must be a sanctuary; safe from massacre where Jewish spiritual values can thrive and be allowed expression.

Foundations Of Jewish National Home Have Been Well And Truly Laid  
Sir John Russell Says: Can See No Reason Why There Should Be  
A Turning Back: Colonisation In Palestine Fraught With Less  
Suffering Than Any Other Kind Of Colonisation I Know Of:  
One Of The Few Countries Where People Deliberately Going Out  
On The Land.

Sir John Russell (referred to his visits to the Jewish colonies in Palestine as agricultural expert on behalf of the Zionist Organisation and the British Government.

The founding of the Jewish National Home is one of the greatest events of our time, he said. I went out to Palestine as an agricultural expert to report on the Jewish colonies. I can say the foundations have been well and truly laid and I can see no reason why there should be a turning back.

It is no use pretending, Sir John said, that Palestine is a rich country. It has been mismanaged by hundreds of years of misrule and you cannot put nature right at once. The difficulties can be overcome. The qualities needed are enthusiasm, intelligence and forbearance. I know of no more inspiring sight than to see the young people working in the colonies in Palestine. They are Palestinians who speak Hebrew, intent on building up the Jewish National Home. Colonisation in Palestine has been fraught with less suffering than any other kind of colonisation which I know of. Palestine is one of the few countries where people are deliberately going out on the land. You don't find farms to let in Palestine.

Sir John referred to his visits to the agricultural research stations and the experimental fields in Palestine and said they were building up a sound system of agriculture which would lay a firm foundation of prosperity.

Forbearance is needed, he said, to deal with the difficult Arab problem, but by scientific land methods Palestine is being developed so that it will hold both Arab and Jew.

ALWAYS BE GOOD JEWS AND NEVER MARRY OUTSIDE FAITH NATHAN STRAUS  
ENJOINS ON HIS CHILDREN IN HIS WILL JUST PUBLISHED: LEAVES  
MILLION DOLLARS: NOTHING FOR CHARITY BECAUSE "I GAVE MOST  
POSSIBLE IN MY LIFETIME".

New-York, Feb. 4th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Always be good Jews and never marry outside the faith, the late Nathan Straus enjoins on his children in his will which has just been made public here. Mr. Straus has left an estate of a million dollars, all of which goes to his children, no provision being made for charity. Mr. Straus explains that "I gave the most that was possible in my lifetime."

The Board of Aldermen of the City of New York have decided to rename Rutgers's Square Straus Square, in memory of Mr. Nathan Straus.

NEW THOUSAND FAMILY SETTLEMENT PLAN IN PALESTINE BEGINS TAKING  
SHAPE NEXT WEEK: FIRST 400 BEING SETTLED IN VICINITY OF  
JUDEAN ORANGE BELT.

Jerusalem, Feb. 4th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

With the return to Palestine of Dr. Maurice B. Hexter, member of the Jewish Agency Executive, the Jewish Agency announces the commencement next week of the thousand family settlement plan, the settlement of the first 400 families being already guaranteed. These first 400 settlers will be settled in the vicinity of the fifteen old colonies in the Judean orange belt.

STATE OF PALESTINE IMMIGRATION LAWS: PALESTINE PRESS DEVOTING  
SPACE TO CASE OF JEWISH IMMIGRANT ORDERED TO BE DEPORTED AFTER  
FIFTEEN MONTHS' STAY FOR COMING INTO COUNTRY ON TOURIST VISA  
AND DECIDING TO REMAIN PERMANENTLY.

Jerusalem, Feb. 4th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

After fifteen months in Palestine, Israel Yaroshevsky, 36 years of age, has been ordered to be deported to Poland, and to pay a fine of £20 for having remained illegally in the country. Yaroshevsky's story has been taken up by the newspapers and given considerable prominence, apparently with the idea of directing attention to certain unreasonable features in the Palestine Immigration Law and the hardships inflicted by immigration officers insisting on the letter of the law.

Yaroshevsky arrived in Palestine in October, 1929, on a tourist visa, accompanying his parents who were joining another son, an owner of property, including an orange grove, in Magdiel. Six weeks after his arrival, Yaroshevsky was offered by the village council of Ain Hai a concession for a general store for a period of two years. The tourist, who had by that time decided to remain permanently, accepted the offer and invested some £500 in the business, at the same time applying for permission to change his status from that of tourist to immigrant. Attached to his application was the agreement with the village council, which in due course was investigated by an Immigration Officer, who took from Yaroshevsky the £1 per capita tax which all immigrants must pay and from which tourists are exempt.

Yaroshevsky had reason to believe that by this act the Government, at least preliminarily, had agreed to his remaining in the country. To his astonishment, he was informed three months later that his application had been rejected. He then turned to the Zionist authorities for intervention, furnished a balance sheet and other documents, and confident that there had been some official slip, he continued to carry on his business.

In May 1931 he was notified that permission to remain had been refused, and that he must leave the country not later than June 9th. Yaroshevsky thereupon appealed to the highest tribunal, to the High Commissioner himself. He was again asked to furnish proof that he was in possession of capital, which he did, showing his deposit at a bank amounting to £400. He then received a communication ordering him to show that he had property of £1,000 in cash. This he could not do, and he was subsequently arrested, tried, fined, and ordered to be deported.

Yaroshevsky has incidentally received letters from Poland from which it is learned that the British Immigration Officer in Warsaw has reproached the Palestine Office of the Zionist Organisation for applying for a tourist visa for a man "whose intention to remain in Palestine was clear from the beginning". There are scores of Jewish tourists whose subsequent application to be allowed to remain as settlers and be recognised as immigrants, though they came as tourists, has been approved - in fact in the lean months of immigration, this type of traveller makes a very substantial percentage of the Jewish immigration into Palestine. It is possible that the Director of Immigration may have picked on Yaroshevsky in order to make an example of him with a view to frightening off other prospective immigrants coming into the country in a similar way. The Yishub is very much concerned, however, at the state of affairs revealed by the Yaroshevsky case.

JEWISH COMMUNISTS IN PALESTINE ACCUSED BY COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL OF NEGLECTING THEIR OWN PEOPLE WHILE CONCENTRATING ON ARABS.

Jerusalem, Feb. 4th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Jewish Communists in Palestine have neglected their own people while concentrating on making good Communists of the Arabs, is the charge brought by the Executive Committee of the Communist International against the Palestine Communist Party in a letter full of censure of the activities of the Jewish Communists, which the Palestine Communist Party has been obliged to publish in "Voraus", their own Palestine periodical appearing in Yiddish and Arabic.

"The influence of the Palestine Communist Party upon the Fellaheen is intolerably weak, and the Party has not been able to take the part in the National Arab movement to which it should have aspired", the letter from the Communist International reads in part. "Its work among the Jews is far from satisfactory", it proceeds. "Evidently the leadership (in Palestine) has failed to grasp the meaning of the Political Secretariat of the Comintern in its letter of October 16th., 1929, which said that the Party in fact should be Arabised, without abandoning or diminishing the work among Jewish labour. Opportunism, both from the Left and the Right within the Party, has led it to the anti-Bolshevist conclusion that the Jewish workers should leave the country and desert the front of the class struggle because the Palestine Communist party cannot or need not pay any attention to the Jewish worker".

Palestine Communists are directed to exploit the crisis in Zionism in order to strengthen and consolidate the influence of the Palestine Communist Part on the Jewish labourer.

Full credit is given in the letter to the group headed by Hamdi Hussein, the Arab Communist agitator, whom Moscow tributes "for the positive part he played in the August riots". The Jewish Communists are instructed, in conclusion, completely to abandon the Jewish bourgeoisie, which "plays the part of executioners and oppressors" in the interests of the Jews, who are described as a "privileged minority".

ROUMANIAN MINISTER OF EDUCATION HOLDS OUT NO HOPE OF REOPENING OF HEBREW SCHOOL CLOSED DOWN IN BESSARABIA ON CHARGE OF COMMUNISM: PROMISES HOWEVER NEW ENQUIRY INTO CHARGE.

Bucharest, Feb. 4th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Minister of Education, speaking to-day with a deputation headed by Deputy Landau, the Jewish representative from Kishineff and Senator Rosenhaupt, of Soroca, held out no hope of the reopening of the Hebrew Tarbut School, which has been closed down at Soroca, on the charge that it is a nest of Communism. He agreed, finally, however, to have a new enquiry made into the charges of Communism brought against the school.

Deputy Theodor Fischer, one of the members of the Club of Jewish Deputies, also protested to-day against the closing of the school to the Under-Secretary of the Presidium of Ministers, M. Tillea, who assured Deputy Fischer that he fully realised the importance of the question, and promised him that he would go carefully into the matter and would see that it should be settled satisfactorily.

GERMAN FEDERAL COUNCIL TO DEAL WITH HITLERIST OBSTRUCTIONISM IN NATURALISATION QUESTION: PRUSSIA ENTRUSTS ITS JEWISH REPRESENTATIVE DR. BADT WITH PUTTING CASE AGAINST THURINGIA'S VETO ON JEWISH NATURALISATIONS IN PRUSSIA.

Berlin, Feb. 4th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Federal Council, the Reichsrat, will be asked to decide to-morrow on the question of the 400 applications for naturalisation in Prussia, mostly by Jewish aliens, which the Prussian Government cannot grant because Dr. Frick, the Hitlerist Minister who represents Thuringia on the Reichsrat, has exercised the veto of his State against the naturalisations (as he himself boasted last week at a Hitlerist meeting at Stuttgart - reported in the J.T.A. Bulletin of the 2nd. inst.).

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Dr. Frick is said to be carrying on a campaign among the representatives of the other States to induce them to join him in a league against Prussia in the Reichsrat, to secure a majority against the Prussian motion for granting the naturalisation applications over the head of his single veto. Prussian Government circles, whose case will be put by Dr. Hermann Badt, the Prussian representative on the Reichsrat, who is himself a Jew active in Jewish affairs, incline, however, to the belief that Dr. Frick's efforts will not succeed and that the Reichsrat will agree to the naturalisations.

JEWISH COMMUNITY OF RAWICZ APPEAL TO POLISH GOVERNMENT AGAINST  
POSEN DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S DECREE ORDERING SUPPRESSION OF  
COMMUNITY AND SEIZING OF SYNAGOGUE BECAUSE MANY MEMBERS  
OPTED FOR GERMANY AND HAVE GONE OVER BORDER TO LIVE THERE:  
COMMUNITY DELEGATION TO WARSAW ARGUES WHILE THERE IS SINGLE  
MEMBER OF COMMUNITY LEFT IT CANNOT BE DISSOLVED.

Warsaw, Feb. 4th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

A deputation has arrived from the Jewish Community of Rawicz, in the province of Posen, to intervene with the Government against a decree of the Posen District Governor to seize the synagogue and other property belonging to the Community, on the ground that the majority of the members of the Rawicz Jewish Community have opted for Germany and have emigrated to Germany, basing his action on a decree which he issued in 1923 ordering the liquidation of the Community and calling for its entire property, including the synagogue and a number of dwelling houses, to be transferred to the City Council. The City Council has decided to convert the Beth Midrash into a Froebel School for the children of officers of the local garrison, and to evict the Jews living in the houses owned by the Community.

The deputation in its petition to the Government contends that the liquidation decree is illegal, because the Prussian law, which is still valid in the province of Posen, provides that a Jewish Community cannot be dissolved so long as there is a single member of the Community still living in the town.

JEWES OF ROME PERTURBED BY CITY PLANNING COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION  
TO REMOVE DOME FROM ROME SYNAGOGUE.

Rome, Feb. 4th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The famous architect, Marcello Piacentini, the Rapporteur of the City of Rome Planning Commission, appointed by Signor Mussolini to prepare a scheme for the beautifying of the Eternal City, recommends in his report which has just been presented to the Government, that among other things, the dome of the Great Synagogue near the Tibor should be removed in order to improve the skyline.

The proposal has caused much concern among the Jewish population. It is pointed out that the plan of the synagogue, which was erected as recently as 1904, was approved by a Commission of famous architects, including Zaccani, who made the famous Victor Emmanuel Memorial in Rome, and Piacentini, the father of the present advocate of its removal. It is suggested in some Jewish quarters that the plan may be connected with some obligations in the Concordat between the Italian Government and the Vatican for the preservation of the Christian character of Rome.

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