

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

(Cable and Mail Despatches)
Issued by the
JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY, LTD.

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107/111, Fleet Street,
London, E.C.4.

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Vol. XII. No. 43.

7 pages.

19th. Feb., 1931.

THE PALESTINE DEBATE IN PARLIAMENT: I AM DEALING WITH THIS MATTER MORE FULLY TO-MORROW DR. DRUMMOND SHIELS TELLS COLONEL HOWARD-BURY IN REPLY TO HIS SUGGESTION THAT O'DONNELL COMMISSION SHOULD BE STOPPED BECAUSE PALESTINE HAS HAD SURFEIT OF COMMISSIONS ALREADY: I AM RESERVING COMMENTS TILL TO-MORROW DR. SHIELS SAYS.

London, Feb. 18th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

I am dealing with this matter more fully to-morrow, so perhaps Colonel Howard-Bury will not mind my reserving my comments until then, Dr. Drummond Shiels, the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, said in the House of Commons this afternoon, in reply to a question put to him by Colonel Howard-Bury on the O'Donnell Commission to Palestine.

When would the new Commission that was to go out to Palestine start, and who were to be the members of the Commission, Colonel Howard-Bury asked, receiving in reply the information from Dr. Shiels that the Commission is already at work, and it consists of Sir Samuel O'Donnell and Mr. H. Griffin of the Treasury.

The suggestion that the matter should be left over till to-morrow (when the supplementary estimate for Colonial and Middle Eastern Services will be taken) was made by Dr. Shiels in response to a further question by Colonel Howard-Bury, who, in view of the fact that "Palestine has had a surfeit of Commissions already, and that this Commission has already reported on all relevant matters," proposed amid laughter, that Dr. Shiels should "see if this Commission cannot be stopped".

VACILLATING POLICY MAY RESULT IN DEEP ABYSS BETWEEN ARABS AND BRITISH GOVERNMENT ARAB EXECUTIVE'S PROTEST AGAINST NEW GOVERNMENT STATEMENT SAYS: MR. MACDONALD HAS RUINED ALL HOPE OF ANY CO-OPERATION BETWEEN ARABS AND JEWS IF ANY SUCH HOPE EXISTED.

Jerusalem, Feb. 17th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

This vacillating policy is a very serious matter and may result in creating a deep abyss between the Arab population and His Majesty's Government, causing the Arabs to lose their confidence in the British Government, says the statement handed by the Palestine Arab Executive delegation to the High Commissioner yesterday (already briefly reported in yesterday's J.T.A. Bulletin), according to the official English text furnished this afternoon to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

I assure your Excellency, the statement, which is signed by Moussa Kazim Pasha, the President of the Palestine Arab Executive, proceeds, that Mr. MacDonald through his letter has ruined all hope of any policy of co-operation between Arabs and Jews, if any such hope existed, and has rendered the possibility of an understanding between the two parties absolutely impossible. I leave it to the Executive of the Seventh Arab Congress to determine the lines of a policy they may consider consistent with the interests of the country in view of the British Government's new policy embodied in Mr. MacDonald's letter to Dr. Weizmann.

PROFESSOR EINSTEIN PLEASED WITH DR. WEIZMANN'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN OBTAINING NEW STATEMENT: AT LAST BRITAIN REALISES WORTH OF ZIONIST IDEAL HE SAYS: SPEECH AT BANQUET GIVEN IN HIS HONOUR BY JEWISH COMMUNITY OF LOS ANGELES.

New York, Feb. 17th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Professor Einstein, speaking at a banquet given in his honour last night by the Jews of Los Angeles, praised Dr. Weizmann's efforts in the negotiations with the British Government leading to the issue of the new Government document. At last Britain realises the worth of the Zionist ideal, Professor Einstein said.

The banquet was arranged after several interviews with Professor and Madame Einstein by various representatives of the Jewish community of Los Angeles, who were anxious to arrange a public appearance of Professor Einstein before his own people, and the date was fixed by Professor Einstein himself. The Ambassador Hotel was selected as the scene of the banquet, which was planned to be one of the greatest events in the history of Los Angeles Jewry. Professor Einstein expressed his wish that the banquet should benefit the Palestine cause.

WHITE PAPER REMAINS REVISIONISTS SAY: PRIME MINISTER'S LETTER INTERPRETING WHITE PAPER DISAPPOINTING AND PREJUDICIAL TO FUTURE OF ZIONISM: LEAVES POLITICAL SITUATION UNCHANGED BUT TENDS TO ROUSE UNJUSTIFIED OPTIMISM: LETTER LEAVE NO DOUBT NEGOTIATIONS PROCEEDED ON BASIS OF WHITE PAPER DESPITE ACTIONS COMMITTEE'S DENOUNCING OF ANY NEGOTIATIONS ON THAT BASIS.

London, Feb. 18th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Prime Minister's letter explaining and interpreting the White Paper of October 1930 is regarded by us as disappointing and highly prejudicial to the future of Zionism, says a statement issued to-day by the Executive Committee of the World Union of Zionist-Revisionists at a Press Conference presided over by Mr. M. Grossman.

While removing some most objectionable passages from the White Paper, the statement proceeds, the Prime Minister's letter does not satisfy Jewish claims and grievances with regard to British policy in Palestine. It leaves the political situation unaltered, but tends to mislead the Jewish public and arouse unjustified optimism.

The letter by the Prime Minister should be considered in the light of the answers given to the questions raised in the House of Commons on February 11th. These clearly show that the British Government was unwilling to give to the letter the same "status as the dominating document" - the White Paper of October 1930. Though this impression was somewhat modified on the following day, it nevertheless remained clear that the White Paper was to be the dominating document and the letter to Dr. Weizmann was only to serve as "the authoritative interpretation of the White Paper on the matters with which the letter deals."

The letter leaves no room for doubt that all the negotiations between the representatives of the Jewish Agency and the Committee of the Cabinet, have proceeded on the basis of the White Paper of 1930, despite the fact that the Actions Committee and the united voice of Jewry, have, from the very commencement, denounced any negotiations on that basis. Further, the letter implies that the Jewish Agency by having accepted the White Paper of 1922 is now bound by the White Paper of 1930 which refers to and endorses the White Paper of 1922.

Two Statements - White Paper And Interpretation - Will Now
Struggle For Authority Various Paragraphs Forming Battle-
Field Of Polemic Which Will Not Facilitate Understanding.

There have now been set up two statements: the White Paper of October 1930, and the letter by the Prime Minister. Each will, within a few weeks struggle for authority, and the various sentences and paragraphs of these documents will form a battlefield of polemic which will certainly not facilitate the "understanding" for which the Prime Minister so earnestly presses in his letter. The Prime Minister's reference to his speech in the House of Commons expressing the intention of the Government to continue to administer Palestine in accordance with the terms of the Mandate is surprising, in view of the fact that his "very plain statement", as he calls it, was followed by a series of official enquiries, reports and statements of policy, each raising new complications, and modifying in each case the significance of his speech.

No land enquiry is of any value or can be expected to yield any profitable result, unless the extensive sparsely populated territory of Transjordan is to be included within its scope, the statement continues with references to the announcement made in the Premier's letter of the institution of a new Government enquiry "as soon as possible" to ascertain what State and other land can be made available for close settlement by Jews under Article 6 of the Mandate. This must be received with caution, having in view the number of Government enquiries and statements on the question of land, each of them officially reinforcing the previous one to the effect that there was practically no land available for Jewish settlement. The omission of Transjordan from the Prime Minister's letter, it is added, takes from that document any value which it might otherwise have had, so far as land adjustment is concerned.

The letter presents no fundamental improvement in conditions of immigration. It does not touch the wider problem of a Jewish mass immigration, without which the Jewish National Home can be given no reality. The Government insists upon retaining complete control of immigration. It will also, in issuing immigration certificates, take into account the state of unemployment among Arabs as among Jews. This letter leaves unaltered paragraphs 27 and 28 of the White Paper, described by Lord Hailsham and Sir John Simon (letter in "Times" November 3rd.), as one of the several departures from the obligations of the Mandate embodied in the White Paper.

Important issues raised by the White Paper, such as the proposed establishment of a Legislative Council, the status of the Jewish Agency, and the creation of a Development Fund, are not even referred to in the Prime Minister's letter. They must therefore be presumed to retain the spirit and intention given them by the White Paper, without any re-interpretation. Nevertheless, the letter of the Prime Minister endeavours to create the impression that the conflict with the Jewish Agency which the omission of these main issues is bound to produce, has been resolved to the general satisfaction. The Legislative Council foreshadowed in the White Paper has been bitterly opposed by Jews throughout the world, who regard any such body as an Arab instrument which will, in a phrase frequently used by members of the Permanent Mandates Commission, make impossible the establishment of a Jewish National Home. So long as the policy of the Legislative Council stands, a policy which is bound to undermine all Jewish work in Palestine - any assurances embodied in the letter must be regarded as of no value.

Attention is drawn to the passage in the letter, in which the Prime Minister declares that the full solution of the problem of policy depends on an understanding between the Jews and the Arabs, and proceeds to say that "until that is reached, considerations of balance must inevitably enter into the definition of 'policy'". This passage repeats, in a sense, the objectionable passage in the White Paper which strove to cast upon the Jewish Agency the duty of effecting an understanding with the Arabs. It lays down the unacceptable

principle that, until an understanding with the Arabs is reached, the British Government will continue its policy of passivity, and not turn towards that "active policy" which the Mandates Commission repeatedly declared to be the duty of the Government. In effect, the Arabs are thus informed that they are, by refusing an understanding, in a position to make impossible the introduction of an "active policy". This passage in the letter must be regarded as nullifying the passage in the same letter which admits active facilitation of the Jewish National Home as "a positive obligation" of the British Government.

On receipt of the Prime Minister's letter, Dr. Weizmann found it necessary to issue a public statement which has created the impression that the negotiations have concluded satisfactorily, and that there is now no reason why the work in Palestine should not proceed smoothly. The letter is addressed to "Dr. Weizmann, President of the Jewish Agency", though he has resigned from that position and himself declares in his statement: "I can speak in my personal capacity only".

It should be the first duty of the Jewish public to make clear that Dr. Weizmann's Statement in no way represents Jewish feeling or Jewish opinion; that the Prime Minister's letter cannot be regarded as satisfactory, inasmuch as it does not overthrow the White Paper of October 1930 to which Jewry took such solid objection.

The letter by the Prime Minister is but the first stage of the negotiations. It is to be followed by the framing of administrative and legislative measures which are to govern the development of Palestine and the Jewish National Home. In these circumstances Dr. Weizmann's endorsement of the Prime Minister's letter, must be regarded as prejudicial to any further negotiations which Jewry may, in the future, in one form or another, carry on with the British Government.

To the second part of the negotiations, the Revisionist statement concludes, the Jewish public must adopt a determined and unequivocal attitude. These negotiations must not be continued by the present leadership. Congress must first of all be convened and Jewry must not be confronted with an arrangement which it will be compelled to repudiate, thus creating a painful situation which will prejudice the work of the future representatives of the Jewish Agency.

ANTISEMITIC AGITATOR GOES FREE IN GERMANY BECAUSE ONLY DOING WHAT
HITLER TELLS HIM: FURTHERMORE CONDUCTING HIS FIGHT NOT WITH
PHYSICAL WEAPONS BUT WITH WEAPONS OF MIND COURT SAYS ACQUITTING
HIM.

Berlin, Feb. 17th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The press here is much concerned about the action of the Breslau District Court in remitting a fine of 300 Marks imposed by the lower court on Fritz Waldman, a Hitlerist agitator, in finding him guilty of conducting a fierce antisemitic agitation. The District Court quashed the sentence, deciding that Waldman was not guilty, because he was only acting according to the teachings of Hitler and furthermore was not fighting with physical weapons but with the weapons of the mind.

The Democratic press demands that the Minister of Justice should intervene, asserting that the law courts in Silesia are exceptionally lenient to Hitlerists, but punish very severely people brought before them who belong to the political parties of the Left.

VILNA JEWISH JOURNALISTS ARRESTED IN ROUND-UP AT "TOG" OFFICES

RELEASED.

Warsaw, Feb. 17th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The two Yiddish journalists, Dreher and Kacow, of the staff of the Vilna Yiddish daily "Tog", who were arrested in the police raid on the offices of the paper last week, together with the editor, Mr. Zalman Reizen, (who was soon after released) have also been set at liberty to-day.

DOES PERU HOLD OUT HOPE OF JEWISH SETTLEMENT?: DR. JULIUS BRUTZKUS URGES CAREFUL INVESTIGATION; SUGGESTS JEWISH ORGANISATIONS SHOULD BROADEN OUT ACTIVITIES TO SYSTEMATICALLY AIDING JEWISH IMMIGRATION AND COLONISATION ON LARGE SCALE; FEARS THEY ARE STANDING ASIDE UNWILLING TO ASSUME NEW BURDENS WHILE NON-JEWISH ORGANISATIONS TAKING POSSESSION OF AREAS STILL AVAILABLE; CONTRASTS SUCCESSES ACHIEVED BY ORGANISATION OF RUSSIAN REFUGEES; NO COUNTRY WILL TO-DAY ADMIT INDUSTRIAL WORKERS SETTLING IN TOWNS BUT AGRICULTURAL SETTLERS CAN STILL OBTAIN ADMISSION TO MANY COUNTRIES.

Berlin, Feb. 15th. (J.T.A. Mail Service).

The need of investigating the possibilities of Jewish settlement in Peru (where the Prince of Wales and Prince George have just arrived in the course of their official visit to South America) was urged by Dr. Julius Brutzkus, former Minister for Jewish Affairs in Lithuania and a prominent and active worker in a number of Jewish social organisations, like the O.R.T., the Emigdirekt, and the O.Z.E., in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency here to-day.

A few months back, in May 1930, a number of Jewish representatives met in Berlin on the invitation of the Emigdirekt to consider a scheme of Jewish colonisation in Peru put forward by several persons interested in a concession area granted by the Peru Government to the Bolivia Concessions Company, at which Dr. von Maltzman, one of the prime movers in the scheme, and a Jewish lawyer named Hirschberg, hitherto inactive in Jewish affairs, explained their project. Privy Councillor Stern, the Chairman of the Council of the Berlin Jewish Community, was in the chair, and Dr. Brutzkus was one of the Jewish representatives present, the others including Professor Franz Oppenheimer, the famous colonisation expert, and Deputy Oscar Kohn, of the Emigdirekt. Dr. Brutzkus and Deputy Oscar Kohn, on behalf of the Emigdirekt, stated that the Emigdirekt stood entirely aloof from the Peru project, but it wished to give an opportunity to the sponsors to present their scheme. Dr. von Maltzman, in the course of his statement, read out a letter which he had received from Professor Einstein, who wrote that in view of the desperate need of finding openings for Jewish emigration all possibilities for a Jewish settlement in a new country ought to be carefully explored. At the end of the meeting, the Jewish representatives stated that they were not altogether satisfied with the explanations given by the sponsors of the scheme, and had decided not to go any further with the matter for the present.

The question of finding new territories for Jewish immigration is obtaining increased importance with the closing of the principal countries of immigration, Dr. Brutzkus said to the J.T.A. to-day. Immediately after the Revolution in Peru, he went on, Professor Franz Oppenheimer and I went into the possibilities of organised Jewish settlement in that country, and it was suggested that an Investigation Commission should be sent out. Unfortunately, the responsible Jewish organisations took up a negative stand, not only towards the sending out of an Investigation Committee, but also to any organised measures for setting on foot a regulated Jewish immigration movement to Peru. There is no doubt about the existence of a possibility for a large settlement of Jews in this country, Dr. Brutzkus declared. Not long ago, he continued, two non-Jewish Polish private societies, backed by the Polish Government, secured concessions in the Peru province of Montagna for two large areas of a million, and of half a million hectares respectively. In other countries, too, he said, in Sweden, for example, there is a systematic immigration movement being organised to Peru. But no one is taking up the question of the possibility of Jewish immigration to Peru. So far as soil and climate are concerned, there are areas in the interior of Peru which are splendidly adapted for Jewish settlement, the only difficulty being the lack of railways and suitable roads.

Russian Refugees In France Protected In Their Positions While Jewish Immigrants In Danger Of Losing Right To Work Because Nothing Was Done To Secure Legal Basis For Jewish Immigration And Settlement There.

Jewish colonisation in Peru cannot be considered apart from the entire problem of finding a solution of the Jewish question on a territorial basis, Dr. Brutzkus proceeded. Unfortunately, the responsible Jewish organisations have not yet realised that such a solution is possible only if the philanthropic bureaucratic system is abandoned and instead of confining themselves merely to giving aid in individual cases, immigration and colonisation activities are organised on the broadest possible basis. The activities of the Jewish organisations go at best far enough to test the possibilities of settlement, but there is no attempt made to organise a systematic colonisation movement. The organisations are unwilling to burden themselves with additional duties and they also draw the unjust conclusion that because attempts at colonisation in certain countries have failed any repetition of such efforts in other places must result in similar failure. But they do not even pay sufficient attention to the need of investigating the possibilities of new settlement. Angola, for instance, is an exceptionally good settlement area, which has very big prospects. There, too, the Poles have secured two large concession areas. On all sides we see non-Jewish organisations of all nationalities seizing every opportunity they can find for settlement, while the Jews, against whom one immigration country after the other is closing its doors, stand aside inactive, looking on while all the land still available is being occupied by others. The Russian refugees, for instance, Dr. Brutzkus said, have an excellently directed central office working in connection with the League of Nations, and among other things it has obtained the right to work for the Russian refugees in France. Consequently, the Russian refugees have been able to establish themselves in various occupations and are protected in their positions, while thousands of Jews in France are in danger of being deprived of their right to work there, because nothing was done to secure a legal basis for Jewish immigration and settlement in France.

The Slav Settlement Society Formed In Berlin: In Theory Every Possibility Of Jews From Slav Countries Being Settled By Society Dr. Brutzkus Says And Initiators Have Approached Jewish Intelligentsia To Secure Co-operation: Not Likely However It Should Have Practical Importance For Jews.

In reply to a question whether there is any possibility of Jews benefiting by the activities of the Slav Settlement Society which was recently founded in Berlin, Dr. Brutzkus said that the Society does not exclude Jews from the scope of its work. Its programme, he said, is to engage in close settlement of emigrants from Slav countries, irrespective of their race. The Society plans to establish Slav colonies, settled partly by political refugees from Slav countries like Soviet Russia, and partly by members of national minorities in Slav countries, where serious national conflicts exist, as, for instance, in the Ukrainian parts of Poland. Each colony would have its distinctive national character, Russian, Polish, Ukrainian, Czech, etc. In theory, at least, Dr. Brutzkus said, there seems to be every possibility of Jewish colonies being established by the Slav Settlement Society, and in point of fact, the Society has approached a number of the Jewish intelligentsia in order to move them to cooperate with the non-Jewish organisations. But it is not very likely, Dr. Brutzkus added, that the work of the Slav Society will have any practical importance for Jews. Nevertheless, the undertaking is one which must be taken in full seriousness. The Society has already organised a joint stock company in America, with a

capital of five million dollars. It has secured a very important option on certain areas in Mexico, and the immigrants coming into the country under its auspices will be released from the payment of visa fees. The Society is seeking to obtain a similar agreement with Canada.

This shows us, Dr. Brutzkus went on, that in spite of the existing immigration difficulties, a good deal can still be done, even now, in the direction of a regulated immigration and colonisation activity. A purely industrial and town population will not be admitted into any country, he concluded. The trade unions will put up an effective opposition against any such immigration. But any colonisation on an agricultural basis will eventually provide openings more easily for the immigration also of a certain quota of town-dwelling people.

Professor Franz Oppenheimer's attitude: Very Delicate Matter Which Must Be Treated Carefully: Nothing Should Be Done Before Investigation Expedition Has Reported And An Option Agreement For Suitable Area Is Available.

Asked what Professor Franz Oppenheimer's attitude is on the matter, Dr. Brutzkus said that he could not speak for Professor Oppenheimer, but he understood that the Professor held that it was essential to find new areas for Jewish settlement, if it was possible, and that he agreed that the openings for Jewish colonisation in Peru should be investigated.

Professor Einstein, too, he said, is interested in this problem, and has discussed the possibilities of a Jewish settlement with Sir Leonard L. Cohen in London and with Professor Solomon Reinach in Paris.

Professor Franz Oppenheimer tells the J.T.A. in this connection that he regards the matter as a very delicate one, which must be treated most cautiously. In his view, a very carefully constituted investigation expedition should be sent out before any further steps are taken, and nothing further should be done until the report of this expedition is available, and a proper option agreement for a suitable area has been executed.

RAILWAY COMMUNICATION TO BE PROVIDED FOR NEW JEWISH REGION IN CRIMEA: MOVE TO OVERCOME HINDRANCES TO COLONISATION WORK THERE CAUSED BY COMPLETE ABSENCE OF RAILROAD FACILITIES

AND ROADS.

Moscow, Feb. 17th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Plans for building a special railroad to cover the newly-opened Jewish autonomous region Freidorf in the Crimea, have been announced by the Government Commission for Jewish Settlement (Comzet). It is intended to have the railroad link up the towns of Eupatoria, Freidorf, Larindorf and Djonkai. It is also planned to have a branch railroad between Larindorf and Issun. In 1932 another railroad will be added to include the towns of Bakal, Smidovitch and Freidorf.

At a recent conference of Ozet and Comzet workers, M. Mereszin and others pointed out that there is a complete absence of roads in this territory, which has a very unfavourable effect upon the colonisation work in the region.

The Comzet has assigned 10,000 roubles for cultural work in the region, which will be used for constructing a club to be known as the Collectivist House. Another thousand roubles have been assigned for a club for the children pioneers (scouts). A project has also been announced for the construction in the near future of a hospital, a pedagogic institute and headquarters for the local government commission in Freidorf.

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