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LITHUANIAN SUPREME COURT QUASHES MURDER CHARGE AGAINST FOUR JEWISH BUTCHERS: FINDS HOWEVER VETERINARY SURGEON WAS MURDERED BUT BY PERSONS UNKNOWN: ACCUSED FOUND GUILTY OF HAVING HIDDEN BODY AND SENTENCED TO ONE YEAR'S IMPRISONMENT.

Kovno, Mar. 9th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Supreme Court in its decision handed down to-day in the appeal brought on behalf of the four Jewish butchers of Szemle, Fleischman, Mann, Lakunishok and Schneider, one of them an old man of 73 and one a boy of 15, has found them not guilty of the charge of murdering the local veterinary surgeon, Avischenis, and has accordingly quashed the sentence of twelve years' imprisonment passed on the three older men by the lower court and of five years passed on the boy, annulling also the heavy compensation sums which the accused were ordered by the lower court to pay to the widow and mother of the dead man.

The Supreme Court has come to the conclusion that Avischenis was murdered, and has dismissed the plea of the defence that he had fallen into the well by accident while going home drunk in the dark from the slaughter house but has returned a verdict of murder against persons unknown.

At the same time it has found the four Jewish butchers guilty of having concealed the body when they found it on their way home from the slaughter house, and has sentenced the three older men on this count to one year's imprisonment, and the boy to one year's detention in a reformatory colony.

Jewish opinion in Lithuania is much more resigned to the new verdict, since it rules out further possibility of antisemitic agitation on the ground that Avischenis was murdered by Jews, the verdict being returned against persons unknown, who might as easily be non-Jews.

APPROACHING PASSOVER FESTIVAL BRINGS UP ANOTHER RITUAL MURDER STORY IN ROUMANIAN VILLAGE: SCHOOL TEACHER EXCITES PEASANTS BY REPORTING JEWS ATTEMPTED TO CRUCIFY HIM TO SYNAGOGUE DOOR: POLICE INVESTIGATION FINDS STORY COMPLETE INVENTION.

Czernowitz, Mar. 9th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

An attempt to start a ritual murder agitation in Bukovina is reported here from the township of Czudyn, near Czernowitz.

A school teacher named Isidore Mankevsky belonging to the village of Nehite, in the Czutyn district, lodged a complaint with the police chief of Czudyn that he had been seized by four Jews in Nehite who had tried to crucify him to the door of the Nehite synagogue. He had also told the same story to the peasants in Nehite, who started an outcry that the Jews had wanted to obtain blood from the school teacher for ritual use for the coming Passover.

The Czudyn police chief made an enquiry and now reports that Mankevsky invented the whole story.

CUZISM BECOMES AN ORDERLY MOVEMENT?: ANOTHER CONFERENCE HELD IN JASSY WITHOUT INCIDENT.

Bucharest, Mar. 9th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Conference of the League of Christian National Defence, the Cuzist organisation, which has just been held at Jassy, where the movement has its headquarters, has passed without any disturbances.

Professor Cuza and other speakers delivered addresses in opposition to the policy pursued by the regular political parties, but there were no incidents.

This is the second Cuzist Conference held in the course of a few days, which has passed without disorder, a very unusual occurrence with Cuzist Conferences. The first was held at the end of February in Suoro-Jinetz (reported in the J.T.A. Bulletin of the 2nd. inst.) Professor Cuza's son, George Cuza, and other speakers who addressed that Conference, declared that they had no intention of killing or robbing Jews, and only wanted an opportunity of free development for the Christians. On the eve of the Conference Professor Cuza had issued an appeal to his friends that the Conference and particularly that which has just been held at Jassy should pass without disorder, urging them in future to conduct their work peacefully for the good of the Roumanian people.

This is a new attitude of Cuza's, the "Lupta" of Bucharest commented at the time, and we hope he will stand by his new policy. It suggests that Cuza intends to break with Codreanu and the rest of the Iron Guard who have been organising terrorism and violence. The whole country hopes, it said, that Cuza is indeed abandoning his old terroristic ideas.

HITLERISM SPREADS TO BALTICS: CHRISTIAN SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LABOUR PARTY ORGANISED IN LATVIA TO FIGHT AGAINST JEWS.

Riga, Mar. 9th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

A Hitlerist Party calling itself the Christian Social Democratic Labour Party has been founded here, the programme being mainly concerned with the fight against the Jews. The principal demands of the new Party are that all Jews who entered the country after 1917 should be expelled, that all houses, businesses and factories belonging to Jews should be confiscated, and that no State loans should be given to Jews. The first duty of the authorities, the programme says, is to provide work or assistance to Letts, and if the Jews cannot make a living they should be expelled from the country.

The Hitlerist movement originally claimed to be modelled on Italian Fascism. At one time the German Hitlerist Press published a report claiming that Mussolini had invited Hitler to come to Rome and negotiate for the establishment of an International Fascist Federation. This report was brought to Mussolini's notice by the Chief Rabbi of Rome, Dr. Sacerdoti, to whom Mussolini thereupon declared that the Fascist movement had never contemplated any antisemitic activity, and that he regretted greatly that foreign antisemites were exploiting the influence of the Italian Fascists for their own ends.

Thrown back on itself, the Hitlerist movement has been making efforts recently to extend its activities outside Germany and Austria. Last month, the German Hitlerist Press reported the formation of a Hitlerist organisation in the Scandinavian countries, with a central organ in Copenhagen, the capital of Denmark, called the "Fajekorset" (Swastika), and the slogan "For the liberation of the Nordic races and against International Judaism". Hitler himself, and Deputy Goebbels, the leader of the Hitlerists in Berlin, were announced as speakers at Hitlerist meetings in Copenhagen and Stockholm, but they were refused admission by the Scandinavian authorities.

About the same time it was reported that Filtler's brother-in-law, Ernst Goelike, had arrived in Roumania in order to negotiate with Professor Cuza and his friends for the formation of a Filtlerist Party in Roumania.

Last November, the German general Press expressed some anxiety over reports which had been received about anti-Jewish outbreaks by people calling themselves Filtlerists in places which no longer form part of Germany, like Danzig, which is under the administration of the League of Nations, and Kemel, which belongs to Lithuania, and also in Latvia, where the new Filtlerist movement is now reported to have been formed, which before the war belonged to Russia, but has a very important German minority. The J.T.A. in New York revealed about the same time the existence of Filtlerist cells among the Germans living in the United States. The German newspapers condemned this extension of Hitlerism among the Germans living in other countries, suggesting that it would do a great deal of harm to these German minorities.

THE SPREAD OF FITLERISM IN GERMANY: ANTI-JEWISH SONGS IN THE TRAINS: MAJORITY OF GERMAN POPULATION CONDEMNS IT BUT NO ONE DOES ANYTHING TO STOP IT DR. LUDWIG HOLLAENDER DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL UNION OF GERMAN CITIZENS OF JEWISH FAITH "RITES: INCREDIBLE THAT IN ONE OF THE MOST CIVILISED COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD HORDES OF PEOPLE GO ABOUT EVERY DAY SHOUTING "PERISH JUDEA".

Berlin, Mar. 9th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

"Smash the heads of the Jews, and thus

"Make the future safe for us".

"Our banner waves proudly over the flood,

"When the sword is running with Jewish blood".

"Get your hand-grenade, and throw it well,

"And let it blow the Jews to hell".

This is the kind of continual refrain you hear on the trains going on a Sunday from Munich into the mountains, Peter Scher, a well known South German author writes in the "Welt-Buehne", describing the sort of anti-Jewish terrorism that now exists in Southern Germany. About a third or half the seats in the trains are occupied by twenty-year old boys, singing these songs lustily all the time, he says, and making it impossible for the other passengers to obtain any peace or quiet.

It would be wrong to consider this kind of thing as exceptional or as an extreme manifestation of radicalism, Dr. Ludwig Hollaender, the Director of the Central Union of German Citizens of the Jewish Faith, comments in an editorial in the "C. V. Zeitung", the official organ of his Union, in which he deals with Herr Scher's article. National Socialism (Filtlerism) is not so strong in Bavaria now as it is in the other parts of Germany, he proceeds. What is important about the whole business is not so much its political aspect as the cultural degradation it reveals. It is incredible that in one of the most highly civilized countries of the world there are hordes of people going about day after day shouting "Perish Judea". It can hardly be believed that in this country it has become a normal matter of routine which surprises no one that a section of the population should be regularly insulted and vilified as the Jews are.

There is no doubt at all, Dr. Hollaender goes on, that the overwhelming majority of the German people do not approve of this coarseness and vulgarity. But what do they do about it? Hardly anyone makes a move against it. Everybody shrinks away from it, and the result is that it struts about in public, loud-voiced and impudent, and not a soul dares to lift his sword to cut off the heads of this hydra.

By far the greatest part of the German students have been caught in the toils of Hitlerism, Dr. Hollaender says, to such an extent that we should give up all hope of the next generation of our people, did we not firmly believe that it will all pass like a mist.

Go through the archives of our Central Union, Dr. Hollaender continues, and you will find a list of gruesome happenings that will make you shudder to realize that this is how things stand to-day in Germany. The Jewish religion is insulted, our Jewish institutions are attacked, our Jewish cemeteries are desecrated, our synagogues are smeared with filth, the ritual murder lie is preached openly, and the law courts let the criminals go free.

Dr. Wirth, the Federal Minister of the Interior, was asked the other day in Breslau by a Hitlerist what the Government was going to do about the formation of a Society of the Godless in Germany, and he replied that any insults against the Christian religion would be severely dealt with by the authorities. That is right, Dr. Hollaender says. The great mass of the population will applaud this statement. But unfortunately that is not the attitude of the authorities when the Jewish religion is insulted. We have recently protested against the acquittal of an editor who wrote that the foundation of Jewish teaching is that Jews are to treat with contempt all civil duties towards non-Jews, that Jews are to deceive, to spoil, to corrupt and to annihilate all non-Jews and swindle and betray the State. Similar allegations are made in public print and public speech all over the country, and those who insult the Jews and the Jewish faith in this way are acquitted by the law courts and the acquittals are upheld by the Supreme Court.

If anyone were to say that German officers are cads, or that German judges are cads, or that German shoemakers are cads, Dr. Hollaender says, the representatives of these groups of our population would bring actions against their calumniators and would have them dealt with properly. But when Jews are insulted in this way, there is no manner of means of doing anything, because the Supreme Court will not have it that an insult against Jews is an insult against all Jews. Any day we can read in the anti-Jewish press that there are no exceptions, that "the swinishness is in the race", that every Jew is a criminal and a scamp. But when it comes to the Jews, the law courts observe the strict letter of the law, and have no use for the spirit. There is a violent agitation carried on against the Jews. We want Jewish blood, is the cry that is raised day in day out, every hour. But the law courts say that it is nothing; that it is not meant seriously, and all these things go unpunished. Suppose it was the other way about, Dr. Hollaender suggests and in some country where there are German minorities, mobs went through the streets shouting "Germany perish!" what would happen then? Everybody in Germany would be rightly indignant. International action would be taken, and with justice. But when it is a question of only a few Jews, why all the excitement? But it is time, Dr. Hollaender concludes, that all those people who are concerned for the common weal should take this matter seriously. Everyone who sees what is happening and does nothing to put a stop to it shares in the guilt and bears some of the responsibility for one of the most terrible waves of enmity that threatens to engulf our German people.

THE WORK OF THE HILFSVEREIN DER DEUTSCHEN JUDEN.

Berlin, Mar. 9th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Hilfsverein der deutschen Juden has for the last thirty years - it was founded in May 1901 - been conducting social and cultural relief work in a number of countries, as the representative organ of the German Jews in the field of foreign aid-work, says a report issued here by the Hilfsverein. At present, the report proceeds, the work is concentrated mainly on juvenile assistance -

giving educational and vocational training to the younger generation, promoting the settlement work in the new Jewish colonies of the Ukraine and the Crimea, and aiding emigrants. A subsidy of over 48,000 Marks has been raised for rebuilding the Jewish Children's Home in Kovno which was burned down about a year ago. The Home is the centre of the entire Jewish child welfare work in Lithuania. The subsidy will provide for the construction of the new building and its equipment. The plans are by a German architect and the Home will meet all modern hygienic requirements. The Hilfsverein will continue to carry on the Jewish child welfare work in Lithuania in close collaboration with the local bodies.

The Jewish population of Poland is suffering severely in the present economic crisis, the report goes on, and the children are under-nourished and live in congested homes. In order to enable them to recuperate for a few weeks in the year under proper hygienic conditions, the Hilfsverein has given 60,000 Marks for establishing five summer holiday colonies.

Cultural and social relief work is also being continued in Roumania, assistance being given to a number of Jewish schools in Bucharest, Galatz, Jassy and Kishineff. Over 45,000 Marks have been spent on this work in Roumania.

To assist the work in the new agricultural Jewish settlements in the Ukraine and the Crimea three ambulateries have been built under the supervision of the Agrojoint and the Ica by funds provided by the Hilfsverein, each serving a population of about 5,000 souls, and fully equipped with medical stores and surgical instruments.

The Haffkine Endowment Fund, amounting to 1½ million Swiss francs, bequeathed by the late Professor Valdemar Haffkine, the famous scientist who discovered the means of fighting cholera, has enabled the Hilfsverein to extend its cultural work. The income from the fund is to go, according to Professor Haffkine's bequest, to assist the Yeshiboth in Eastern Europe, while providing facilities at the same time for the Yeshiboth students to be taught trades. The selection of the Yeshibas which are to benefit from the fund and the distribution of the sums accruing under it has been entrusted to the Hilfsverein.

Over 100,000 Marks annually is being allocated by the Hilfsverein in recent years for emigrant-aid work. 22,900 emigrants and re-emigrants availed themselves of the services of the Hilfsverein in Berlin during 1929 and about 7,900 availed themselves in the same period of its services in Hamburg and Bremen.

The Hilfsverein is also continuing the welfare work on behalf of the Ukrainian orphan children and on behalf of the Jewish students from Eastern Europe who are attending German High Schools which it took up in 1922. The Hilfsverein in this way releases the Jewish Communities and the various Jewish societies in Germany from the responsibility of looking after the emigrants and students and they appreciate this service.

For decades, the report concludes, the Hilfsverein has worked in conjunction with the representative Jewish bodies engaged in foreign aid-work in France, England and the United States. The sphere of activity of the Hilfsverein has now been greatly extended, and its membership has been much increased, and it is hoped that it will be found possible now for the organization to cope to a still greater extent with the big problems of Jewish social and cultural aid-work.

THE ZIONIST EXECUTIVE AND THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

London, Mar. 9th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Zionist Executive and the Political Committee appointed by the Zionist General Council, in joint meetings held on February 16th.-18th. considered the political situation in the light of the Prime Minister's Letter to Dr. Weizmann, says a statement issued by the Zionist Executive to-day. These meetings will be resumed after an interval of some weeks in order to consider the outstanding problems yet to be discussed in the course of further negotiations with His Majesty's Government.

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