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ZIONIST CONGRESS TO BE HELD IN BASLE: DATE POSTPONED TILL JUNE 29TH.
JEWISH AGENCY COUNCIL MEETING ALSO IN BASLE ON JULY 16TH.

London, April 1st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Executive of the Zionist Organisation announced to-day that the Seventeenth Congress will open on June 29th. in Basle.

The final date fixed for the completion of the Shekel collection is May 4th. The number of Congress delegates for each country will be determined by the number of Shekolim received by the Executive by that date. Instructions regarding the holding of the Congress elections have been issued. The reports on the results of the elections must reach the Executive not later than June 14th. The Agenda of the Congress and other details will be published shortly.

The Executive of the Jewish Agency, it is announced simultaneously, has decided to hold the second ordinary meeting of the Council of the Jewish Agency on July 16th. in Basle. The Zionist members of the Council will, in accordance with the Constitution, be appointed by the Zionist Congress. With regard to the appointment of non-Zionist representatives of the various countries, the Executive will issue the necessary instructions in due course.

The Administrative Committee of the Jewish Agency, it is stated, will hold an ordinary meeting in Basle on July 13th.

The Seventeenth Zionist Congress, which had at first been fixed to take place in February last, was postponed to June 15th by the Actions Committee meeting held in London in January, so that the new date means another fortnight's postponement.

JEWISH SETTLERS IN PALESTINE SIGN CONTRACTS TO REPAY COST OF SETTLEMENT BY 1985: CEREMONY AT Kfar EZEKIEL WITNESSED BY DR. WEIZMANN: YOU HAVE CONTRACTED TO RETURN TO JEWISH PEOPLE WHAT JEWISH PEOPLE HAVE INVESTED EVEN IF IT TAKES HALF CENTURY
DR. RUPPIN SAYS: DR. WEIZMANN SAILING FOR LONDON ON FRIDAY.

Jerusalem, Mar. 31st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Representatives of all the settlements in the Valley of Jezreel were present at a ceremony held this afternoon at Kfar Ezekiel, when Dr. Weizmann on behalf of the Jewish Agency and Mr. Leib Jaffe, on behalf of the Keren Hayesod, signed the first contracts with the settlers on the Jewish National Fund land for repayments to be made by them to the Keren Hayesod, beginning in 1935 and to be completed in 50 years, by 1985.

The contracts, with regard to which long-drawn negotiations have been taking place, meet the recommendation made by the experts of the Joint Palestine Survey Commission in their report in 1928.

This day shows that Zionism is not only rich in splendid human material, but in actual wealth, for you have contracted to return to the Jewish people what the Jewish people have invested even if it takes half a century, Dr. Arthur Ruppin, the colonisation authority of the Zionist Organisation, said in an address to the settlers. Dr. Weizmann and others present took the opportunity of the occasion to pay a warm tribute to Dr. Ruppin for his 25 years

of work for the ideal of Jewish labour colonisation in Palestine. Justice and heroism have marked all your steps, Dr. Weizmann declared in the course of his speech to the gathering. You have given the lie to all those experts who do not understand the soul of the Jewish labourer.

Dr. Weizmann, who was accompanied by Madame Warburg-Hahn, the daughter of Mr. Max Warburg of Hamburg, Colonel Kisch, and the Labour representatives Messrs. Farzfeld and Shkolnik, then inspected the settlements of Ain Harod, Tel Joseph, and Geva. He went on to Nahalal, where he was given a farewell reception, and thence proceeded to Haifa where he will spend the first day of Passover. He will sail on Friday on his return to London.

OBSERVE PASSOVER CHIEF RABBI KOOK APPEALS TO JEWISH WORKERS IN PALESTINE.

Jerusalem, April 1st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Chief Rabbi Kook has issued an appeal to the members of the Palestine Jewish Labour Federation (Histadruth Haovdim), urging the Jewish workers in Palestine to observe the Passover. If they have no means to buy unleavened bread, he says, they should eat other food than bread, since man does not live by bread alone. Our brothers are so precious to us on account of their work on behalf of the land of our fathers, the Chief Rabbi writes in his appeal, that they must not violate the word of the law, sustaining our people and our hopes by eating Chometz.

Jewish employees in the Traffic Department of the Palestine Railways will be obliged to work during the Passover week this year, contrary to the arrangements made in previous years, by which they were enabled to take time off for the Festival.

JEWISH RELIGION TRYING TO FIND WAY OF SURVIVING UNDER SOVIET REGIME BY MAKING CONCESSIONS JEWISH ATHEISTS' CONFERENCE COMPLAINS: SEATING MEN AND WOMEN TOGETHER IN SYNAGOGUES GIVING FREE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND CUTTING DOWN NUMBER OF RITES AS LONG AS ESSENTIALS ARE SAVED: WAR AGAINST RELIGION MUST GO ON UNABATED JEWISH COMMUNIST ORGAN "EMESS" DECLARES.

Moscow, Mar. 31st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Jewish religion is making desperate efforts to adjust itself to Soviet conditions, to save itself from annihilation, the delegates complained at the first Jewish anti-religious Congress of the Apikorsim Ferband in the Soviet Union, which has just closed its session here, after adopting a resolution pledging itself to continue a ruthless campaign against the Jewish clericals and all Jewish religious institutions.

Among the methods mentioned as having been adopted by the religious Jews to adapt themselves to Soviet conditions, with a view to the preservation of the Jewish faith are the following:

In Leningrad, the Jews have decided to have mixed choirs in the synagogues, allowing the women choristers to sit together with the men; to abolish the practice of reserving special places for women in the synagogues, permitting men and women to sit together at services; to admit women to the management of congregational affairs, conceding them the vote and the right of election to the boards of management. In the smaller cities, the Jews are opening free Chedarim, open to anyone wishing to learn about the Jewish religion. The teachers are even willing to go home to the pupils, without charging any fee, so long as they have an opportunity of teaching them the Jewish faith. Itinerant preachers, ritual slaughterers and other Jewish clericals follow the Jewish colonists and other Jewish groups about wherever they go, into their new places of settlement, travelling together with them and establishing so-called movable synagogues, to be able to minister to them and keep

them attached to Judaism. All the Rabbis in the Soviet Union, it was further said, are willing now to cut down the number of Jewish rites and observances, willing to sacrifice them, as long as they can save the essentials of the Jewish religion.

The war against religion must go on unabated, the Yiddish Communist daily "Emess" declares in a long article to-day, singling out for special attack the Kaggid (Preacher) of Mozir, Kantarovitch, complaining that he has composed 200 parables of dual meaning, which he uses in his sermons, all reflecting upon the Soviet regime and counselling the people to seek consolation in the observance of religion. The Rabbi of Nakhatchkaley, in Daghestan, the "Emess" further complains, defended in a recent sermon the Mensheviks who were sentenced recently in Moscow, asserting that the big Menshevik trial was in reality an attack upon the Jews. The "Emess" also makes an onslaught upon the "Warsaw Yiddish daily 'Hajnt'", for similarly alleging that the Menshevik trial was largely a Jewish affair, and that because six of the fourteen accused were Jews, the whole trial was an anti-Jewish affair.

THOUSANDS OF WARSAW JEWS GOING WITHOUT MATZOTH FOR PASSOVER:
DISTRESSFUL JEWISH MOTHERS UNABLE TO FIND FOOD ABANDONING THEIR
CHILDREN.

Warsaw, Mar. 31st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Thousands of Jews stormed the Jewish charity organisations to-day in a desperate last minute hope of obtaining matzoth for Passover! Heart-rending scenes were witnessed outside the Jewish Community building, where there was a crowd of over 3,000 people waiting for help. Strong police forces were placed on guard to keep order outside the buildings of the Jewish Community and the Beth Lechem, and other Jewish charitable organisations which were distributing food for Passover, fearing that otherwise there might be hunger riots, as a result of thousands of people having to be turned away empty-handed, because there is not enough to go round. It is estimated that 3,000 out of every 10,000 Jews who have applied for aid for Passover will be left without matzoth, because the funds have been entirely exhausted. The Jewish Community is taking urgent measures with a view to finding additional funds even now to be able to distribute some Passover food among those who are now compelled to go without, fearing that otherwise some of them may be driven by despair to suicide.

To-day six Jewish babies were found abandoned in various parts of Warsaw, with notes pinned to their clothes explaining that the mothers, having no food for their children and unable to watch them starving in front of their eyes, have seen nothing else possible than to abandon them.

It is feared that the critical situation may lead other Jewish mothers to abandon their children, adding this epidemic to the already existing epidemics of suicides and conversions.

150 JEWISH FAMILIES RENDERED HOMELESS BY EVE OF PASSOVER FIRE IN
LITHUANIAN TOWNSHIP.

Kovno, Mar. 31st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

150 Jewish families are homeless and in great distress, as the result of a fire which has destroyed almost the entire township of Plungiany, in the district of Telshi.

VIENNA ROTHSCHILD SAVES SITUATION: DONATION OF 20,000 SCHILLINGS
ENABLES VIENNA JEWISH COMMUNITY TO MEET ALL PASSOVER NEEDS
OF POOR JEWS NOTWITHSTANDING INCREASING NEED THIS YEAR.

Vienna, April 1st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Baron Louis de Rothschild has given the Jewish Community here a donation of 20,000 schillings for its needs, including those incurred in connection with the provision of Passover food for poor Jews. The donation has enabled the Vienna Jewish Community, in spite of the much greater demand made on it this year, to provide Passover food without difficulty to all the applicants.

DISTURBED PASSOVER FEARED BY VIENNA JEWS BECAUSE OF RETURN OF
"ALL QUIET" TALKIE IN CINEMA SITUATED IN JEWISH QUARTER:
GOVERNMENT GIVES ASSURANCE THAT IT HAS SITUATION IN HAND
AND FILM CAN BE PLAYED WITHOUT DANGER OF DISTURBANCES.

Vienna, April 1st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Fears of a disturbed Passover have been roused in the minds of the Jews of Vienna by the announcement that the "All Quiet" talkie which was withdrawn in January after continuous antisemitic disturbances, is to be presented again during next week in the Sweden Cinema, which is situated in the Jewish quarter.

The authorities claim that they are in a position this time to put down any demonstrations that may be attempted.

The American Minister in Vienna, Mr. Stockton, has intervened, it is stated, with Dr. Schober, who assured him that the Government has full control of the situation, and that the film can be produced without any fear of trouble.

When "All Quiet" was banned in Vienna in January, the prohibition order was issued on a Friday, and the Jews of the city had been filled with anxiety that if it continued to play, they would have a disturbed Sabbath, and would not be able to venture into the streets to go to synagogue. An appeal was made to the authorities on this account, just before the film was withdrawn, asking them to have it transferred from the Jewish quarter where it was playing, to some other part of the city.

COMPULSORY SUNDAY CLOSING LAW AS GOVERNMENT'S PASSOVER GIFT TO
CZECHO-SLOVAKIAN JEWS.

Prague, April 1st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Government has decided to enforce complete Sunday closing in Slovakia, starting off with the town of Bratislava (a large and famous Jewish centre previously known as Pressburg) in the beginning of May.

The decision to enforce compulsory Sunday closing, despite the continuous protests and interventions made by the Jews for the last 12 years, is a terrible Passover gift from the Government to the Jews of Czecho-Slovakia, the Jewish press writes, imperilling either the Jewish religion or else Jewish economic life.

The Joint Foreign Committee in its report to the Jewish Board of Deputies in January referred to "a certain deterioration in the situation of the Jewish population" of Czecho-Slovakia, in connection with "the reported intention of the Czecho-Slovakian Government to enforce a Sunday Closing Law which would detrimentally affect the Jewish population", as well as the Velka-Berezna blood libel affair, "and other incidents in that country".

JEWISH CEMETERY DESECRATIONS IN GERMANY CONTINUE: CENTURY EXCEEDED:
HUNDRED AND FIRST CASE REPORTED FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD OF WORMS.

Berlin, April 1st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The epidemic of Jewish cemetery desecrations in Germany show no sign of abatement, and despite all the efforts of the Jewish leaders and the promises of the authorities, is now entering on its second hundred. The hundred and first case is reported to-day from Herrnsheim, near the historic Jewish town of Worms, where ten Jewish gravestones have been found demolished.

HINDENBURG'S EMERGENCY DECREE USED AGAINST HITLERISTS: TEACHERS AND OFFICIALS SUSPENDED FOR CONDUCTING HITLERIST AGITATION AND HITLERIST MEETINGS SUSPENDED: HITLER'S ORDER ISSUED TO HIS FOLLOWERS TO OBEY DECREE SEEN AS CONFESSION OF HITLERIST WEAKNESS.

Berlin, April 1st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The emergency decree issued by President Hindenburg giving the authorities dictatorial powers to put down incitement or demonstrations likely to lead to violence, has been received with great satisfaction in progressive circles, particularly with the arrival of reports from all parts of the country of the suspension of officials and teachers who have been engaging in Hitlerist agitation and the prohibition of numerous Hitlerist meetings.

Hitler's instructions to his followers to obey the decree strictly, pending his appeal to the Supreme Court to decide its legality, is regarded as a confession of the superior strength of the Government and the decline of Hitlerism.

END OF HITLERISM IN THURINGIA: FRICK REGIME OVERTHROWN.

Berlin, April 1st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Thuringian Parliament has to-day carried the no-confidence motion in the Hitlerist leader, Dr. Frick, the Minister of the Interior and of Education, thus putting an end to the Coalition Government dominated by Dr. Frick, and to the Hitlerist regime in the State. It is not believed likely that any of the other Parties will again consent to join in a coalition with the Hitlerists.

Hitler himself arrived last night in Weimar, the capital of Thuringia, on a special mission to try to persuade the People's Party, which had broken away from the Coalition with the Hitlerists, to return to the old arrangement, but the People's Party refused to alter its decision, and instructed its Deputies to vote in the Diet with the Opposition against Dr. Frick.

HITLERISM GROWING IN AUSTRIA: CAPTURES 64 MUNICIPALITIES IN SALZBURG DISTRICT: CONGRESS CALLED FOR APRIL IN WHICH GERMAN HITLERIST LEADERS PARTICIPATING TO LAUNCH BIG ANTISEMITIC OFFENSIVE: PRESS URGES GOVERNMENT NOT TO ADMIT GERMAN HITLERISTS.

Vienna, Mar. 31st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Hitlerism is making big progress in Austria, the municipal elections which have just taken place in the province of Salzburg resulting in the capture by the Hitlerists of 64 municipalities. German Hitlerist leaders have been assisting the Austrian Hitlerists in their propaganda, addressing meetings and drawing up antisemitic slogans for them.

The Austrian Hitlerist Party is calling a big ten days' Party Conference here during April, attended by Deputy Goebbels, the Hitlerist leader in Berlin, and other prominent German Hitlerists. The Conference, it is stated, is to launch a big antisemitic offensive.

The newspapers of the Left are calling upon the Government not to permit German Hitlerists to enter Austria in order to stir up trouble.

CODREANU AND OTHER ROUMANIAN ANTISEMITIC LEADERS RELEASED BY APPEAL COURT.

Bucharest, Mar. 31st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Zelea Codreanu and his colleagues Totu, Danila, Lofter (Cuza's son) and the other antisemitic leaders who were arrested on the charge of plotting to overthrow the Government by violence and establish an antisemitic regime, have been acquitted to-day by the Appeal Court, upholding the decision of the Lower Court, against which the Government Prosecutor had lodged an appeal. As soon as they were released they went to see M. Popescu, the editor of the big Liberal daily "Universal", and thanked him for standing on their side. A banquet is being given here to-night by their friends to celebrate their release.

PALESTINE AND THE IRAQ OIL PIPE LINE: CONSTRUCTION OF TWO LINES CONTEMPLATED ONE TERMINATING IN HAIFA BAY AND THE OTHER IN VICINITY OF TRIPOLIS DR. DRUMMOND SHIELS STATES IN HOUSE OF COMMONS: SIR HERBERT SAMUEL ASKS WHETHER LINE WOULD GO FROM ONE PORT TO OTHER: CANNOT SAY DR. SHIELS REPLIES.

London, April 1st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Details of the new agreement which I am informed was signed on March 24th. between the Iraq Government and the Iraq Petroleum Company have not yet been communicated to me, but I understand that it contemplates the construction of two pipe line systems from a point of bifurcation in Iraq, one terminating in the Bay of Acre (Haifa Bay), and the other in the vicinity of Tripolis (in Syria), Dr. Drummond Shiels, the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, said in the House of Commons this afternoon, in reply to a question by Commander Kenworthy, who had asked whether the question of constructing the oil pipe lines from the Iraq petroleum fields to the Mediterranean had now been settled; what route would the pipe lines follow, and which port or ports, would be used for the seaward end.

In reply to another question by Commander Kenworthy, whether he would let him know when he has actual details, Dr. Shiels said:

Yes. But the question of publication, of course, is a matter of arrangement between the Iraq Government and the Iraq Petroleum Company.

Sir Herbert Samuel asked whether Dr. Shiels could say whether the line would go from one port to the other, and Dr. Shiels replied that he could not say.

Mr. Hore-Belisha, another Jewish member of the House and also a Liberal, asked whether the Under-Secretary for the Colonies could say why there had not been a report on this matter, seeing that it had been debated in the French Chamber.

As I have stated, Dr. Shiels answered, this is an agreement between the Iraq Government and the Iraq Petroleum Company and while we have been kept generally informed, we have not the details of the arrangement.

May I ask whether Dr. Shiels will let me know when I can put another question on this matter, Commander Kenworthy questioned, and Dr. Shiels replied: Certainly.

POLICE ORGANISATION IN PALESTINE NOW IS EXCELLENT DR. SHIELS SAYS IN REPLY TO QUESTION WHETHER IT IS SUFFICIENT TO MEET REQUIREMENTS.

London, April 1st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

In reply to Mr. Hannon (Conservative) who asked the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies in the House of Commons this afternoon if he would communicate to the House the details of the act of brigandage in Palestine which took place on Sunday night, the 22nd. March, between Jerusalem and Haifa, and what measures were being taken to prevent a recurrence of crimes of this character. Dr. Drummond Shiels replied that 23 persons and 8 cars were held up three kilometres south of Haifa on March 23rd. by three armed brigands. The victims were stoned. They reported that they were robbed of clothes and watches to the value of £500, and one passenger was shot and slightly injured. The police were informed and immediately went in pursuit. The three brigands were arrested on March 25th.

The police patrol, Dr. Shiels added, has been strengthened with a view to preventing a recurrence of such attacks.

In reply to another question by Mr. Hannon whether he was quite satisfied that the police organisation in Palestine is sufficient to meet the requirements of the place, Dr. Shiels said:

Yes, I think the police organisation in Palestine now is quite excellent.

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