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22,533 JEWISH SCHOOL CHILDREN STILL ON PASSOVER HOLIDAYS IN PALESTINE BECAUSE OF TEACHERS' STRIKE! HAVE HAD NO PAY THIS YEAR
HEBREW TEACHERS' UNION COMPLAINS: JEWISH AGENCY AND VAAD LEUMI SAY TEACHERS AS MUCH SUBJECT TO SALARY REDUCTIONS
BECAUSE OF FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES AS OTHER JEWISH AGENCY EMPLOYEES.

Jerusalem, April 12th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

258 schools and kindergartens, 897 teachers and 22,533 pupils are involved in the strike of Hebrew teachers which is now in progress here, following the refusal of the Hebrew Teachers' Union to accept the wage reductions decided on by the Jewish Agency Executive, in consequence of which the schools have not been reopened after the Passover vacation.

The Vaad Leumi (Palestine Jewish National Council) is holding a special meeting tonight in Tel Aviv to consider the situation with a view to getting the strike called off, and Colonel Kisch and Dr. Wernher Senator, members of the Jewish Agency Executive, and Dr. Berkson, the Director of the Education Department of the Jewish Agency, have gone there to attend the meeting.

The teachers have not been paid their salaries since December, the Hebrew Teachers' Union declares in a statement which it has issued to-day, adding that the Jewish Agency Executive also owes a sum of £5,000 to the Teachers' Pensions Fund. The Teachers' Union cannot accept the Vaad Leumi's offer to act as mediator, the statement proceeds, unless it is first agreed that the decision arrived at is to be binding on both sides; otherwise the dispute should be submitted to arbitration, each side naming an arbitrator.

The Jewish Agency Executive, too, has issued a statement explaining that although the Economics Commission which was appointed by the last meeting of the Actions Committee had recommended reductions averaging 16 per cent. in the salaries of the teachers, the Executive, in view of the fact that a 10 per cent. reduction was made in 1924 decided now to enforce a reduction of only 6 per cent. The Board of Education of the Jewish Agency (Vaad Hachinuch) has made an appeal to the teachers to call off the strike, and has appointed Mrs. Persitz to act as mediator. Dr. Senator agreed to have a full discussion of the position, on condition that the teachers call off the strike, and recognise on principle that they are subject to reductions of salary, because of the financial crisis, just as much as other employees of the Jewish Agency. The Vaad Leumi administration has taken a similar attitude, but it failed to move the representatives of the teachers who proceeded to issue orders for the strike.

The Palestine Hebrew teachers find themselves frequently compelled to resort to a strike threat on account of the difficult question of their arrears of salary, and strikes of this kind have occurred in most years since 1922. The Zionist Executive has several times explained that the trouble is due to the fact that it is constantly faced by a lack of funds in its Education Budget. In one of its reports the Zionist Executive said: The teachers are profoundly devoted to their work, alive to all problems of education and are enduring the privations which they are made to suffer with exemplary patience. All their good intentions, however,

are frustrated by lack of funds. The teachers are not highly paid. Their salary just suffices for a modest living; but it is absolutely essential that payment should be prompt. They are weighed down with cares and debts and some are literally starving. The Government has made energetic representations to us demanding that the teachers' salaries should be paid. The teachers should be given a reasonable chance to carry out their great task. Their present miserable state reacts harmfully on the atmosphere of the school and its work. The minimum requirements of education work include that the teachers should be relieved of the depressing and humiliating anxieties about means of livelihood.

The situation in which the teachers in the schools of the Palestine Zionist Executive find themselves is cruelly hard, the Palestine Zionist Executive has declared in an official statement. None better than the Palestine Zionist Executive, it said, can appreciate this and none more deeply deplures it than the Palestine Zionist Executive. It has been suggested that the Palestine Zionist Executive should meet its full obligations towards the teachers with respect to salary payments by taking up a loan. This is impossible at present. Under the present system of annual budgeting, the Executive statement went on, the educational work passes through a crisis every year. In recent years also the schools have been opened late because there is an insufficient interval between the Congress and the beginning of the school year to make the adjustments rendered necessary by a new budget. It is impossible to build up an educational system under the pressure of annual crises, hysteria, and hectic planning. A three year plan of development is needed for constructive work; the very least possible is a two year plan which would introduce basic changes only one year after the Congress decision.

PALESTINE ARAB EXECUTIVE CONSIDERING WHETHER TO SEND NEW DELEGATION TO LONDON: ARAB LEADERS INFORMED GOVERNMENT THEY DO NOT AGREE TO ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE BUT GOVERNMENT ASSURED THEM CONVERSATIONS WILL NOT BE ON BASIS OF MACDONALD LETTER SAYS ARAB PRESS AND NEED NOT TAKE PLACE IN PRESENCE OF JEWISH REPRESENTATIVES.

Jerusalem, April 12th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The question of sending a new Palestine Arab Delegation to London (of which there was an unconfirmed report current in Palestine last week - given in the J.T.A. Bulletin of the 11th. inst.) will be under consideration at the next meeting of the Palestine Arab Executive, which is to be held on Tuesday, the Arab papers state to-day, adding in connection with the suggestions made that the Delegation may be going to London to participate in the second stage of the negotiations between the British Government and the Jewish Agency, that the Arab leaders have informed the Government that they do not agree to a Round Table Conference. The Government, the Arab papers proceed, thereupon assured the Arab leaders that Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's letter to Dr. Weizmann will not be the basis of the proposed conversations, which need not necessarily take place in the presence of the Jewish representatives. The Arab papers suggest that it would be preferable to conduct the conversations in Palestine rather than in London.

BANISHMENT FOR ARABS SUSPECTED OF FIRING ON JEWISH WATCHMAN IN PALESTINE: TEN COMMUNISTS SENT TO PRISON IN TEL AVIV FOR CONDUCTING PROPAGANDA DURING ELECTIONS TO JEWISH ASSEMBLY.

Jerusalem, April 12th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Eight Arabs belonging to the village of Mahlul, including the Mukhtar or headman, have been banished for a year from the village from which the assailants who shot last week at Moses Palewitz, the watchman of the Jewish colony of Nahalal, are believed to have come. Two have been banished to Safed; two to Acre; one to

Tiberias; one to Beisan; one to Nablus; and one to Tulkarem. In addition they are each required to deposit a sum of £50 as guarantee of good behaviour. Eleven others suspected of being concerned in the raid on Nahalal have been allowed to remain in the village, after depositing a sum of £25 each as guarantee of good behaviour.

The District Officer, Mr. McLaren, in passing sentence of banishment at Nazareth on the Mukhtar and the other seven Arabs emphasised the bad reputation of the village, and the fact that the villagers had tried to conceal the facts from the police.

Palowitz, who is still in the Padassah Hospital in Jerusalem, is stated to be making satisfactory progress.

Mr. McLaren has also ordered a Poale Zionist, named Ezekiel Kleinberger to deposit a sum of £50 as guarantee of good behaviour, and to be under police surveillance for one year during which period he must not visit the Valley of Jezreel. Kleinberger came before Mr. McLaren on the charge of disturbing a number of public meetings, including a reception given at Haifa for M. Emil Vandervelde, the Belgian Socialist leader and one of the chief members of the Second (Socialist) International.

Of the twelve Jews who were put on trial at Tel Aviv for conducting Communist propaganda during the recent elections to the Palestine Jewish Assembly (Assefath Hanivoharim) ten have been sentenced to terms of imprisonment ranging from two to six months.

PALESTINE LABOUR FEDERATION OFFICES GUTTED IN TEL AVIV FIRE.

Jerusalem, April 12th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The headquarters of the Palestine Labour Federation, Fistadruth Haqvdim, and the editorial and printing offices of the Hebrew Labour daily "Davar" were gutted in the big fire in the adjoining Tel Aviv garage (reported in yesterday's J.T.A. Bulletin), where 43 motor-buses belonging to the Hamaavir Co-operative were destroyed.

The files have been saved, but they are in a terrible state of confusion.

The cause of the fire has not yet been discovered. When it was first detected four of the buses were already on fire. A theory is being advanced that the garage was set on fire by disgruntled cabdrivers resenting the competition of the motor-buses. No one suggests any connection with the new outrages like the murder of three of the workers of the Yadjur Labour settlement.

The bus service in Tel Aviv is again almost normal. The Hamaavir Co-operative, the Tel Aviv motor-bus concessionaire, has mobilised all types of vehicles in the vicinity and has brought in also a number from Jerusalem.

JERUSALEM SYNAGOGUE BEADLE SENT TO PRISON FOR STEALING SCROLLS OF THE LAW.

Jerusalem, April 12th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Arkundji, formerly beadle of the Bokharan Synagogue here, has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment by the District Court for stealing Scrolls of the Law from the synagogue and selling them to a dealer in Scrolls of the Law named Mizrachi, who has also been sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

WARSAW GREAT SYNAGOGUE BROKEN INTO: ORNAMENTS OF SCROLLS OF LAW REPORTED STOLEN BUT J.T.A. LEARNS ONLY CASH TAKEN.

Warsaw, April 12th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The office of the Great Synagogue in the Tlomackie Street has been broken into by thieves, who blew up the safe and according to reports in the Press here carried off a number of costly crowns and other ornaments used for the Scrolls of the Law, as well as a considerable amount in cash. The J.T.A. learns, however, that the religious articles were not touched and that only cash was taken.

SUNDAY CLOSING IN ENGLAND: PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL INTRODUCED IN PARLIAMENT: JEWS MAY KEEP OPEN IF THEY CLOSE ON SATURDAY.

London, April 13th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The text has been issued of the Bill presented to the House of Commons by Mr. E. F. Wise, Labour member for Leicester, to restrict the opening of shops and trading on Sunday.

The Bill is supported by Lieut.-Commander Kenworthy, (Labour), Mr. P. C. Hoffman (Labour), Mr. Arthur Taylor (Labour), Mr. Foot (Liberal), and Colonel Fremantle (Conservative).

The first clause of the Bill proposes that every shop shall, save as otherwise provided by this Act, be closed for the serving of customers on Sunday. The measure then proceeds to exempt from this general prohibition certain classes of shops. These are shops in which the only trade or business carried on is the sale by retail of intoxicating liquors, the sale of refreshments for consumption on the premises, including the business carried on at a railway station refreshment room, or the sale of motor, cycle, and aircraft supplies and accessories, newspapers and periodicals, or medicines and medical and surgical appliances. Local authorities may also by order exempt certain classes of shops from the prohibition during the whole or part of specified hours. An exemption order may be restricted to any part or parts of a local authority's area. It may authorise sales on Sundays at times not within the hours prescribed in cases of emergency and in such other circumstances as may be specified or indicated in the order.

Nothing in the Bill or in any order under it, it is provided, however, is to prevent anybody of the Jewish religion carrying on the business of a shop on Sunday, provided he complies with the following provisions: (a) He shall not carry on the business of a shop on Saturday; and (b) he shall previously give notice to the local authority of his intention to carry on such business on Sunday; and (c) he shall cause to be kept conspicuously posted in the shop a notice stating that it is open on Sunday for the serving of customers but is not open on Saturday.

OSCAR STRAUS MONUMENT TO BE SET UP IN WASHINGTON OUTSIDE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE BUILDING.

Washington, April 12th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The design for a memorial to the late Oscar S. Straus, who was Secretary of Commerce and Labour in President Roosevelt's administration, has been approved by the Fine Arts Commission and the Board of Consultant Architects of Washington, where the memorial is to be erected by the Oscar S. Straus Memorial Association. The memorial, which was authorised by an Act of Congress in 1929, will occupy a site at the head of the plaza in front of the new building of the Ministry of Commerce.

The estimated cost of the memorial is 225,000 dollars, which is expected to be raised in the near future.

President Hoover is Honorary President of the Oscar S. Straus Memorial Association and Mr. Henry Morgenthau is Vice-President.

J.T.A. HEAD GIVEN RECEPTION BY U.S. EMBASSY IN WARSAW.

Warsaw, April 12th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Representatives of all groups and parties in Polish Jewry met amicably to-day on American ground at a reception given by the United States Embassy for the first time to a Jewish journalist, when Mr. John Wiley, the Charge d'Affaires, who is conducting the affairs of the Embassy in the absence of the Ambassador, gave a reception in honour of Mr. Jacob Landau, the Managing Director of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. Captains of industry, bankers and leaders of commerce from every part of the country were present, as well as Councillors and attaches of the Embassy, the United States Consul-General, Mr. Huddle, and representatives of the Polish Government.

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