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JEWISH SITUATION IN HUNGARY NOW MORE OR LESS NORMAL PRIME MINISTER TELLS J.T.A. HEAD IN INTERVIEW: RELATIONS BETWEEN JEWS AND CHRISTIANS APPROXIMATELY SAME AS BEFORE WAR: NUMERUS CLAUSUS STILL PRACTISED BUT IN MODIFIED AND LESS OFFENSIVE FORM: SEEMS TO MR PREMIER SAYS UNDER EXISTING CONDITIONS ALL PEOPLE JEWS AND NON-JEWS ENTERING LIBERAL PROFESSIONS AND CROWDING UNIVERSITIES MERELY SWELLING RANKS OF INTELLECTUAL PROLETARIAT: WHEN CONDITIONS IMPROVE NO DOUBT NUMERUS CLAUSUS BE ENTIRELY ELIMINATED.

Budapest, April 21st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Jewish situation in Hungary is now more or less normal, Count Bethlen, the Prime Minister, said to-day when he received Mr. Jacob Landau, the Managing Director of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, in replying to Mr. Landau's question how the position of the Jews of Hungary had been affected during the ten years in which he has been head of the Government, since the establishment of the Bethlen consolidation regime in April 1921.

The relations between Jews and Christians, to-day are approximately the same as before the war, the Premier proceeded. The fact that Jews took a prominent part in the Bolshevik revolution in 1919 gave a powerful impetus to the antisemitic movement - but in the course of the last ten years antisemitism has gradually lost its hold on the public.

The numerus clausus owes its establishment to that period, he went on. Though still practised, it has been modified and its more offensive features have been removed. The numerus clausus was due, however, not only to antisemitic influences, but to conditions which made it imperative to limit the number of students in the Universities. Hungary had lost three-quarters of her territory, and there were three or four hundred thousand officials, lawyers and physicians crowded together in a much smaller country which could not offer opportunities for all of them.

The numerus clausus is to be less strictly enforced against the Jews, the Premier continued, but it seems to me that all people, Jews and non-Jews alike, who to-day go into the liberal professions and crowd the Universities are bound merely to swell the ranks of the intellectual proletariat. Though I understand the ambition of people to follow an academic profession, under the present conditions it is hardly desirable from a practical point of view. However, when conditions improve I have no doubt that the numerus clausus will be entirely eliminated.

Economic Crisis Hit Jews More Severely Than Any Other Group Because They Are Mostly Engaged in Commerce: 40 Per Cent. Of All Merchants Are Jews: Only Very Small Percentage Farmers: Must Be Recognised However Premier Adds That Jews Are Constructive And Capable Force.

The economic crisis has hit the Jews more severely than any other group, the Prime Minister said, because they are mostly engaged in commerce, which in times of economic depression suffers most. I have before me a book giving some very interesting statistical data with regard to the proportion of Jews in the various professions and trades. 40 per cent. of all merchants and 25 per

cent. of the bankers, lawyers and physicians are Jews. Only a very small percentage of the Jews are farmers. They are also represented to a small extent among the officials and employees of the country.

The fact that the Jewish merchant finds things particularly difficult is unavoidable, he pursued. Large areas have been cut off, and there has consequently been a diminution of the population, and these facts, taken together with the economic world crisis which also affects Hungary, have combined to make the possible margin for the Jewish merchant very small.

It must be recognised, however, that the Jews are a constructive and capable force and that they have contributed very much to the development of Hungary; they play, indeed, a prominent part in the literature and science, the commerce and industry of the country. I know a number of the leading Jews, for example, Hofrat Stern, the devoted leader of the Jewish Community of Budapest, one of the largest Jewish communities in Europe, Baron Adolph Kohner, the President of the Federation of Hungarian Jewish Communities, Chief Rabbis Hevesi and Frankl, Deputy Paul Sandor, for many years a member of the Parliament, and Dr. Joseph Veszi, one of the best known publicists in Europe who has made the "Pester Lloyd", which is written in German, a splendid organ of Hungarian interests. Hungarian Jewry possesses its own organ for its religious needs, the "Egyenloeseg", under the capable leadership of Dr. Szabolcsi, which recently celebrated its fiftieth anniversary.

The Jews in our country, the Premier concluded, are divided into two groups, the majority of them belonging to the Neolog group. The Jews who belong to this group are entirely assimilated, while the orthodox group adheres to many of the old forms. Both groups are recognised officially by the State and receive the support of the Government in their various educational and religious activities.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES HOLDING MEETING WITH JEWISH AGENCY: REFUSAL OF PALESTINE ARABS TO SEND DELEGATION TO LONDON ALREADY IN HANDS OF COLONIAL OFFICE.

London, April 22nd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Palestine Arab Executive has communicated to the High Commissioner of Palestine, Sir John Chancellor, its decision not to send a delegation to London, in exactly the same terms as the statement which has been given in the press, the Colonial Office has informed the J.T.A. to-day, adding that this resolution adopted by the Palestine Arab Executive is now under consideration by the British Government, and it is therefore premature to state whether simultaneously with the discussions between the Government and the Jewish Agency in London, there will be similar discussions with the Arabs in Palestine.

The Colonial Office also confirmed to the J.T.A. that the Jewish Agency leaders have been invited to attend to-day a meeting with the representatives of the British Government, at which questions of Palestine development will be discussed. It was unable to say, however, whether the question of the Development Fund will also be considered, since the amounts required for the Fund have not yet been approved by Parliament. The meeting to-day will, in addition to the representatives of the Colonial Office, be attended also by a representative of the Treasury and by the Lord Advocate for Scotland, Mr. Craigie Aitchison, who participated in the first stage of the negotiations with the Jewish Agency. No representative of the Foreign Office, whose head, Mr. Arthur Henderson, presided during the first stage of the negotiations, will be present, however.

It had been expected that the question of the Palestine Development Loan might have come up during the discussion in the House of Commons last night on the Palestine and East Africa Loans Guarantee Act of 1926. No reference was made, however, to Palestine, the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Mr. Pethick Lawrence, explaining that the Government only wanted to enable Tanganyika to raise a second loan for the purpose of development desired by that colony, and for technical reasons this could not be done without an amendment of the Palestine and East Africa Loans Guarantee Act. The position was he said, that they had a kind of "Alice in Wonderland" position where they could not satisfy the conditions of the Act so far as one loan was concerned without breaking them so far as the other was concerned, and this technical flaw, therefore, had to be done away with. The motion was agreed to by the House.

PALESTINE GOVERNMENT SHOWING FAVOURITISM TO JEWS PALESTINE ARABS
COMPLAIN TO HIGH COMMISSIONER.

Jerusalem, April 21st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Alleged favouritism shown by the Government to the Jews was the subject of a complaint lodged with the High Commissioner, Sir John Chancellor, to-day by a delegation consisting of the members of the Administrative Committee of the Palestine Arab Executive. The Government had allowed Jews to purchase on easy terms 6,000 dunams of land in Beisan, without extending similar facilities to the Arabs, the delegation complained, asserting that the land owned by the Jews was not being cultivated, while the Arabs, were working the land which they occupy.

The delegation also protested against the banishment of the headmen of the Arab village of Muhlui, after the affray in which the watchman of the Jewish colony of Nahalal had been shot. The sheiks had been given no opportunity of consulting a lawyer, the delegation complained.

Notwithstanding the fact that the official statement issued by the Government on the 17th. inst., that the Arab shepherds had attacked the Jews in the Wady Favarit area, the delegation alleged that the fight was started by the Jews who wanted to rekindle the flame of hatred in this area, where, they said, the Arabs are infuriated and starving on account of the Zionist occupation.

NO RACIAL DISTINCTION IN TREATMENT OF PRISONERS IN PALESTINE DR.
DRUMMOND SHIELS SAYS IN HOUSE OF COMMONS: BUT PALESTINE
GOVERNMENT HAS ADOPTED PRINCIPLE THAT SPECIAL TREATMENT
SHOULD BE ACCORDED IN PRISON TO PERSONS ACCUSTOMED TO HIGHER
STANDARD OF LIVING.

London, April 22nd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

No racial distinction is made in the treatment of prisoners in Palestine, Dr. Drummond Shiels, the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, said in the House of Commons this afternoon, in reply to Mr. P. Freeman (Labour) who had asked him whether he was aware that the daily grant for food to Jewish political prisoners in Palestine gaols was 45 milles, and for Arab political prisoners it was 11 milles per day. What was the reason, he wanted to know, for this discrimination; were there any other differences in the treatment accorded to prisoners of Jewish, Arab or European nationalities; would he state the amount of food allowance for European prisoners, and whether measures would be taken to ensure that in future there should be no race discrimination between prisoners confined in Palestinian gaols.

As regards the third part of the question, Dr. Shiels went on, the Palestine Government has adopted, so far as conditions and circumstances permit, the principle that special treatment should be accorded in prison to persons who are accustomed

to a higher standard of living. As regards the fourth part of the question, the diet prescribed for persons receiving special treatment as laid down in August 1930 is as follows: 450 grains of bread, 200 grains of potatoes, 60 of rice, 60 of sugar, 50 of beans, 250 grains of meat without bone or excessive amount of fat, 400 grains of fish, 400 grains of vegetables without outside leaves, stalks, etc., 150 grains of milk, 20 of tea, 15 of soap, and .25 grains of pepper.

This scale of diet, Dr. Shiels proceeded, may be changed from time to time, as on the recommendation of the competent medical authorities. The fifth part of the question, he added, does not arise.

There is a difference dependent upon the former standard of life of the prisoner, Dr. Shiels said, replying to a supplementary question put by Mr. Freeman.

Is the diet of the Jews four times that of the Arabs, Colonel Edward-Bury put in.

Is a man who is half starved when put in prison to continue on that diet? Mr. MacShane (Labour) added, no reply being returned to either question.

DR. DRUMMOND SHIELS SPEAKING AT ANGLO-PALESTINE CLUB DINNER IN HONOUR OF LORD CECIL.

London, April 22nd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Dr. Drummond Shiels, the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. Ormsby-Gore, who was Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies in the Baldwin Government, Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, M.P., son of the Prime Minister, Mr. Philip Guedalla, and Mrs. Dugdale, the late Lord Balfour's niece, will be the speakers at a dinner which will be given on May 5th. in honour of Lord Cecil of Chelwood, by the Anglo-Palestine Club, of which he is the patron, having accepted the position on the death of the former patron, Lord Balfour.

Mr. James de Rothschild, the President of the Club, will be in the chair.

Dr. Drummond Shiels will speak on behalf of the Government, in response to the toast of the Mandatory Power, and Mr. Ormsby-Gore will propose the toast of the Jewish National Home.

BREAK-DOWN OF NEW JEWISH COLONISATION MOVEMENT IN RUSSIA: 20% OF NEW ARRIVALS IN UKRAINE UNFIT FOR WORK AND BEING SENT BACK TO OLD HOMES.

Moscow, April 21st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

20 per cent. of the new arrivals sent out up to the present to engage in Jewish colonisation work in the Ukraine are unfit for the work and are being returned to their old homes, says a telegram which has been received here from Simferopol. The Moscow headquarters of the Government Commission for Jewish Settlement (Comzot) is being blamed for this state of affairs, not having taken sufficient care in selecting the new colonists.

The Crimean Comzet is also being severely criticised for not making arrangements for the reception of the new colonists. The barracks which should have been ready for them last year are still not ready, it is stated, and the motor-lorries which should have been provided to transport the new arrivals to the various places in the interior of the Crimea where they are to be settled have not arrived, with the result that great suffering and hardship have been caused.

Another telegram received from Jankoy, in the Crimea, says that 15 per cent. of the new colonists who have come out there are ill and altogether unfit for colonisation work, and are therefore being sent back to their homes. Those who have been retained are being immediately subjected to careful medical examination and if necessary will be given attention and treatment to enable them to engage in the work. Day nurseries for the children of the new colonists are being hastily organised.

The Agrojoint is rendering a great deal of service by rushing motor-trucks to the places where the difficulties occur to help distribute the new colonists in their various places of settlement in the interior.

RECRUITING JEWS IN LATVIA AND LITHUANIA FOR SETTLEMENT IN JEWISH REGION IN SIBERIA.

Riga, April 21st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Mr. Raschkes, the head of the Jewish colonisation work in the Bureya region, in Siberia, has just arrived in Riga.

The purpose of his visit, the J.T.A. representative learns, is to recruit for Bureya Jewish artisans and specialists in Latvia and in Lithuania, to which country he is proceeding from here.

JEWISH POPULATION IN POLAND NOW EXACTLY IN SAME POSITION AS JEWS OF RUSSIA DEPUTY GRUENBAUM SAYS AT MEETING OF JEWISH RELIEF ORGANISATIONS IN LONDON: THEIR CRY NOW IS - GIVE US RIGHT TO WORK.

London, April 22nd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Jewish population in Poland is now in the same position as the Jews of Russia, Deputy Isaac Gruenbaum, former President of the Club of Jewish Deputies in Poland, said last night when he addressed a meeting here of the Executive Committee of the Federation of Jewish Relief Organisation. Mr. Leopold Pilichowski was in the chair,

The only difference, Deputy Gruenbaum went on, is that while the livelihood of the Jews in Russia was swept away at one blow, it has been accomplished in Poland by a slower but equally effective process. The position is aggravated by the fact, he said, that the Jews in Poland had been deprived of certain opportunities of employment, and their cry now was - "give us the right to work".

Deputy Gruenbaum appealed to the Federation to support, not only the loan societies, which, he said, are doing excellent work, but also the educational institutions which are in great need.

Mr. J. Machower, Vice-Chairman of the Federation, said that during the last two years the Federation had voted a sum of over £4,000 for the Jews in Poland. It was exceedingly gratifying to know that half this sum had been used for the loan societies and the other half for the educational institutions which were so warmly commended by Deputy Gruenbaum.

FLOODS IN POLISH TOWN SLONIM CAUSING GREAT HARDSHIP TO JEWISH POPULATION: FEAR FLOODS WILL REACH PINSK SWAMPS.

Warsaw, April 21st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The rising waters of the River Szczara are flooding the streets of the town of Slonim. Many houses are submerged. The fire brigade is working day and night fighting the floods, and dynamite is being used to break up the ice which is blocking the mouth of the river and causing the floods. The large Jewish population is badly hit and many inhabitants of the Jewish quarter have already been evacuated. It is feared that the floods may reach the Pinsk marshes from which it would be very difficult to drain them.

FOLKIST PARTY CONFERENCE IN POLAND DECIDES TO SUPPORT GOVERNMENT.

Warsaw, April 21st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

A resolution in favour of adopting a pro-Government attitude has been carried by a majority on being put to the vote at the Conference of the Jewish People's Party (Folkists) in session here. A very heated debate took place on this question.

The Conference has also decided to rename the Party as the Jewish Democratic Folkspartei.

The Folkist Party, which was formed in 1907, took its stand, as Professor Dubnov, its spiritual father, describes it, on the principle of national-cultural autonomy. Its programme, he says, was in general outlines the simultaneous struggle for civil and national rights, the creation of a full-fledged national community, instead of the Kultusgemeinde of Western Europe, an autonomous national school, and the rights of both Jewish languages, Hebrew and Yiddish. At the same time, taking the historic idea of the transplantation of Jewish centres in the Diaspora as its point of departure, the party recognised the emigration to America and the colonisation of Palestine as great national factors destined to create two new centres of Judaism, one quantitatively powerful centre in North America, and a smaller national centre, but qualitatively from the point of view of cultural purity more valuable, in Palestine.

LABOUR WING OF AGUDATH ISRAEL CONSIDERS BREAKING AWAY FROM PARENT ORGANISATION AS PROTEST AGAINST INSUFFICIENT ATTENTION TO LABOUR PROBLEMS AND PALESTINE IMMIGRATION.

Warsaw, April 21st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Conference of the Poale Agudah, the Labour wing of the Orthodox Agudath Israel Organisation, which has just been concluded here, has been debating a proposal to break away from the Agudah, because it is not giving sufficient attention to the interests of the workers and neglecting Palestine immigration, and the Palestine work generally, and also adopting a too conciliatory attitude towards the Polish Government.

The Conference has decided to put forward its own lists of candidates for the forthcoming Jewish community elections, instead of joining the Agudah and also to engage in independent Palestine work. A resolution has been adopted protesting against Jewish manufacturers for failure to give employment to observant religious Jewish workers. Another resolution approves of the principle of a five-day labour week, which, it is pointed out, would enable Sabbath-observing Jewish workers to obtain employment more easily.

RELIGIOUS SOCIALISTS ORGANISING WORLD FEDERATION.

Warsaw, April 21st. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Federation of Religious Socialists, which has its headquarters in Vienna, has sent an invitation here to the Jewish Religious Socialist Party, Dat Haavodah (Faith and Labour) to participate in a consultation on the advisability of calling a World Congress to create a Fourth International of Religious Socialists belonging to all faiths. Religious Socialist Parties, it is explained, exist now in Austria, Switzerland, England, Germany, and America, and there are small groups also in China, Japan, Egypt and India.

The Dat Haavodah was formed at a Conference held in Warsaw in January 1920, of what till then had been the Polish Hapoel Hamizrachi, the Labour wing of the Mizrachi Organisation. The Party, it was declared, aims at basing all branches of Jewish life on the religious ethical foundations of Judaism, and regards itself as part of the Zionist movement, participating in the Zionist Congresses. Similar parties have since been formed in Riga, Berlin and Chicago.

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