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THE POGROMS: 50 YEARS SINCE ELIZABETHGRAD STARTED WAVE OF JEWISH MASSACRES IN RUSSIA LEADING TO JEWISH EXODUS AND BUILDING UP OF BIG JEWISH SETTLEMENTS IN AMERICA ENGLAND AND OTHER COUNTRIES.

London, April 27th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Fifty years ago to-day, the first pogrom occurred at Elizabethgrad, starting the terrible series of massacres of Jews that swept over the Russian Empire, and ultimately broke open the floodgates to the stream of Jewish emigration which has built up the great Jewish centre of 4½ million people in the United States and big Jewish settlements in England, Germany, France, South Africa, and other countries.

Czar Alexander II had been assassinated by Nihilists in the midst of his reformist activities, among which were the measures admitting Jews to the high schools and universities, and giving Jewish university graduates, wholesale merchants, manufacturers and artisans the privilege of residing outside the pale. The Jews deeply mourned the death of the benevolent Czar and liberator. Nevertheless, the participation of a few Jewish youths in the Nihilist activities was made the pretext for a campaign to induce the Russian people to believe that the Jews as a whole had been concerned in the conspiracy which had resulted in the murder of Alexander II. Soon after his son, Alexander III. had ascended the throne, the first pogrom broke out at Elizabethgrad on April 27th. and 28th. and during the following six months pogroms occurred in 160 other places in Southern Russia. Thousands of Jewish homes were destroyed, many families reduced to destitution, women were outraged and large numbers of men, women and children were killed or injured.

It was clear, the Jewish Encyclopaedia says, that the riots were premeditated. To give one example, a week before the pogrom broke out in Kiev, the Chief of Police of Kiev warned some of his Jewish friends of the coming riots. Appeals to the authorities for protection were of no avail. All the police did was to prevent the Jews from defending their homes, families and property. To a delegation of the Jews of Kiev, the Governor-General, Drentelen, said that he could do nothing for them. For the sake of a few Jews he would not endanger the lives of his soldiers.

The pogroms aroused the indignation of all Europe. Meetings were held by the citizens of London, New York, and other cities, expressing sympathy with the persecuted Jews in the Russian Empire and protesting in the name of civilisation against the spirit of medieval persecution revived in Russia. The only response to these appeals was the issue of the May Laws, which made the condition of the Russian Jews almost unbearable.

At the Guildhall meeting in London in 1890, it was resolved "that a suitable memorial be presented to the Emperor of all the Russias respectfully praying His Majesty to repeal all the exceptional and restrictive laws and disabilities which affect his Jewish subjects and begging His Majesty to confer upon them equal rights with those enjoyed by the rest of His Majesty's subjects". This memorial was not even read by the Czar, and was returned unopened through the Foreign Office to the Lord Mayor of London.

Hundreds of thousands of Russian Jews left Russia for England, America, Palestine and other countries, with incalculable consequences to Jewish history. The doors of America were wide open to the refugees, the President of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (Hias) said when he spoke last month at the annual meeting of his organisation in New York at which the fiftieth anniversary of the beginning of Jewish mass immigration to America was being commemorated. The Goddess of Liberty, holding aloft the flaming Torch of Freedom, he went on, welcomed the refugees. These defenceless men, women and children, fleeing from man's inhumanity to man, hoped to find, and did find, here the opportunities and the peace denied them in their native country. In 1881 the total Jewish population of the United States was 250,000 out of a total of 45 million. To-day, he said, there are approximately $4\frac{1}{2}$ million Jews out of a general population of more than 120 million.

AMERICAN JEWS RAISING RELIEF FUNDS FOR VILNA-FLOOD VICTIMS.

New York, April 26th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Following an appeal for help for the victims of the floods which has been received from Vilna by Mr. Ab. Cahan, the editor-in-chief of the "Jewish Daily Forwards" here, the Vilna Relief Committee, of which Mr. Cahan is treasurer, is calling a Conference for Tuesday of former residents of Vilna who are now living in the United States for the purpose of organising a relief campaign. The "Forwards" publishes to-day an appeal to its readers for help for the flood victims.

CHRISTIAN SHOPKEEPERS IN POLAND JOINING WITH JEWISH SHOPKEEPERS IN PROTEST AGAINST EXCESSIVE TAXATION: GENERAL STRIKE HELD IN LUBLIN AND CHELM; ALL SHOPS IN TOWN KEPT CLOSED FOR A DAY.

Warsaw, April 26th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Jewish and Christian merchants and shopkeepers in Poland are uniting in a number of places for common action against the excessive taxation imposed upon the trading classes. In several towns they are arranging joint protest movements. A protest strike has just been held at Lublin, where all the shopkeepers, Jewish and Christian, closed their shops all day on Friday and held a protest demonstration in the street. A similar protest strike has been held at Chelm.

On March 11th., 1930 a similar course of action was adopted when Jewish and non-Jewish shopkeepers and others closed their shops, workshops and offices in Warsaw and other towns of the country as a protest against the action of the Polish Government in deciding for reasons of revenue to withdraw its promised taxation relief to the trading and artisan classes. The Club of Jewish Deputies issued a proclamation at the time, in which it declared "that the merchant and artisan classes are breaking up under the pressure of the intolerable burden of taxation. The cry of desperation is going up from end to end of Poland".

The Club of Jewish Deputies also put down an interpellation in Parliament, drawing the attention of the Government to the "catastrophic situation of the merchant and artisan classes, which", it said, "is being economically destroyed as a class. Bankruptcies and suicides", it went on, "are becoming a daily event, even with the oldest and most solidly established firms. Small trading is altogether ruined. The principal cause is the excessive burden of taxation and the unequal proportion of tax distribution as between the various sections of the population, mainly to the advantage of the rural as against the urban population".

INCREASED EMPHASIS ON ECONOMIC REBUILDING OF JEWISH NATIONAL HOME IN COMPLETE HARMONY WITH ARABS URGED BY AMERICAN ZIONIST EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING TO DECIDE ON RECOMMENDATIONS TO FORTHCOMING ZIONIST CONGRESS: POWERS HERETOFORE VESTED IN PRESIDENT SHOULD BE ASSUMED BY ADMINISTRATION: DEMANDS RE-INCLUSION OF TRANSJORDAN AS INTEGRAL PART OF PALESTINE NECESSARY FOR FULL DEVELOPMENT OF JEWISH NATIONAL HOME.

New York, April 26th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Increased emphasis on the economic aspects of the work of rebuilding the Jewish National Home in Palestine and an earnest desire to develop the country in complete harmony with the Arab population are the lines laid down in a series of resolutions adopted at a session of the National Executive Committee of the American Zionist Organisation which was held here this evening, attended by Zionist leaders from all parts of the United States, called for the purpose of considering urgent problems which will come up at the Seventeenth Zionist Congress and formulating the attitude of the American Zionists.

The election of an administration to assume the powers heretofore vested in the President of the Zionist World Organisation is one of the recommendations to the Congress adopted by the meeting.

The National Executive Committee has expressed eagerness to establish more harmonious relationship with the Arab population on the basis of full acceptance of the Balfour Declaration and the Palestine Mandate by Jews, as well as by Arabs.

The National Executive Committee has also demanded the re-inclusion of Transjordan as an integral part of Palestine, necessary for the full development of the Jewish National Home, and the creation of a Board of Economic Development with powers to explore fully the economic possibilities of Palestine, outlining plans for the development of trade and industry in the country.

ARREST OF THREE ARAB GANGSTERS IN CONNECTION WITH YADJUR MURDERS SHOWS POLICE STAND BY THEORY THAT MURDERS WERE NOT POLITICAL.

Jerusalem, April 26th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The arrest of Saleh Shubani, of the Assasi village near Safed, on suspicion of being concerned in the murder of three members of the Jewish Labour settlement of Yadjur, indicates that the police stand by the view of the murders explained to the J.T.A. by an important member of the Criminal Investigation Branch of the Palestine Police Force (given in the J.T.A. Bulletin of the 16th. inst.), that they were not political.

Shubani is suspected of being in league with Ali Sasaani and Mahmoud Othman, members of the Ahmed Tapish brigand gang, who were captured in the neighbourhood of Safed.

Shubani's brother, it is stated, is awaiting execution for the murder of a Druse family in Mount Carmel. He threatened to avenge his brother's death by killing the inhabitants of the village from which the witnesses against his brother came.

With these three gangsters captured, the police believe that the solution of the Yadjur outrage is near, though they have not abandoned the possibilities of other motives for the crime.

We have the names, the police informant of the J.T.A. said, of three gangsters who intended to attack an Arab village from which witnesses came forward to give evidence against the brother of one of these gunmen, who was, in consequence, sentenced to death for murder. The village was, however, carefully guarded by villagers and police, and the gangsters, returning baffled, with murder in their hearts, suddenly encountered a cart full of singing Jews and emptied into them their rifles which had been intended to avenge the imminent death of their kinsman.

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST DR. WEIZMANN OF BEING BRITISH SECRET AGENT IN EAST WERE NEVER MADE BY HIM DR. VON WEISL WRITES TO MR. JABOTINSKY: REPORTS IN PRESS WERE PURE INVENTIONS HE DECLARES.

Warsaw, April 26th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Dr. Wolfgang von Weisl, one of the leaders of the Zionist Revisionists in Palestine, was reported (in the J.T.A. Bulletin of March 18th.) to have declared on his arrival in Cairo that he had proofs that Dr. Weizmann was a secret agent of British Imperialism in the East, and he, Dr. Weisl, would uncover the secret intrigues in which Great Britain is engaged in the East with the support of Dr. Weizmann.

(The Central Office of the Revisionist World Organisation in London told the J.T.A. on enquiry that it had no knowledge of such propaganda by Dr. von Weisl and the Egyptian Revisionists).

Mr. Vladimir Jabotinsky, the leader of the Zionist Revisionists, speaking now with a representative of the "Najer Hajnt", has told him that he has received a letter from Dr. Wolfgang von Weisl, in which Dr. von Weisl denies having made any such statements. He had given no interview in Cairo, Dr. von Weisl writes, he had delivered no lecture there, and he did not consider it his business to stand out against British Imperialism in the East. The newspaper reports of his alleged statements in Cairo, he says, are invented from beginning to end.

Among the papers which seized on the reports of what Dr. von Weisl was alleged to have said in Cairo was the Yiddish Communist daily in Moscow, the "Emess", which published a long article claiming that this was what it had always said was the activity of the Zionist movement - to act as the agent of British Imperialism in the East. Dr. von Weisl had found documents showing that Dr. Weizmann had been receiving £30,000 a year from the British Government for doing this work, it wrote, besides getting a complete chemical factory. To us this discovery is nothing new, it said, but it will open the eyes of some of the petty bourgeoisie and the Jewish working masses who have been misled by British Imperialism, and its agents, the Zionist leaders. Now they will see what is behind the supposed love of the British State for the "people of the Bible", the "Emess" said, adding that it had received information that the Zionist world was split in two by the revelations and that in Vienna, for example, the Weizmannists and the Revisionists were going for each other in the synagogues and the cafes not only with words but actually with benches aimed at each other's heads.

GOOD QUALITIES OF JEWISH PEOPLE JUSTIFY THEM IN CLAIM TO LAND OF THEIR OWN REPRESENTATIVE OF JUGO-SLAVIAN GOVERNMENT SAYS AT CEREMONY ARRANGED TO MARK INSCRIPTION OF PREMIER AND FOREIGN MINISTER IN JEWISH NATIONAL FUND GOLDEN BOOK: YOUR CASE IS JUST HE SAYS AND YOU HAVE SUPPORT OF JUGO-SLAVIAN GOVERNMENT.

Belgrade, April 26th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

A tribute to the many good qualities of the Jewish people, which, he said, justify them in their claim to a land of their own, was paid to-day by Inspector-General Nicolic, when he spoke as the representative of the Prime Minister, General Zivkovic, and the Foreign Minister, M. Marinkovic, who is the Rapporteur on mandates to the League of Nations Council, at a big festival gathering held here by the Jugo-Slavian Jewish National Fund Curatorium in honour of the inscription of the names of the Premier and the Foreign Minister in the Golden Book of the Jewish National Fund.

To-day's ceremony, he went on, is a proof of the noble feelings and the gratitude of the Jews. The attitude adopted by the Jugo-Slavian Government towards the Jews, he continued, is in accordance with the high intentions of King Alexander, who wishes all citizens of the country to have just and equal treatment.

Your cause is just, he concluded, amidst cheers, and therefore you have found the support of the Jugo-Slavian Government.

Delegations were present on behalf of all the Jewish organisations in Belgrade and the Jewish communities in the provinces, headed by the Chief Rabbi, Dr. Alkalay, and other leaders of Jewish life in the country. Delegations also came from the various Jugo-Slavian patriotic organisations.

Dr. David Alkalay, the chairman of the Jugo-Slavian Zionist Organisation, was in the chair.

The Jugo-Slavian people has always been distinguished by its friendship for the Jews, Dr. Alkalay, the Chairman of the Jewish National Fund here, said. Having suffered for years themselves under the foreign yoke, they can understand the position of the Jewish people. The Serbian Government was the first Government, which after Great Britain herself recognised in 1917 the right of the Jews to Palestine. Every Jugo-Slavian Government since has expressed its sympathy with the Zionist ideals. Jugo-Slavia, he declared, might well serve as an example for many a greater State in the love and understanding which it has for its non-Slavic citizens. That is why Jugo-Slavia is held in high honour by the Jews of the entire world, and the inscription of the names of the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister in the Golden Book of the Jewish National Fund is an expression of the esteem of world Jewry for their country.

ANTISEMITIC OUTBREAKS AGAIN IN PARIS.

Paris, April 26th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

An attack on the Jewish district around the Rue du Temple on a larger scale than those which have become frequent in the last few months was made to-day by a group of about 30 antisemites belonging to the Camelots du Roi. They have been making a habit for some time of going up and down the Temple district shouting anti-Jewish cries. To-day the antisemites broke into a cafe in which Jewish customers were seated, and beat them. A number of young Jews rushed up, armed with cudgels, and hit back. The fight that developed lasted for about half an hour. The police were called in to separate the two parties and ten people on both sides were arrested. One policeman and one other have been detained in hospital with injuries.

HITLERISTS FIND GRAMOPHONE COMPANIES ARE JEWISH AND FLOOD MARKETS WITH RECORDS OF JEWISH ARTISTS: BUY GERMAN RECORDS THEY SAY FROM COMPANIES EMPLOYING Aryan ARTISTS.

Berlin, April 26th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Gramophone Company, at Hayes, in England, has just been awarded over 5 million gold marks, which the German Republic will have to pay over as compensation for the seizure of its German branch during the war, the Hitlerist chief organ, the "Voelkischer Beobachter" says. The Gramophone Company is affiliated to the Victor Talking Machine Company, of Camden, U.S.A., both forming part of the all-conquering Radio-Corporation of America and the American General Electric Company. All these concerns are in the hands of Jews. The same is true of their new German company, the Electrola and probably also of the German Gramophone Company Polyphon. The Sales Department of the Electrola is dominated by Jews, with the "German-Englishman", G. W. Neumeister, at its head, other Jews being A. Neumeister, Neumark, and Salmonson.

No one who is keen on gramophone records, the Hitlerist paper goes on, can dispense altogether with Electrola records, because many stars record only for its allied companies, and to get Toscanini, Caruso, Melchior, and others Germans will always have to buy their records. But as far as possible, it concludes, the German public should refuse to buy from these Jewish companies records at prices which are far above those which they charge in England or in America and which cannot be justified in a Germany sucked dry on all sides, and from which they have just drawn six million marks themselves. There is no reason why the pauperised German public should buy records made by foreigners if they can get as good at less cost from German factories employing Aryan artists.

WOMEN AGUDISTS HOLD BIG CONFERENCE IN WARSAW.

Warsaw, April 26th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

450 delegates representing about 200 branches all over the country and about 1,500 visitors, including many Hassidic women and girls, were present to-day at the opening of the Conference of the Agudist Women's Organisation, B'nai Agudath Israel, held in the large hall of the City Building. Madame Sarah Schnirer, of Cracow, the founder of the B'nai Schools, is acting as Honorary Chairman, and the wives of the famous Rabbi of Ger and of Rabbi Levin of Bodsia are members of the Presidium.

The B'nai Agudath Israel movement now comprises 200 people's schools in all parts of Poland, in which Yiddish is the language of instruction and Hebrew is taught as an important branch of teaching, it was reported, and there are in addition several secondary schools in which the language of instruction is Polish, and a teachers' seminary in Cracow, numbering in all 6,500 girl pupils, Madame Reisel Rosa, the Chairman of the Warsaw branch said. The organisation has its own building in Cracow, costing 60,000 dollars and publishes three periodicals in Yiddish, "Beth Jacob" for women; "Kindergarten", for girls still at school, and "Frishinke Blumelech" (fresh flowers) for the younger children.

The programme is .. observance of the Torah and of Jewish distinctiveness; the maintenance of Yiddish; respect for Hebrew as the sacred tongue, war against free-thinking ideas and supposed magic phrases like the "emancipation of women"; war against the tendency to luxury and opposition to the movement for the participation of women in political conflicts.

Messages of greeting were received from Dr. Nathan Birnbaum, from Rabbi Chaim Ozer Grodzonski of Vilna, and from the Central Committee of the Agudath Israel.

The speakers addressed the Conference in Yiddish, constantly quoting passages from the Torah. The Conference has pledged its members to observe Torah and Mitzvoth, and to walk in the way of God. We must be worthy of the piety of our mother Sarah; the modesty of our mother Rebecca; the tears of our mother Leah; the consolation of our mother Rachel; the prayer of our mother Hannah, and the sword of our sister Judith, may they shield us all, and make us worthy of them, says one of the verses of the hymn of the B'nai Agudah.

No men were admitted to the Conference, with the exception of the Jewish journalists who were, however, segregated in a special section where they could take their reports without mingling with the delegates.

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