

(Cable and Mail Despatches)
 Issued by the
 JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY, LTD.

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 London, E.C.4.

Telegrams: Jewcorrau London.
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Vol. XII. No. 101.

6 pages.

5th. May, 1931.

WILL TERMS OF PALESTINE WHITE PAPER BE WHITTLED DOWN?: CAN'T BE EXPECTED TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION DR. DRUMMOND SHIELS SAYS IN HOUSE OF COMMONS: DISCUSSIONS BEEN TAKING PLACE WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF JEWISH ORGANISATIONS ON PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS IN PALESTINE BUT CANNOT GIVE FURTHER PARTICULARS AT THIS STAGE.

London, May 4th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Colonel Howard-Bury asked the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, in the House of Commons to-day whether he could give any information with regard to the negotiations that were going on between the Colonial Office and the Jewish organisations of Palestine, and who were the representatives on both sides.

There had been recent discussions with representatives of Jewish organisations on the subject of proposed developments in Palestine, Dr. Drummond Shiels, the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, replied. He did not think he could usefully give any further particulars at this stage, he said.

Can Dr. Shiels at least give us this assurance, that the terms of the White Paper are not to be further whittled down? Colonel Howard-Bury enquired.

I don't think Colonel Howard-Bury will expect me to answer that question, Dr. Shiels returned.

ARE ARAB LEADERS NEGOTIATING WITH GOVERNMENT?: REFUSED TO NEGOTIATE ARAB EXECUTIVE ORGAN SAYS BUT NOTHING TO PREVENT THEM HEARING AND APPROVING GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS ON DEVELOPMENT.

Jerusalem, May 3rd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Palestine Arab Executive has refused to negotiate with the Government, but there is nothing to prevent them hearing and approving the Government's proposals with regard to the Palestine Development Loan, the Palestine Arab Executive organ "Felestin" writes to-day.

SIR JOHN CHANCELLOR TO REPRESENT BRITISH GOVERNMENT WITH DR. DRUMMOND SHIELS AT LEAGUE OF NATIONS MANDATES COMMISSION NEXT MONTH.

Jerusalem, May 3rd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The High Commissioner, Sir John Chancellor, who is now on his way to London, will be the British Accredited Representative accompanying Dr. Drummond Shiels, the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, at the meeting of the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations, opening in Geneva on June 9th., not the Chief Secretary to the Palestine Government, Mr. Young, the Hebrew daily "Haaretz" reports. Mr. Young, it says, is remaining in Palestine as Acting High Commissioner.

.. In consequence of the decision of the last session of the League of Nations Council held in January not to summon an extraordinary meeting of the Mandates Commission, the consideration of the White Paper and the Hope-Simpson Report will be taken up by the Mandates Commission only at the June ordinary session. The members, it has been explained, will by then have had ample time to study the new Government letter of interpretation addressed by Mr. MacDonald to Dr. Weizmann in February, which reached the League of Nations Secretariat by the end of that month, for distribution among the members of the Mandates Commission and the League of Nations Council. In the case of the White Paper itself, which the new MacDonald letter interprets officially, the Mandates Commission had to postpone its consideration because it had been received by the members of the Commission "only a few days before the opening of the session, too late for their perusal".

WAILING WALL REPORT TO BE PUBLISHED THIS WEEK PALESTINE HEARS.

Jerusalem, May 3rd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The report of the International Wailing Wall Commission appointed by the League of Nations to settle finally the question of the respective claims of the Jews and Moslems at the Wailing Wall, will be published on Wednesday or Thursday of this week, it is learned here.

.. The J.T.A. understands that in broad terms the verdict of the International Commission is the maintenance of the status quo at the Wall. The report, the J.T.A. representative in Geneva learnt during last February, will be a big document, running to about 80 pages of typescript and consisting of two parts, the first a historical survey of the Wailing Wall question and conflict, and the second consisting of about seven or eight pages, containing the conclusions and verdict of the Commission. The Commission, basing its decision on the terms of Article 13 of the Mandate for Palestine, which places upon the Mandatory Power all responsibility in connection with the Holy Places in Palestine, of preserving existing rights and securing free access and the free exercise of worship, while ensuring the requirements of public order and decorum, at the same time making the further provision that "nothing in this Mandate shall be constructed as conferring upon the Mandatory authority to interfere with the fabric or the management of purely Moslem shrines, the immunities of which are guaranteed," has formulated an exact and detailed regulation laying down the rights of the Jews at the Wailing Wall, with regard to their approach to the Wall for worship, and the use of the appurtenances required for Jewish worship, which, in accordance with the terms of reference under which the Commission was appointed, are final, and will now take the place of the temporary regulations issued after the publication of the White Paper on the Wailing Wall by the British Government in 1928.

Although the Commission had been given powers by the British Government and the League of Nations Council to settle finally the conflict at the Wailing Wall, Judge Barde, one of the members of the Commission, who is resident in Geneva, has told the J.T.A. representative there, the members of the Commission had nevertheless been anxious to obtain a voluntary settlement by agreement between the parties than to pronounce a verdict and have it enforced.

They regretted, Judge Barde said, that they had not been able to bring about such an agreement, which he did not think by any means impossible. The aim of the Commission had been to find a way of establishing real peace in Palestine on the principles of justice, and they believed that their verdict embodied such a compromise decision as might have been reached by agreement between the parties, and they were confident that it would help to calm the atmosphere in Palestine, and to promote the great work of peace and goodwill between the different sections of the Palestine population.

The status quo was defined by the British Government in the White Paper on the Wailing Wall issued in 1928. The Western or Wailing Wall, it was said there, formed part of the western exterior of the ancient Jewish Temple; as such, it is holy to the Jewish community, and their custom of praying there extends back to the Middle Ages and possible further. The Wall is also part of the Haram-al-Sharif; as such, it is holy to Moslems. Moreover, it is legally the absolute property of the Moslem community, and the strip of pavement facing it is Waqf property, as is shown by documents preserved by the Guardian of the Waqf. The Jewish community have established an undoubted right of access to the pavement for the purposes of their devotions, but, whenever protests were made by the Moslem authorities, the Turkish authorities repeatedly ruled that they would not permit such departures from the existing practice as the bringing of chapels and benches to the pavement. It is understood that a ruling prohibiting the bringing of screens to the pavement was given in 1912. The Palestine Government and His Majesty's Government, having in mind the terms of Article 13 of the Mandate for Palestine, have taken the view that the matter is one in which they are bound to maintain the status quo, which they have regarded as being, in general terms, that the Jewish Community have a right of access to the pavement for the purposes of their devotions, but may bring to the Wall only those appurtenances of worship which were permitted under the Turkish regime. Whenever the Moslem authorities have preferred complaints that innovations have been made in the established practice, and the Palestine Government on enquiry have satisfied themselves that the complaints were well founded, they have felt it their duty to insist that the departures from practice which gave rise to the complaints should be discontinued.

His Majesty's Government, the White Paper declared, regard it as their duty, and it is their intention to maintain the established Jewish right of access to the pavement in front of the Wall for the purposes of their devotions and also their right to bring to the Wall those appurtenances that they were allowed to take to the Wall under the Turkish regime. It would be inconsistent with their duty under the Mandate were they to endeavour to compel the Moslem owners of the pavement to accord any further privileges or rights to the Jewish community.

PROTEST AGAINST FLOGGING SENTENCE IN PALESTINE PROVES EFFECTIVE:
HIGH COMMISSIONER DISREGARDS JEWISH MAGISTRATE'S RECOMMENDATION
TO DEPORT JEWISH FAMILY FROM KURDISTAN WHO OVERSTAYED
PERIOD ALLOWED BY TOURIST VISA AND GIVES THEM PERMISSION TO
REMAIN PERMANENTLY.

Jerusalem, May 3rd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The outcry against the action of the Jewish magistrate Zukerman in Haifa, who ordered a Jewish boy of twelve to be flogged because his family had overstayed the period of three months allowed them in their tourist visa, has had a sequel to-day, in the granting of permission to the family by the High Commissioner to remain permanently in the country, disregarding the recommendation made to him by the magistrate that they should be deported.

The family, consisting of Israel Ezra, his wife, Zilba, their daughter and son, came to Palestine from Kurdistan on a tourist visa, and admitted having overstayed the three-month tourist period, explaining, however, that they had applied for permission to remain as permanent residents. The magistrate fined the three older members of the family £1 each and costs, and being unable to fine the twelve-year old boy ordered him to be flogged.

The Jewish press and the Jewish lawyers in Palestine protested against the flogging sentence, and Colonel Kisch, member of the Jewish Agency Executive, interviewed the High Commissioner, Sir John Chancellor, and lodged a vigorous protest with him.

COLONEL KISCH AND CHIEF RABBI JACOB MEIR RUB SHOULDERS WITH
GRAND MUFTI AND JERUSALEM MAYOR NASHASHIBI AT POLISH
CONSULATE RECEPTION ON POLISH NATIONAL FESTIVAL.

Jerusalem, May 3rd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Colonel Kisch, member of the Zionist Executive, Chief Rabbi Jacob Meir, the Grand Mufti, and Ragheb Bey Nashashibi, the Mayor of Jerusalem, rubbed shoulders to-day at a reception given at the Polish Consulate here on the occasion of the Polish National Festival, commemorating the Polish Constitution of 1791. The function was attended by the lay and ecclesiastical representatives of all the Palestine Communities.

DURING LAST TWO YEARS NATIONAL HOME SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN A NATIONAL
HOME WHERE JEWS MAY NOT ENTER OR OWN LAND CHIEF RABBI HERTZ
SAYS AT MIZRACHI CONFERENCE: OFFICIALS ON SPOT HAVE NOT
CHANGED: AS ANTI-JEWISH NATIONAL HOME AS EVER: AS LONG AS
OFFICIALS IN PALESTINE ARE HOSTILE ALL AFTER-DINNER SPEECHES
OF LABOUR LIBERAL AND CONSERVATIVE WORTHIES OF NO VALUE.

London, May 3rd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

During the last two years the National Home seems to have been a National Home where Jews may not enter or own land, the Chief Rabbi, Dr. J. H. Hertz, said when he addressed the annual conference of the Mizrahi Organisation of Great Britain and Ireland, held to-day at Jews' College.

After a great deal of unhappiness and a great many promises, more often broken than kept, he went on, we have the present position. Putting the most favourable interpretation on the Prime Minister's letter, the Chief Rabbi said, it does seem to me that the temper of the officials on the spot has not changed in the least. They are as anti-Jewish National Home as ever. They tried to sabotage the Jewish National Home twelve years ago, in the first, in the second and in the third pogroms, and as far as I can see they are still continuing to do so. As long as the officials on the spot are hostile all the after-dinner speeches of Labour, Liberal and Conservative worthies are of no value. As long as the leopards on the spot do not change, very little will be accomplished. According to the interpretation of those officials it seems that a National Home is one in which Jews must not be admitted to public office, and if they hold public office, however, eminent and exalted, they must be eliminated.

The ordinary Zionist may be discouraged by these pin-pricks, the Chief Rabbi continued, but Mizrachists cannot be discouraged. My first utterance in this country was "Only a religious Israelite is invincible. Only the religious element in Zionism can have the courage to survive setbacks". Only the religious contingent in Zionism will remain invincible, because these things are temporary setbacks, and if we continue our work and faith we are invincible.

At no time, the Chief Rabbi said, was there a greater need for the Mizrahi group in Zionism. It is only those Zionists who have Judaism in them and who love the Torah who survive the disappointments.

I do hope, he concluded, that in the near future we shall have a little more light from the Government. A little downright honesty would be heartening. Though the outlook is far from satisfactory, I am eagerly looking forward to the new negotiations to disperse the uncertainty. I should like a little less zemiroth on the part of the Government and some actual food.

Protest Against Attempt Of Zionist Education Board In Palestine To Curtail Mizrahi Education: Bent On Creating In Palestine A Jewish Education Antagonistic To Traditional Judaism Says Speaker: Such Attempts Will Prejudice Raising Funds For Zionist Purposes From Traditional Jewry.

Mr. M. Levine, at one time Secretary of the American Mizrachists, complained that the Zionist Education Board in Palestine was proposing to close down the Mizrahi Teachers' Training College because it had become a danger to the general educational policy of the Zionists, who were bent on creating in Palestine a Jewish education antagonistic to traditional Judaism.

This Conference, says a resolution which was then adopted, protests most emphatically against attempts to curtail the existence and expansion of Mizrahi education in Eretz Israel, and records its view that such attempts will gravely prejudice the raising of funds from traditional Jewry for Zionist purposes. The Conference especially condemns the endeavour to close down the Teachers' Seminary in Jerusalem and instructs the Executive of the Mizrahi World Organisation to take all possible steps to frustrate such endeavours.

Another resolution condemned the alleged Chillul Shabbat on the part of the Jewish National Fund in respect of the Jewish National Fund Bazaar in East London. An official protest is to be sent to the Chief Rabbi and the Jewish National Fund.

Conference Declines To Accept Mr. MacDonald's Letter To Dr. Weizmann As Adequate Withdrawal Of All Objectionable Features Of White Paper; Demands Active Policy From Mandatory Power For Expansion Of Jewish National Home.

This Conference, while recognising that the Prime Minister's letter modifies the anti-Jewish bias of the White Paper of October 1930, declines to accept the Prime Minister's letter to Dr. Weizmann on February 13th. as an adequate withdrawal of all the objectionable features of the White Paper, says another resolution adopted by the Conference.

This Conference, the resolution proceeds, recommends to the delegates to be appointed to the forthcoming Zionist Congress to press for a complete reversal of all statements of policy inimical to the reconstitution of the Jewish National Home and for an active policy on the part of the Mandatory Power with a view to the legitimate expansion of the Jewish National Home in Eretz Israel.

Other resolutions reaffirm adherence to the aims and activities of the Jewish National Fund in raising sums for the purchase and amelioration of land in Eretz Israel to be the inalienable property of the Jewish people; express fullest support of the aims and activities of the Keren Hayesod and records its desire to be adequately represented on the Central Keren Hayesod Committee for England; and pledge support to the Mizrahi Eretz Israel Fund for the purpose of improving the religious educational facilities in Eretz Israel, providing religious institutions in its towns and settlements, paying or augmenting the salaries of Rabbis and Shochtim in towns and settlements, and assisting and encouraging religious Haluzim in agricultural and industrial work in Eretz Israel.

BUST OF HUGO PREUSS JEWISH AUTHOR OF GERMAN REPUBLICAN CONSTITUTION TO BE PLACED IN REICHSTAG.

Berlin, May 3rd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

A bust of the late Dr. Hugo Preuss, who as German Minister of the Interior after the Revolution, drew up the present Constitution of the German Republic, is to be placed in the Reichstag building, the Chief Commission of the Reichstag decided to-day. The funds for the bust will be provided by the State Party, in which the Democratic Party, of which Dr. Preuss was one of the leaders, merged at the last elections.

Dr. Hugo Preuss, who died in 1925 at the age of 65, was described by the German press at the time of his death as "after Walter Rathenau the greatest German Jew in politics". President von Hindenburg and the widow of President Ebert, the first President of the German Republic, paid tributes to him, the latter sending a wreath with the inscription "To my husband's loyal colleague". So important is the work done by your husband in politics before 1914 and after 1919 that the German people will not soon see another Parliamentarian and scholar such as the father of the Weimar Constitution, Dr. Koch, the Chairman of the German Democratic Party, wrote to his widow. His name has become immortal. Preuss was the creator of our Republican Constitution, the Social Democratic "Vorwaerts" wrote. In the Germany of the Kaiser, he could not get a Government post, could not even get his professorship, nor a seat in Parliament. Only because he was a Jew and a Democrat. The Constitution of the German Republic is a monument to Hugo Preuss.

A few days after his death, one of the principal streets in the Teltow district in Berlin was renamed the Preuss Street in his honour.

JEWISH NATIONAL PARTY FOR ROUMANIA A MISTAKE SAYS M. ARGETOIANU LEADING MEMBER OF NEW GOVERNMENT.

Bucharest, May 3rd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Union of Roumanian Jews has not yet decided what attitude to take in the forthcoming Parliamentary elections, but it has declined to participate in the newly-founded Jewish National Party formed by the Jewish Parliamentary Club and the Jewish National Party of the Old Roumanian Kingdom (reported in the J.T.A. Bulletin of the 2nd. inst.). Several Roumanian politicians, too, have declared themselves against such a Jewish National Party, among them M. Argetoianu, a personal friend of the King and one of the principal members of the new Government, who has declared that such a party is illogical, since the Jews have only citizenship demands in Roumania.

RESULT OF CALENDAR REFORM WOULD BE GREATER DIFFICULTY FOR OBSERVANT ORTHODOX JEWS TO OBSERVE SABBATH SAYS SECRETARY OF AMERICAN REFORM COMMITTEE.

London, May 4th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Under the new calendar the Jewish Sabbath would change to a different day of the week each year. The result would be, of course, that observant Orthodox Jews would find more difficulty in observing their Sabbath on a Thursday or a Friday, for example, than they do on Saturday as at present, Mr. O. N. Solbert, Secretary of the National Committee on Calendar Simplification for the United States, writes in a letter published in the "Manchester Guardian" to-day. If the Orthodox Rabbinical position be maintained as necessary to the persistence of the Jewish religion, he goes on, the great non-Jewish population either must disregard it or surrender hope of ever enjoying the benefits of a universal fixed calendar.

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