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SPAIN AND THE JEWS: PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTERS OF INTERIOR
 AND JUSTICE ARE MARRANOS.

Berlin, May 7th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Prime Minister of the new Spanish Republic, Senor Alcala Zamora, the Minister of the Interior, Senor Miguel Maura, and the Minister of Justice, Senor Fernando de Los Rios, are descendants of Marranos, or secret Jews, the J.T.A. here learns from a reliable Sephardic source here in close contact with Jewish affairs in Spain.

Before the Revolution, it is stated, a Monarchist speaker in a debate in Parliament, publicly taunted Senor Maura with the fact that he is a descendant of the Chuetas, the derogatory term applied to the Marranos who live on the Island of Majorca, the origin of the phrase, which means swine-eaters, being that these Marranos make a public show of eating swine's flesh, with a view to demonstrating that they are no longer bound by Jewish observances, while in secret they continue to practise Jewish rites.

Senor Maura's father, Antonio Maura, who was also a famous Spanish politician in his time, was brought up in the Marrano ghetto in Palma, the capital of Majorca, and in his younger days himself practised Judaism in secret.

Senor de Los Rios, the Minister of Justice, has publicly declared that he is proud of his descent from a number of famous rabbis and Hebrew scholars, and many years ago, it was he who took the initiative in demanding that Spain should reconsider the question of the Jews.

Senor Zamora, the Prime Minister, is himself a member of the Catholic Church, but his immediate ancestors observed Marrano traditions.

The Marranos of Spain.

Point is given to this report by a long article by Dr. Ezriel Carlebach, appearing in the Yiddish daily "Najer Hajnt" of Warsaw.

I well recall last Yom Kippur visiting the Marranos on the Island of Majorca, Dr. Carlebach writes, and seeing them go into the church, crossing themselves, and then immediately stand up and start the Kol Nidre service. I saw them as they came out, one after the other in the middle of the service, and put down pots of steaming swine's-flesh outside the doors of their houses, to avert any suspicion of their being Jews.

Now, Dr. Carlebach proceeds, I learn that a child of that ghetto, Miguel Maura, the new Republican Minister of the Interior, promises to abolish the old Inquisitional decrees against the Jews, which have been in force right up to the present day. I can still remember the Jews of Madrid telling me that they got their kosher meat by aeroplane from Paris, because the Spanish Government would not allow them to keep a Shochet in Spain, and now we have a Marrano, Fernando de Los Rios, who proclaims his pride in his Jewish ancestry, becoming Minister of Justice in Spain.

Most Leaders Not Only Of Revolutionary Parties But Even Of
Church And Monarchist Party Descended From Jews: More
Marranos Among Church Leaders Than Among Leaders Of
Revolution.

Those who are acquainted with the position of the Marranos and the Jews in Spain, will not be astonished, Dr. Carlebach continues, for most of the leaders, not only of the Revolutionary Parties, but even of the Church and of the Monarchist Party, are descended from Jews. It should be said that there are more Marranos among the leaders of the Church, than among the leaders of the Revolution. If we bear in mind Marrano psychology, we shall see how that comes about, for if more Marrano children occupy high places in the Church, the more secure will the Marrano parents be in their secret Beth Pamidrash. It has consequently become almost a tradition among the Marranos that at least one son in each family should become a priest, and having plenty of Jewish brains, they generally manage to climb to the highest positions in the church.

Not long ago, when I was in Majorca, Dr. Carlebach writes, I discovered something which has already been made public through the J.T.A. It concerns a Spanish girl, who was canonised by the Pope, and who was, in fact, a Jewess, observing Judaism in secret, according to the Marrano manner. It is said of her that just as she scrupulously observed outwardly all Catholic rites, so at the same time she scrupulously observed in secret her Jewish rites, and did not miss saying her Hebrew prayers each day at the appointed time.

If even the saints are secret Jews, it is hardly surprising to find secret Jews among the Spanish revolutionary leaders and Cabinet Ministers.

The important point, Dr. Carlebach says, is, how do they look at their concealed Jewishness and what do the Spanish people think of it?

So far as the Prime Minister and President of the new Republic, Senor Alcala Zamora, is concerned, he proceeds, it must be said right away that he has never had any idea of what Judaism is. When he was a Monarchist and held a position in King Alfonso's Cabinet, it never occurred to anyone to bring up the question of his Jewish origin. It was only when he became an opponent of the monarchy, and joined the Opposition, that he was attacked in Parliament, and people began to point out that Zamora was a real Marrano name. When the charge was made publicly in Parliament, he replied that he was proud of his Jewish name and Jewish origin, because it proved that his family had lived for centuries in Spain. I am no less an observant Catholic because of that, he added, however, and it is merely by chance that I am not myself a Catholic priest, for that is what my father intended me to be. The fact that I believe that the priests must not have all the influence upon the Government, that is not a religious question at all.

The Prime Minister, then, Dr. Carlebach writes, is one of the hundreds of thousands of Spaniards who boast of their Jewish origin, because everybody knows that the Jews were among the noblest, wealthiest and most respected families of the country. Living as they have lived, mingling freely with the Christians, nothing of Jewish religion, however, has been left to them. On the contrary, the fact that a man is descended from the Marranos only shows that his ancestors were exceedingly orthodox Catholics. If Senor Zamora, for example, is asked why, he nevertheless considers himself a Jew, he will reply that he is a Catholic Jew in the same way as there are English Jews, or Polish Jews.

Senor Maura Minister of Interior Was Himself Brought Up To
Observe Jewish Rites.

Why, if that is so, should he be attacked in Parliament for bearing a Marrano name? The present Minister of the Interior, Senor Miguel Maura, too, has been attacked by a priest who called him a Chueta, a "swine-eater". "Why should it be an insult for a priest to call a man a "swine-eater"? The answer to that is that the word "Chueta" is synonymous in Spain with "Jew". It means that the Marranos of Malorca, anxious to show that they are good Catholics, parade their pots of swine's flesh in public, while behind bolted doors they practise Jewish rites. In Portugal there are tens of thousands of them. In Spain they are found only in a single town, in Palma, the capital of Malorca. All the other descendants of the Marranos who have been scattered over the country have long since forgotten all about Marranoism and Jewishness.

So that when Senor Zamora is taunted with his Marrano descent, it means that the charge is made that his ancestors were guilty of duplicity, practising secret Judaism while pretending to be loyal Catholics, and when Senor Maura is taunted with the fact that he himself is a "Chueta", it means that the worst possible insult has been hurled against him. It means that he himself is accused of being a Marrano, brought up to practise Jewish rites, and to deceive the Church. The reproach is just, for the Marranos in Malorca actually live by the Church. All of them live by making crucifixes.

The present Minister of the Interior, Senor Miguel Maura, has confessed, in fact, that when he was a child he observed the Sabbath.

There is a third type of Marrano, the most sympathetic of them, to which the Minister of Justice, Senor de Los Rios belongs. He, too, is descended from a well known Marrano family, which has produced many Rabbis and scholars. But he no longer considers himself a Catholic. He is an intellectual, a historian, who has devoted himself seriously to acquiring Jewish knowledge. He knows what Judaism is, and he is the only member of the Government who has devoted himself in earnest to the various questions that have arisen in connection with the Jews as a result of the revolution.

Dr. Maxima Cohen, a German Jew, who is a permanent resident in Toledo and is a personal friend of mine, had a talk the other day with Senor de Los Rios, and in a letter which I have just received, he tells me what passed between them. He touched on the question of religious liberty, suggesting that if the new Republic really destroys the unlimited power of the Church, the Jews will be able to return to Spain.

The first duty of all our officials, the Minister replied, will be to protect the personal liberty of every citizen and to prohibit all religious incitement.

This principle was made law on the third day of the Revolution. "We have proclaimed that all cemeteries have been deprived of their Church status. All priests have been deprived of all official rights, and there has been a complete separation of Church and State. The Church is now entirely a private Institution.

I next asked him what effect this would have on the question of the Jews in Spain and whether there would be any opening for Jewish immigration, Dr. Cohen writes.

I have already spoken of this matter with the Minister of the Interior, who is also of Jewish origin, as you perhaps know, the Minister replied. We shall not do anything to hinder Jewish immigration.

I thereupon reminded him that there is still the decree of 1492, which prohibits Jews from entering Spain under penalty of death. Will this, I asked, be annulled?

"We consider it unnecessary," he replied. "Thousands of other laws which were enacted under the monarchy have been annulled. Why should we take just this one decree and annul it, and thereby parade afresh our greatest cultural shame? The world knows without that that we are ashamed now of this folly, and that we do not wish to be reminded of it. If the Jews of other countries, however, insist that it should be done for demonstrative purposes, we shall solemnly annul the law. That I have said now, he added, is the official view of the Republican Government, and above all, of the Marrano Minister of the Interior, Senor Naura."

Spanish Primate Calls On Roman Catholics To Uphold Rights And Privileges Of Church: Prospect Envisaged Of Political Struggle Between Church And State In New Republic.

Cardinal Segura, Archbishop of Toledo and Primate of Spain, has just issued a 4,000-word Pastoral Letter which is causing intense interest, the "Daily Telegraph" states to-day. It deals with the elections to the Constituent Assembly - fixed for June - and makes a strong appeal to Roman Catholics to vote for candidates who will uphold the rights and privileges of the Church. The prospect is envisaged of political struggle between Church and State in the new Republic.

It might even mean that when the Constituent Assembly meets, that both will be dominated rather by Clericals opposing Anti-Clericals than Republicans against Monarchists.

You may dissent concerning the form of Government, or on matters of purely human interest, the Primate writes. But when the rights of religion are in peril, it is absolutely essential that Roman Catholics should unite in order to secure the election of those candidates for the Constituent Assembly who offer a full guarantee that they will defend the rights of the Church and the social order.

To the unbiassed, the "Telegraph" says, it is difficult, on reading the text, not to come to the conclusion that the aim of the Cardinal, in issuing the Pastoral, is to create and cement a practical political union of people and bodies that would resist strenuously any attempt to abolish or reduce any of the privileges of the Roman Catholic Church in Spain. It would seem that the Republican Government has no illusions as to the meaning of the Pastoral. After a meeting of the Cabinet last night Senor Lerroux, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, said to newspaper representatives: "As you have seen, the Primate advises people to vote in favour of Monarchists and Roman Catholics in the forthcoming elections".

JEWISH PRESS IN NEW YORK WELCOMES STAND OF NEW SPANISH GOVERNMENT ON JEWISH QUESTION: A GREAT TRIUMPH IN JEWISH HISTORY.

New York, May 7th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Yiddish newspapers here make a big feature of the J.T.A. reports of the new developments in the Jewish question in Spain and print editorials expressing satisfaction at the stand taken up by the Republican Government.

The importance of the invitation to Jews to come to Spain lies not so much in the practical possibility of the immigration of large Jewish masses, the "Day" writes, but in the satisfaction with which it fills Jewish hearts all over the world. The invitation must and will be regarded as a great triumph in Jewish history.

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We are certain, the "Forward" writes, that the new Spain condemns the sinister powers which oppressed not only the Jews, but every free expression of thought. Spain will have to do very much for the Jews if she wishes to atone completely for the terrible injustice which she once committed. Historic injustices can be forgotten only with new historic acts.

ANTI-JEWISH AGITATION IN MEXICO SPREADING: JEWISH SCHOOLBOY KILLED BY MEXICAN CLASSMATE: CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE ALL OVER COUNTRY DEMANDING ALL JEWISH TRADERS SHOULD BE "ROUNDED UP" AND DEPORTED.

New York, May 7th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The killing of a Jewish schoolboy in Mexico City by a Christian classmate has been added to the troubles of Mexican Jewry, menaced by the rapidly growing antisemitic agitation in the country. The Jewish market-traders who have been driven from the public market-places are in a terrible economic plight, having been refused permission even to set up their stalls in halls which they were willing to hire for the purpose. The movement has spread throughout the country, and no Jewish market-traders are now allowed to have stands in any of the cities throughout Mexico. Chambers of Commerce all over the country have ordered Jewish traders to be rounded up and cleared out of their cities. A list of Jewish traders has been submitted to the Immigration Office with a demand that they should be expelled as undesirable aliens.

The dead Jewish schoolboy was an orphan, 12 years of age, named Boris Rabinovitch, who was brought to Mexico from Russia. The Mexican boy who shot him claims that it was an accident.

The first auto da fe in the New World took place in Mexico in 1574. Four years later three Jews were dealt with by the Mexican Inquisition. The most distinguished of the Mexican Marranos was Luis de Carabajal, who was for some time governor of one of the provinces of Mexico. He was charged with Judaizing on the accusation of Dona Isabel de Herrera in 1590, certain members of the Caceres family being included in the same charge. Carabajal's nephew of the same name was actually executed at an auto da fe in Mexico, in September 1596. In 1607 a relative of his, Jorge de Almeida, was tried by the Inquisition of Mexico on the charge of Judaizing, and during the proceedings no less than thirty-two residents of Mexico were denounced as Judaizers.

AMERICAN INTERVENTION AGAINST MEXICO CALLED FOR: WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT CABLES TO AMERICAN AMBASSADOR IN MEXICO INSTRUCTING HIM TO INVESTIGATE REPORTS OF ILL-TREATMENT OF JEWS.

New York, May 7th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Order B'nai B'rith in America, (which played an important part in furthering Jewish settlement in Mexico in the early days of immigration in 1925) has submitted to the U.S. State Secretary, Mr. Stimson, a strongly worded protest against the wave of anti-Jewish discrimination in Mexico, asking the United States Government to intervene with the Mexican Government to put a stop to it.

The Washington State Department has wired to the American Ambassador in Mexico instructing him to investigate the reports of ill-treatment of Jews, with a view to determining if any American citizens are involved. If no American citizens are involved, it will be difficult for the American Government to make any representations, on account of international usage.

The fact that the American Government has found it necessary to look into the matter, it is pointed out, however, will probably have a moral effect upon the Mexican Government.

According to reports presented to the B'nai B'rith in 1925 by Mr. Weinberger, the Director of the B'nai B'rith in Mexico City, and other local Jewish leaders, there was at that time absolutely no discrimination in Mexico against Jewish workers. A group of several hundred, they said, had for some time been trying to establish an agricultural colony, and for this purpose had been soliciting assistance in the United States. Not a few of the immigrants were taking out citizenship papers with the intention of becoming Mexican citizens. On every occasion that has presented itself, they added, the Jewish colonists had received cordial and courteous treatment at the hands of the Mexican Government.

Several months ago, a report stated, it was difficult to find the so-called Jewish neighbourhood. Now there were Jewish butcher-shops, grocery-stores, tailor-shops, barber shops, etc. Several Hebrew schools were going at full blast, the Young Men's Hebrew Association was open nightly with meetings constantly taking place, and Jewish dentists and doctors becoming more numerous. It was estimated in 1925 that there were between five and six thousand European Jews in Mexico City and about 12,000 Arabian Jews. Other cities with considerable numbers of Jews were Monterrey, Torreon, Chihuahua, and Tampico. The flow of Jewish immigration was continuing steadily. Sometimes four or five hundred Jewish men, women and children arriving in a month. Practically all the immigrants came to the B'nai B'rith Bureau in Mexico City for assistance and were enabled to obtain employment and were given food and shelter until they found occupations and were taught Spanish. One Jewish leader in Mexico City expressed his belief that within the next ten years, by 1935, there would be not less than 50,000 Jewish immigrant settlers in Mexico City.

MR. FELIX WARBURG GIVES 50,000 DOLLARS TO JOINT DISTRIBUTION CAMPAIGN FOR RELIEF OF EAST EUROPEAN JEWRY.

New York, May 7th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Mr. Felix M. Warburg, the Chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee of America, has contributed a sum of 50,000 dollars towards the 2½ million dollar campaign which is now being conducted by the Joint Distribution Committee for the relief of East European Jewry.

JEWISH CEMETERY DESECRATIONS IN GERMANY CONTINUE: 120 CASES NOW.

Berlin, May 7th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Notwithstanding the repeated protests and the instructions issued by the Government to the local authorities to take severe measures against the vandals who desecrate Jewish cemeteries, the epidemic shows no sign of decreasing.

A new case is reported to-day from the township of Eransfeld, near Goettingen, where the Jewish cemetery has been broken into and twelve gravestones have been smashed. According to the latest calculations this brings up the number of Jewish cemeteries desecrated in Germany to 120.

NEW JEWISH OUTLOOK IN ROUMANIA: GOVERNMENT AGREES TO JEWISH PROGRAMME OF DEMANDS IN CONCLUDING PACT WITH UNION OF ROUMANIAN JEWS.

Bucharest, May 7th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The agreement concluded with the Jorga Government by the Union of Roumanian Jews embodies the same programme of conditions as the agreement entered into by the Union in 1927 with the Liberal Government, headed by the late Jonel Bratianu.

Under the agreement, the Union of Roumanian Jews will have eight seats in the new Parliament, five in the Chamber and three in the Senate. Dr. Filderman, the President of the Union of Roumanian Jews, Dr. Ettinger, and Dr. Bercowitz will be the candidates in the Old Kingdom. The candidates in the new Provinces have not yet been decided on.

M. Argetoianu, who was instrumental in bringing about the pact between the Government and M. Duca, the leader of the Liberal Party, and who is a good friend of the Union of Roumanian Jews, took over to-day the post of Minister of the Interior. His occupation of this Ministry, which makes him responsible for the preservation of order in the country, is hailed with satisfaction by the Jewish representatives.

The Programme Of Jewish Conditions.

.. The conditions under which the Union of Roumanian Jews entered into the election pact with the Liberal Party in 1927 was based on the acceptance of the programme of the Union, which pledged the Liberal Party to carry through Parliament a law to regulate the position of the Jewish communities (the Liberal Government enacted on November 3rd., 1928 a law legalising for the first time the Jewish Community, which since 1920 has existed without being an officially recognised body. On November 8th., the Liberal Government fell and was succeeded by the Maniu National Peasant Government, which adopted a regulation changing the Jewish Community from a religious and social organisation as provided under the Liberal Government's law to a purely religious body. Following the united protests of the entire Jewish population, the law was held up, and till the present day there is no officially recognised Jewish Community in Roumania), to grant public rights to the Jewish schools, to give Government subsidies to the Jewish religious communities and to the Jewish schools, and to take measures to put a stop to the antisemitic agitation in the country.

On the conclusion of the pact, the Union issued a manifesto to the Jewish population, in which it said that, taking into consideration the fact that the Union wishes to bring about the settlement of certain problems, like that of the Jewish Communities and the Jewish schools, and that these problems are not in contradiction to the security and the consolidation of the State, whose earth we Jews have sanctified with the blood of our ancestors and our children in three terrible wars, and taking into consideration the fact that the Liberal Party has declared that it condemns equally with us the anti-Jewish agitation which is causing friction between citizens, and that it will always settle the problems of interest to us within the limits of the laws, and in accordance with the interests of the country, the Central Committee of the Union has decided to call upon the whole of the Jewish population of Greater Roumania to vote in the elections to Parliament and the Senate for the lists of the Liberal Party.

The late Mr. Lucien Wolf, in his report presented to the Jewish Board of Deputies at the time of the conclusion of the pact, said that the new Government was apparently determined to maintain order, and to that end had concluded a friendly understanding with the Jewish Community.

Notwithstanding the pact, the anti-Jewish excesses at Oradea Mare broke out the same year, but following the fierce protests made by Dr. Filderman and the other representatives of the Union in Parliament, the Government took drastic action, by imprisoning over 100 students who were found guilty of participation in the excesses, suspending about 380 students from the University, dismissing or transferring civil and military authorities who had failed in their duties, compensating the Jewish victims, and officially condemning the attitude and actions of the antisemitic students, and closing down their Organisation.

The pact which we concluded with the Union of Roumanian Jews was based on a programme which our Government carried into effect honestly while we were in power, M. Duca, the Minister of the Interior at that time, who is now the leader of the Liberal Party, which by a pact with the Jorga Government will have 80 seats in the new Parliament, said in an interview with the London Editor of the J.T.A. last summer.

In contradiction to the Jewish National Party (which with the members of the Jewish Parliamentary Club in the last Parliament has formed an All-Roumanian Minority Party to contest the forthcoming Parliamentary elections) the Union of Roumanian Jews, Dr. Filderman explained to the London Editor of the J.T.A., is not a Jewish Party, but a defensive organisation for protecting Jewish rights. It does not recognise a Jewish nationality in Roumania. It holds that the Jews are Roumanian citizens, but demands that the rights of the Jewish citizens should be respected, that the Jewish Communities and Jewish schools should be recognised, and that antisemitic disturbances should not be permitted. Our objection to a Jewish Party, he added, is that the Jew is not only a Jew, but also an individual, a citizen, and a member of a class, with differing views and outlooks and interests. If, for instance, all the Jews of the country joined together in one party, the Jewish Labour element withdrawing themselves from the general Labour movement, the Jewish employers from the general interests of the employing class, etc., they would harm their own interests and would inevitably find themselves clashing inside the Jewish Party. The Union of Roumanian Jews, therefore, has no common policy binding its members, apart from the defence of Jewish rights, and accordingly, it includes both non-Zionists and Zionists like Chief Rabbi Niemirover and ex-Senator Horia Carp.

JEWISH SHOPS OPENING ON SUNDAYS MUST CLOSE ON SATURDAYS:

SECOND READING OF NEW SHOPS BILL CARRIED IN HOUSE OF

COMMONS.

London, May 8th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Shops (Sunday Trading Restrictions) Bill which repeals the Sunday Observance Act of 1677 and provides for the closing of shops on Sunday with special exceptions, was given a second reading in the House of Commons to-day, on the motion of Mr. E. F. Wise (Labour).

One of the cases for special treatment, Mr. Wise said, was the East End of London, where in certain areas it was customary to have businesses open on Sundays. It was also customary to have businesses to be closed on Saturdays. The

Bill made provision for the exemption of Jewish traders from the general provision for Sunday closing. Under proper precautions an order would be made by the local authorities that where such shops were opened on Sundays they must be closed on Saturdays. There would be proper notices issued bearing on this point and proper administration to secure that the provisions were carried out. There were also provisions that the 52 street markets in London would be governed by the same orders issued by local authorities concerning shops.

PALESTINE PAVILION AT FRENCH COLONIAL EXHIBITION IN PARIS TO BE OPENED NEXT WEEK.

Paris, May 7th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Palestine Pavilion in the French Colonial Exhibition opened yesterday by the President of the French Republic, M. Doumergue, has not yet been completed, but it is expected to be finished in a day or two. It will be officially opened next week by M. Justin Godart, a former Cabinet Minister, who is President of the France-Palestine Committee. A big gathering of French and Jewish notables is expected to attend the opening ceremony.

Mr. Mayer Dizengoff, the Mayor of Tel Aviv, has been in Paris for some time personally supervising the progress of the work on the Palestine Pavilion. The work is already sufficiently far advanced for visitors to be struck by the outstanding design of the famous Tomb of Rachel, in which form the Palestine Pavilion is being built.

PROFESSOR MICHAELSON DYING.

New York, May 8th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Professor Albert Abraham Michelson, the famous physicist and Nobel Prize Winner, who was reported to have died last year in a large number of European newspapers, which mistook a report of his serious illness for a report that he had died when actually he was by the time the report appeared already on the point of recovery, is now lying critically ill and it is feared that he is at the point of death. On the last occasion when his death was incorrectly reported, he had spent six months in hospital and the doctors had given up all hope because of his age. Professor Michelson is in his 79th year.

As soon as he recovered from his previous illness last year, Professor Michelson went to the Mount Wilson Observatory in Pasadena, near Los Angeles, in California, where Professor Einstein was doing research work recently, in order to continue his experiments for reducing to a finer figure his calculations of the speed at which light travels.

Born in Strelno, in Germany, Professor Michelson came to America as a child. While working as an instructor at the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, as a young man, he began to devise methods for improving the determination of the velocity of light, and his experiments are regarded as the starting point of Einstein's theory of relativity. From 1892 till last year, when he resigned, he held the Chair of Physics at Chicago University.

In 1928 Professor Michelson revealed another side of himself by holding an exhibition in Chicago of landscapes, portraits and caricatures, explaining that although he had never had any real instruction in painting he had been drawing since his student days. He had always been primarily interested, he said, in the aesthetic side of life, and it was through aesthetics that he had become interested in science.

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