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JEWISH AGRICULTURAL COLONISATION IN RUSSIA: SOVIET AUTHORITIES HAVE FULL CONFIDENCE IN AGROJOINT AND STAND-BY AGREEMENT CONCLUDED WITH IT IN 1929: RECOGNISE GREAT IMPORTANCE OF ITS WORK: DR. ROSEN AGROJOINT HEAD PRODUCES LETTER FROM GOVERNMENT COMMISSION DECLARING ALLEGATIONS MADE AGAINST AGROJOINT IN JEWISH COMMUNIST PRESS DO NOT REFLECT ITS VIEWS: ALTHOUGH BEST ELEMENTS BEEN GOING INTO INDUSTRY POSITIONS IN AGRICULTURE MUST BE MAINTAINED DR. ROSEN SAYS BECAUSE RETURN TO COLONIES POSSIBLE.

Berlin, May 12th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The charges made recently in the Jewish Communist press in Russia against the Agrojoint, the organisation which is continuing the agricultural activities started by the Joint Distribution Committee of America among Russian Jewry, were replied to by Dr. Joseph Rosen, the head of the Agrojoint, at a gathering of press representatives held here to-day at the European headquarters of the Joint Distribution Committee.

Dealing with the allegation that the Agrojoint has not done anything to prepare dwelling houses or barracks for the new arrivals in the Jewish colonies, Dr. Rosen said that the writers in these papers know very well that the Soviet authorities did not provide the building material.

Dr. Rosen created something of a sensation by producing a letter from the Comzet, the Soviet Government Commission for Jewish Settlement, notifying him that the Comzet has unanimously decided that the various expressions used by individuals do not reflect the view of the Comzet. The Comzet, the letter proceeds, continues to stand by its agreement with the Agrojoint concluded on February 15th., 1929, recognising the great importance of the work done by the Agrojoint, which the Comzet will continue to promote also in the future.

The Comzet's plan to settle this year 8,000 Jewish families on the land has been only partly carried out, Dr. Rosen said. Up to the present 1,000 Jewish families have been settled in the Crimea, 200 in the Ukraine and 300 in Bureya. The Agrojoint hopes by the end of the year to settle 3,200 Jewish families in the Crimea.

The plan for the year had not been carried through for two reasons, Dr. Rosen explained, firstly the cold and wet weather that had prevailed during the spring and secondly the fact that the best elements had gone into industry. It was, nevertheless, most important, he said, to maintain their positions in agriculture, because it was possible that the people who have more initiative may leave industry and turn back to agricultural colonisation.

What The Charges Were.

∴ The kind of charges referred to by Dr. Rosen is illustrated by an article which recently appeared in the Ukrainian Jewish Communist organ "Stern", complaining that "according to the promises made by the Comzet, emigrants of the first and second category were supposed to have been provided on arrival with homes or with money to rent a dwelling place. Actually, however, the building plans have miscarried this year. The Agrojoint, which is responsible for these plans, and which is supposed to carry on this building work, has not lived up to its obligations. Not only were there no homes for the newcomers, but there were not even any barracks prepared for them. It was planned to build 1,200 homes for the old and new immigrants, but the construction of the houses has not yet been even started.

This year was the most critical year in the Jewish colonisation movement, the "Stern" went on. It was planned to move 8,000 Jewish families from the cities of the former Pale to the Crimea and to Bureya. The new emigrants were deliberately chosen from among the poorest sections of the Jewish people. It was expected that many of them would be penniless and in tatters. The most essential thing to do under such circumstances was to provide a proper sort of reception for these newcomers. A shelter house should have been ready for them in the Crimea, where they might get food and lodging until they could be assigned and distributed among the colonies.

We know, the "Stern" said, that our criticism of Soviet organisation will be used against the Soviet leaders by the anti-Soviet press in foreign countries, but we feel that we cannot on that account refrain from disclosing the names of the guilty parties. The responsibility for the catastrophe rests in the first instance with the Comzet, which is charged with the conduct of the migration to the land.

The Comzet has been conducting its work largely on paper, the "Stern" proceeds. Its plans were paper plans. The Comzet must also bear the guilt for the Agrojoint activities which are constantly halting the wheels of the migration campaign. The method of control of the Agrojoint by the Comzet is such that the Comzet officials are helpless in the face of the caprices of the Agrojoint.

MARRANOS TAKEN CONTROL IN SPAIN AND BURNING DOWN CHURCHES AND MONASTERIES CATHOLIC ORGAN IN VIENNA ALLEGES: CRYPTO-JEWS AGAIN TRYING TO DOMINATE SPAIN AS THEY DID IN FIFTEENTH CENTURY WHEN THEIR ACTIVITIES MADE INQUISITION NECESSARY: PLOTTED UNDERGROUND FOR 500 YEARS AND NOW ACHIEVED THEIR PURPOSE: A LESSON FOR ENTIRE CATHOLIC WORLD.

Vienna, May 13th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Marranos in Spain who have taken control of the Republican Government are behind the burning down of churches and monasteries there now, the "Reichspost", the organ of the Austrian Catholics, alleges. The descendants of the Marranos are now members of the Republican Government, it says. They brought about the Revolution; they are the victors now. The crypto-Jews who we thought were dead are now trying again to dominate Spain as they did in the fifteenth century, when their activities made it necessary to establish the Inquisition to curb their power.

The Marranos, it goes on, have been plotting underground for nearly 500 years, laying their plans carefully and quietly. People thought that in all these centuries they had become assimilated, and merged with the rest of the population, but now it is clear that they retained all along their peculiar beliefs and characteristics, waiting for their opportunity. What is happening now in Spain, the paper concludes, is an object lesson for the entire Catholic world.

Vatican Official Organ Blames Communists.

The "Osservatore Romano", the official organ of the Vatican, on the other hand, attributes (according to the "Times") the anti-clerical excesses in Spain to the Communists. Their action, it says, is exactly similar to that already witnessed in Mexico, China, and Russia. The responsibility for these outrages should not therefore be imputed to the "chivalrous Spanish people" and does not reflect upon their honour as a nation. The excesses, however, do impose an urgent duty upon all Christian peoples - namely, "to oppose with firmness and at all costs that international banditry which, being without God, without law, and without humanity, claims through a programme of bestial barbarities to usher in a new era."

Mr. H. J. Greenwall, the special correspondent of the "Daily Express", who is now in Madrid, telegraphs to his paper from Madrid that the trouble is due to Monarchist provocation, and although they have succeeded in creating trouble, he says, the reaction against the Monarchists, and more particularly against the Church, has become violent. Hundreds of priests voted Republican at the municipal elections, but the bulk of the Roman Catholic Church in Spain was and is monarchical, he continues.

The Primate of Spain, Cardinal Segura, Archbishop of Toledo, was a close friend and councillor of King Alfonso. The Primate's recent pastoral letter was a support of the monarchy, and this fed the flame of the latent anti-clerical movement. The flames burnt out when reports were circulated that the Church was plotting for the return of the monarchy. Feeling ran high, and the cry, "Down with the Jesuits! Down with the Roman Catholic Church!" was heard all over Spain. The Primate fled from Toledo and went into hiding, and this afternoon he travelled to the French frontier in a motor-car and passed over to safety by way of Hendaye. Priests and nuns are still fleeing from Spain in their hundreds, he writes.

THE ANTI-JEWISH MOVEMENT IN MEXICO: POLISH GOVERNMENT INTERVENES WITH MEXICAN FOREIGN MINISTER ON BEHALF OF POLISH JEWS AFFECTED: POLISH CONSUL TOLD MEXICAN FOREIGN MINISTRY IN FAVOUR OF TRADING RIGHTS FOR FOREIGNERS BUT MINISTRY OF INTERIOR ANTAGONISTIC: PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIC MAY BE ASKED TO DECIDE CONFLICT BETWEEN THEM.

Warsaw, May 13th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The question of trading rights for foreigners living in Mexico has been for a long time in dispute between the Mexican Ministry of the Interior and the Mexican Foreign Ministry, the Foreign Minister being in favour of according such rights to foreign residents, the Polish Foreign Ministry informed the J.T.A. here to-day. This information it has received from the Polish Consul in Mexico, M. Merdinger, who has intervened with the Mexican Government on behalf of the Polish Jews in Mexico, who are affected by the anti-Jewish agitation.

A special commission has been appointed to settle the question in dispute between the two Ministries, and if it fails to reach agreement, the final decision will lie with the President of the Republic, Senor Rubio.

Dr. Maurice B. Hexter's Report On Jewish Conditions In
Mexico.

Dr. Maurice B. Hexter, now a member of the Jewish Agency Executive, who spent a long time in Mexico in 1924-25 on behalf of the Emergency Committee for Jewish Refugees, to study the situation and report to American Jewry whether Jewish immigration to Mexico should be stimulated, reported against accepting the offer made by the Mexican Government of the time to colonise a large number of Jewish refugees in Mexico. He reported that it was inadvisable for the Emergency Committee to encourage and stimulate immigration to Mexico: he even suggested that it would be wise for the Committee to discourage further movement to Mexico.

On the subject of antisemitism, Dr. Hexter wrote that "at this time there is little or no feeling against the Jews as such, though there is against strangers, as, for example, in the treatment accorded foreigners by trade unions. There are signs, however, that such a feeling of antisemitism is not far off. It begins when the Jew comes into active competition with others.

Dr. Hexter found considerable smouldering antisemitism whose recrudescence he feared. For example, at Easter time effigies of Judas are burnt, shot at, or exploded all over Mexico.

One paper, the "Revista Yucatan", writing of the offer made by President Calles at that time to Jews to come to Mexico, said that Calles was yielding to the Jews so that they could fill themselves up like leeches and after sucking the blood throw aside the remains.

Rabbi Martin Zigelonka, speaking before the Central Conference of American Rabbis in 1923, said "the hand of the Inquisition still hangs heavy over Mexico, and the word "Jew" is only whispered here and there, and the Jews do not know each other.

A wealthy Jewish merchant of Mexico City wrote that "One has to be aware of the fact that the environment is strictly Latin and thoroughly Roman Catholic. There is a lack of tolerance, as known in Anglo-Saxon countries, and the danger consists in that after some years, some political organisation will avail itself of any animosity against Jews, to find sufficient support for its political struggle. Such an event would, of course, create a very critical situation, and involve perhaps not only the Jews residing in Mexico, but also the Jews of other countries. Therefore, I would say that no question of desirability of such an immigration could ever be raised."

There is no doubt, Dr. Hexter said, that the severer the competition becomes the more readily will antisemitism develop. It will be no answer to say that the price of commodities has been brought down by such competition.

Most of the immigrants, Dr. Hexter found, had come from Poland, a smaller number from what was Austro-Hungary, and a number from Soviet Russia. Speaking of the occupational distribution of the immigrants, he said that in the cities, away from the Federal District, they are almost solely pedlars; occasionally, they have acquired sufficient capital, or have had it sent to them to establish small stands where hardware or dry goods are sold. Some sell upon the instalment plans. In the small towns he found no artisans whatever. One can readily imagine, he said, that the number of pedlars is far too large. The enmity of the store-keepers has been aroused and they are exerting more pressure upon the Administration to charge higher and higher fees for the privilege.

2,000 JEWS CONVERTED IN AMERICA BY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ITS
BOARD ON MISSIONARY ACTIVITY AMONG JEWS REPORTS.

New York, May 13th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Approximately 2,000 Jews have been converted by Presbyterian Churches in America, the report of the Presbyterian Board of National Missions on Missionary Activity among Jews, which has just been issued here claims.

The great number of Jewish stock in our Churches, the report says, reveals the value of the work carried on among the Jews. For many Jews the ancient faith is losing its religious appeal. Many Jews have left the synagogues, many to become irreligious; others are philosophical atheists, while the rest are still in search of spiritual satisfaction.

The leading Rabbis here denounce the report, and contend that the claim of 2,000 converts is immensely exaggerated. The missionary efforts of the Christian Churches are not successful, they declare, and the money they spend in winning Jewish converts is wasted.

The Home Missions Council, representing 30 denominational groups meeting in the First Presbyterian Church in Atlantic City in January 1929 adopted a declaration reaffirming its belief in "the right to spread the Gospel of Christ among all people". The declaration was made in reply to an appeal by Rabbi Dr. Israel Goldstein, of New York, who pleaded with the Council for the cessation of proselytising activities among Jews. "To neglect this", the declaration said, "would be a direct violation of this central command of our religion."

We desire to assure Dr. Goldstein, the declaration went on, of our hearty co-operation in the cultivating and propagating of goodwill, civic righteousness, social service, and national loyalty between Jews and Christians everywhere. We wish to say that when little children from Jewish families come to our churches, Sunday schools, and neighbourhood houses, we believe that it is desirable they should come with the consent and approval of their parents. We do not believe in the conversion of men and women to Christianity by bribes or bait. We are grateful for the spiritual contributions to our American civilisation by every faith and are in perfect sympathy with the American principle of giving the largest possible liberty to all faiths in contributing to our American life. In accordance with this American principle, we insist that every group has the right to propagate their faith, and in accordance with this principle, we affirm that the Gospel of Christ is the Gospel for the whole world.

Protests against the conversionist activity carried on by the churches in America were made also a few weeks before that, in December 1928 by Rabbi Nathan Krass and Rabbi David de Sola Pool, at a Jewish-Christian Goodwill meeting held in New York attended by 800 representatives of the Jewish, Protestant and Catholic faiths, including the Rev. Dr. S. Parkes Cadman, the Honorary President of the Goodwill Committee of the Federal Churches of America, and Rev. Howard Robbins, Dean of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine.

The Central Conference of American Rabbis, and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations have several times made formal protests against Christian Conversionist Activity.

The Rev. Thomas Burgess, the Secretary of the National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church of America, speaking at the annual Synod of the Provinces of New York, New Jersey and Porto Rico, claimed that many American Jews can be converted to Christianity. "if the proper education method" is employed. There are three million Jews in the Province of the Synod, he said, many of whom can be converted.

In a survey of the activity of Mission Houses in the East Side of New York made by the Metropolitan League of Jewish Community Associations, contained in a report of its investigations into the activity of eleven institutions, whose avowed purpose it is to carry on proselytising activities among the younger generation of Jews, it was said: The facts presented here are evidence of an organised effort on the part of Christian missionaries to attract the Jewish youth and adults for the ultimate purpose of breaking down the ties of their own faith and adopting Christianity. The Missions have fanatical workers, considerable funds and in most cases attractive facilities and activities to offer to the Jewish population gratis. The very fact that they do succeed in attracting considerable numbers of Jews and even converting some to Christianity, encourages these Missions in their efforts. While the figures reported by the Missionaries for Jewish attendance and conversions may be exaggerated and are even suspected to be so by the leading missionaries, the fact remains that the Missions are a pernicious influence to the well-being of our Jewish life in this area and form a problem that requires attention and action on the part of the Jewish Community.

JEWS AND MISSIONARIES IN SOUTH AFRICA: DUTCH REFORMED CHURCH SYNOD REPORT SAYS JEWS SEEM TO REGARD MISSIONARY AS ONE SKILLED IN FISHING IN TROUBLED WATERS: APPEAR TO THINK MISSIONARY OBTAINS THOUSANDS OF POUNDS FOR EACH CONVERT AND CHURCH HAS TONS OF MONEY FOR THIS SORT OF WORK: ONE MISSIONARY LABOURED AMONG JEWS FOR FIVE YEARS WITHOUT MAKING SINGLE CONVERT: "BUT THIS NOT SURPRISING WHEN IT IS REMEMBERED THESE PEOPLE HAVE TIME AND RESPECT FOR NOTHING BUT CAPITAL AND CAPITALISTS AND ARE CLEARLY WORSHIPPERS OF MAMMON".

Johannesburg, April 17th. (J.T.A. Mail Service).

Jews and Roman Catholics are the subjects of two remarkable reports submitted to the Dutch Reformed Church Synod, now sitting in Pretoria, the Press here states.

As far as Jews are concerned, it is stated that a missionary has laboured among them for five years without making a single convert, but that this is not surprising when it is remembered that he was dealing with "people who are strangers to the God of their forefathers, who have time and respect for nothing else but capital and capitalists, and who are clearly worshippers of Mammon".

Jews seem to regard a missionary as one skilled in the art of fishing in troubled waters, the report states elsewhere. They appear, it says, to be under the impression that the missionary obtains thousands of pounds for each convert, and that the Church has tons of money for this sort of work. Instances are related of Jews who said they wished to become Christians, but before doing so wanted to know what the Church would do for them if they were persecuted by their erstwhile co-religionists.

A converted Jewess is doing good work among the Jewish Community in Bloemfontein, the report adds.

In regard to Roman Catholics, it is recommended that every possible avenue should be explored to warn the people of the dangers which beset them in this connection. Propaganda against the payment of State subsidies to Roman Catholic schools is suggested, and the co-operation of all Protestant churches in fighting this is urged.

Placards in prominent positions in the Synod chamber proclaim that, out of the world's total population of 1,850,000,000 people, there are 206,900,000 Protestants living in "sunlight"; 475,000,000 Greek and Roman Catholics living in "twilight"; 225,150,000 Jews and Mohammedans living in "moonlight"; and 942,450,000 heathens living in "darkness".

We must extend to our Dutch Reformed friends our sincere sympathy, the "Zionist Record" here comments in an editorial. That one of their missionaries should have laboured among the Jews for five years without making a single convert is indeed discouraging. As against this, however, one learns that a converted Jewess is doing "good work" amongst Bloemfontein Jewry. One does not know with what feelings Bloemfontein Jewry will receive this news, but there is very little doubt that the chief constituent of their emotions will be surprise.

We notice that the report castigates the Jews for thinking that the missionary among them is working for profit to the extent of thousands of pounds per convert. This misguided idea on the part of the Jews probably springs from the fairly well-established fact in regard to the leading societies for the conversion of the Jews in England, that on dividing the number of converts into the expense account it appears that it does, in fact, cost several thousand pounds to perform the operation which has been described as "turning a bad Jew into a worse Christian".

We are sorry that we cannot take the whole matter with very great seriousness; and when we read that the walls of the Synod chamber in Pretoria are placarded with statements in which the Protestants are living in sunlight, the Roman Catholic and Greek Churches in twilight and the Jews and Mohammedans in moonlight, we cannot help suggesting to our zealous friends of the Dutch Reformed Church that their missionary work amongst the Jews might be characterised, with all respect, as moonshine.

PROVED THAT DR. GUENTHER'S ASSAILANT IS NOT JEW HITLERIST PAPER NOW CONTENDS HE WAS HIRED BY JEWS.

Berlin, May 13th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Now that it has been proved that Dr. Guenther's assailant, whose name is Karl Danbauer, belongs to an Austrian family without any Jewish blood affiliations, the Hitlerist "Freiheitskampf" has started to insist that he was hired by Jews to murder Dr. Guenther, in order to rid the of a formidable foe who is establishing the anti-Jewish race principle on a scientific basis.

MINISTER OF JUSTICE IN ROUMANIA ISSUES ORDERS TO ARREST CUZIST AGITATORS: ESTABLISHED THAT THEY ARE CONDUCTING DANGEROUS ACTIVITY UNDER CLOAK OF ELECTION PROPAGANDA.

Bucharest, May 13th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Minister of Justice, M. Hamangiu, has established that the Cuzists are conducting a dangerous incitement campaign under the cloak of election propaganda, and he has therefore issued instructions to all local authorities to take immediate steps to deal with agitators under the Marzescu anti-incitement law, enacted by the former Liberal Minister of Justice, K. Marzescu, by putting them on trial on the charge of incitement to revolutionary disorder, and sentencing them with all the rigour of the law.

The students in Bucharest have launched a protest against the President of the Roumanian Students' Organisation standing as a candidate on the Cuzist list in the district of Orhei. His candidature is purely personal, they declare, and in no way involves the Students' Organisation.

PALESTINE ARAB EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT MOUSSA KAZIM PASHA RESIGNS:
AGE AND ILL HEALTH GIVEN AS REASONS BUT SUGGESTED DUE TO
POLITICAL DIFFERENCES PARTICULARLY OVER PALESTINE DEVELOP-
MENT PLAN.

Jerusalem, May 13th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Moussa Kazim Pasha el Hussein, the President of the Palestine Arab Executive, has resigned his position, on account of age and ill-health.

He is a national figure, the head of the movement to which he has given his life, the Palestine Arab organ "Al Hayat" says in announcing his resignation this evening.

According to a reliable source, Moussa Kazim Pasha's resignation is due to political differences, especially in connection with the Arab attitude on the development plan.

The question of his successor, it is expected, will be decided shortly at a special meeting of the Palestine Arab Executive. The most important candidates are Jemal Hussein and Auni Bey Abdul Hadi, the former the chief supporter of the Grand Mufti, and the latter more independent, more moderate, and generally considered anti-Mufti.

STRIKE OR NO STRIKE ON PALESTINE DAY NEXT WEEK: ANOTHER CLASH
BETWEEN ARAB EXECUTIVE AND GRAND MUFTI.

Jerusalem, May 13th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The observance of Palestine Day on May 16th. will not involve any stoppage of work, the Administrative Committee of the Palestine Arab Executive announces, in urging Moslem attendance at the Mosques on that day.

The Grand Mufti's organ "El James el Arabia", on the other hand, urges a strike, and a similar attitude is taken by the Young Men's Moslem Association.

PALESTINE ECONOMIC CORPORATION ELECTS MR. JULIUS SIMON AS
PRESIDENT TO SUCCEED MR. BERNARD FLEXNER RETIRING BECAUSE
OF ILL-HEALTH: MR. FLEXNER CONTINUES AS CHAIRMAN OF DIRECT-
ORS: MR. FELIX WARBURG HONORARY PRESIDENT.

New York, May 13th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Mr. Julius Simon has been elected President of the Palestine Economic Corporation in succession to Mr. Bernard Flexner, who has resigned on account of ill-health. Mr. Flexner is continuing, however, to act as chairman of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Felix M. Warburg has been elected Honorary President, Lt.-Governor Herbert H. Lehman, and Mr. Robert Szold, Vice-Presidents, and Mr. Walter E. Meyer Treasurer.

The report presented to the annual meeting shows that the Corporation has assets amounting to 2,575,000 dollars, an increase of 1,650,000 dollars over the assets held at the time the Corporation was formed in 1925.