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HAIFA TO SHARE HANDLING OF IRAQ OIL WITH SYRIAN PORT TRIPOLIS:
RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENT PROVIDING FOR DOUBLE TERMINUS.

London, May 20th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Both Haifa and Tripolis in Syria are to be the ports for the Iraq oil pipe-lines, under the agreement between the Iraq Government and the Iraq Petroleum Company, which, according to to-day's "Times" was ratified on Monday by the Iraq Parliament.

By the agreement now ratified in Baghdad, the "Times" says, many of the provisions of the original Convention have been redrafted, ambiguities have been removed, and the interests of both parties have been more clearly defined. The company has surrendered its rights to the proceeds of all sales by Government of oil-bearing plots within its former concessionary area and has in return obtained sole concessionary rights over that part of the provinces of Mosul and Baghdad which lies east of the Tigris. The Iraq Government is thus free to offer concessions for oilfields west of that river.

The company has also agreed to construct a pipe-line from Kirkuk to the Mediterranean, with two terminals, one at Haifa, in Palestine, and one at Tripolis, in the Lebanon. The two branches will fork at the town of Haditha. The Tripolis branch will pass through Palmyra, in French Syrian territory. The Haifa branch will pass by the Rutba Wells and into Trans-Jordan, and will be carried across the Jordan into Palestine and reach the sea through the Plain of Esdraelon.

The two pipe-lines must be completed by 1935, the Haifa branch within six months of the completion of the branch to Tripolis.

Iraq Government Wanted Terminus In Haifa: French Interests In
Iraq Petroleum Company Pressed For Terminus At Tripolis:
British And French Governments Both Satisfied Now With
Solution Of Problem Of Terminus.

The history of these negotiations, which have been conducted with equal skill and patience by Sir John Cadman, the "Times" recalls, begins with the Convention signed between the Iraq Government and the company on March 14th., 1925. The Convention, which covered the provinces of Mosul and Baghdad, contained several clauses which could be variously interpreted.

Oil was discovered in such quantities in the Baba Gurgur field near Kirkuk, for instance, that it was doubted whether the area allotted to the company by the Convention would cover the oilfield. If it did not, the terms of the Convention made it possible for rival companies to secure part of the oilfield and start that competitive drilling which has proved so injurious to the oil industry in America, and would have been unfair to the company which had secured the concession and discovered and tested the field. The company also desired the Iraq Government to remove the ambiguities on the subject of its taxation from the Convention.

The Government agreed, but on condition that the pipe-line to the Mediterranean provided for in the Convention terminated at Haifa in Palestine. The French interests represented in the company pressed for a terminus at Tripolis, in the Lebanese Republic, a French Mandatory State, both for political reasons and on the ground that the route from Kirkuk to Tripolis was more direct and cheaper.

The duration of the concession is 70 years from 1925, after which it will be taken over by the Government.

The new agreement and the transit conventions with the Governments of Palestine, Transjordan, Syria, and the Lebanon, the "Times" explains, enable the company to proceed with the construction across the desert of some 1,200 miles of pipe-line required for the transport of Iraq oil to the world's markets at a cost of from £10,000,000 to £12,000,000. The company has already spent over £4,000,000 in prospecting and testing the oil-bearing region.

The company has thus gained a free hand and sole concessionary rights over the rich oilfield east of the Tigris, with the certainty of bringing its oil to the Mediterranean. The Iraq Government, which has shown exceptional bargaining powers, obtains an immediate and assured revenue, regains its rights of concession west of the Tigris, and can hope that employment in the oilfields and on the construction of the pipe-line will improve the state and temper of its Kurdish subjects.

The problem of the terminus is solved to the satisfaction of the British and French Governments.

The delay in reaching agreement has been due to the variety of conflicting international interests which sought satisfaction, the "Morning Post", the only other paper reporting the ratification of the agreement, says. The British desired the pipe-line to debouch in British Mandated territory, the French in French Mandated territory, and the Iraq Government wanted the maximum in the way of royalties and taxation. The present convention is one which is considered to meet equitably the claims of all parties.

The convention, it adds, will add a potential annual output as from 1935 of 2 million tons of oil to that already produced in the British Empire or in territories under British influence. During 1930 3,315,000 tons of oil were produced in British territories: 1,247,000 tons in Trinidad, 1,097,000 in India, 772,000 in Sarawak (Borneo) and 199,000 in Canada.

The total output last year for all countries was about 188 million tons.

Benefits Which Palestine Will Derive: Considerations Because Of Which Palestine Government Has Given Special Facilities To Company: Big Future For Haifa Bay Area.

∴ The convention regulating the transit of the mineral oils of the Iraq Petroleum Company through Palestine territory was signed on January 5th. by the High Commissioner, Sir John Chancellor, and Mr. J. Skliros, on behalf of the Company, and was published in the Palestine "Official Gazette" on February 2nd. In consideration of the benefits which the country will derive, the convention said, the Government desires to facilitate the undertaking, and accordingly the terms of the convention provide for special facilities for loading and unloading ships by day or night and on public holidays. The Company's ships will obtain reduced rates on oranage and wharfage, and the Company will be entitled to construct its own ports. Specially reduced railway rates are granted in view of the large tonnage and passenger traffic, and the Company may construct its own railways and roads.

The Company undertakes to employ local labour, but is allowed to import labour if the local supply is insufficient. The Company is exempted from property or income tax. The Government undertakes to lease on a nominal rent State lands, and to expropriate private lands. The Company will require normal protection to be given for the undertaking and the Company's employees. The Company is allowed to provide at its own cost for education, police, sanitation, water, light and other services, ordinarily provided by the local authority.

At the expiration of the concession at the end of seventy years, all rights, immovable property and fixtures will become the property of the Palestine Government, free of charge, unless the concession is extended for a further period or is renewed.

The laying of one of the two Iraq oil-pipe lines to Haifa, the building of the Haifa Harbour, which is now in progress, and the contemplated building of the Haifa-Baghdad Railway, which is understood to be imminent, will make the Haifa Bay area in Palestine, it is believed, an important industrial and commercial centre, with warehouses and factories growing up around the Harbour, and a big agricultural hinterland all along the Haifa Bay area able to meet the needs of this growing entrepot of the East, which authorities claim it is bound to become.

Most of the land of the Haifa Bay area, along the coast between Haifa and Acre, is in the possession of the Jewish National Fund, which acquired a large tract about two years ago. Zionists have since the earliest days of the movement placed great hopes in the development of this area, and Dr. Herzl, in his "Old-New Land" dwells on this part of Palestine (Haifa, Carmel and Haifa Bay) as being of special importance.

When the Palestine Guarantee Loan of £4,500,000 was voted by Parliament in 1926, Mr. Amery, then Colonial Secretary, pointed out in the course of his speech the natural advantages of Haifa for becoming one of the great harbours of the Middle East. The building of the Haifa Harbour (which is being carried out under the provision made in the Palestine Loan), he said, would enable a great development to take place not only in Palestine, but perhaps throughout the whole Middle East, and I am not excluding the possibility of railway development from Haifa across to Iraq, he added.

Sir John Hope Simpson, in his report of October 1930, also refers to this question. The future of this tract, he writes, will be advantageously affected by the construction of the Haifa Harbour. Work is already in progress and is advancing rapidly. The harbour will greatly assist the development of the export trade in oranges, and perhaps other agricultural products. There are hopes that the pipe line from Iraq may be constructed to Haifa. If this development occurs the Acre Plain will of course benefit still further.

Mr. Frank Owen, one of the Liberal members of Parliament, suggested a little while back that the building of an aerodrome in Haifa in connection with the new harbour works would make Haifa the centre of the direct London to India air-route, and by connecting the Cape to Cairo service with Europe, Haifa would also be, when Russia becomes more important for air-travel, a centre for the European-Far-Eastern air services.

PALESTINE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME: CONSULTATIONS WITH JEWISH LEADERS PRACTICALLY CONCLUDED DR. DRUMMOND SHIELS SAYS IN HOUSE OF COMMONS: ARAB EXECUTIVE PUT CERTAIN CONDITIONS WHICH MADE FORMAL CONSULTATIONS IMPOSSIBLE BUT HIGH COMMISSIONER CONSULTED WITH ARAB LEADERS IN PERSONAL CAPACITY AND OBTAINED THEIR VIEWS: PROPOSALS WILL BE LAID BEFORE HOUSE OF COMMONS VERY SHORTLY.

London, May 20th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Both Arab and Jewish leaders have been given an opportunity of expressing their views on the proposals of the Government with regard to development in Palestine, Dr. Drummond Shiels, the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, said in the House of Commons to-day in replying to Colonel Howard-Bury, who had asked him whether he could state what was the present position of the Development Scheme with regard to Palestine, whether negotiations were still proceeding with the Jewish Agency on this question and whether the Arab Executive were being also consulted.

I hope it may be possible before long to make a further statement on the subject, Dr. Shiels added, but I am now able to say when that can be done.

The consultations with the Jewish leaders are practically concluded, he went on, and with regard to the Arab Executive the position is that they were invited to consult with the High Commissioner on these proposals. The Arab Executive said that before they could do so, certain conditions would have to be observed, which conditions would have made formal consultations impossible. The High Commissioner, however, consulted with a number of the Arab leaders in a personal capacity and obtained their views on the proposals, so that what I have said in my answer is correct - that an opportunity has been given to both sides to state their views.

Sir Henry Bétterton, one of the members of the Shaw Enquiry Commission, asked Dr. Shiels whether he could say when these proposals would be laid before the House.

I cannot say definitely, Dr. Shiels replied, but it will not be very long.

THOUSANDS OF JEWS HIT BY ANTI-JEWISH CAMPAIGN IN MEXICO: NOT ONLY 500 STREET TRADERS ACTUALLY DRIVEN FROM MARKETS BUT ALSO DEALERS FROM WHOM THEY BOUGHT GOODS ON CREDIT AFFECTED: ALL JEWISH INSTITUTIONS IN MEXICO IN DANGER OF COLLAPSE BECAUSE PEOPLE WHO MAINTAINED THEM NOW DEPRIVED OF LIVELIHOOD.

New York, May 10th. (J.T.A. Mail Service).

The anti-Jewish outbreak in Mexico hits not only the 500 Jewish street-traders who have been driven from the market places, but thousands of Jews, the manufacturers, the importers and the dealers from whom the Jewish street traders bought their goods on credit and indirectly all other Jews who made their living in any way by working for Jewish institutions or organizations which were maintained by the Jewish population, and which, as a result of the economic crisis, will have to close down, says a correspondent from Mexico City writing in the Yiddish daily, the "Day", here.

It was as near a pogrom as anything can be, he writes, when on the morning of April 30th., the Jewish stall-holders coming to lay out their wares as usual on their stalls, were surprised to see the stands of the Mexican market-traders all decorated with Mexican flags, although it was no festival, and presently a big procession headed by banners and bands came up

shouting "Down with the aliens; out with the Jews". The demonstrators took possession of the market place and the leaders delivered violent antisemitic speeches. Suddenly a big force of police descended on the Jewish stall-holders, and with the mob shouting and whistling, drove them with blows out of the market place. One Jewish stall-holder, Israel Lieberman, who attempted to collect his goods before leaving, was beaten till he was covered in blood.

The Secretary of the Jewish Relief Organisation in Mexico, Mr. Moses Glikowski, sees no way out of the difficulty, the correspondent says. The treasury is already empty, and the very people who kept the organisation going are now dependent on its aid. The whole of Jewish communal life in Mexico, with all the laboriously-created institutions built up by the Jewish immigrants in the last ten years, is in danger of collapsing. The Jewish Relief Organisation has no funds to fall back upon. The Jewish credit societies and all the other Jewish institutions are penniless. The only Jewish school in Mexico will have to close down, because the people who contributed to its upkeep are unable to make any further contributions.

JEWISH MARKET-TRADERS DRIVEN FROM STALLS ALSO IN BELGIUM:
ECONOMIC DEPRESSION CREATES ANTI-JEWISH FEELING.

Antwerp, May 18th. (J.T.A. Mail Service):

The crisis which has existed for about a year in the diamond industry, in which the Jews of Belgium are largely represented, has gradually resulted in the economic ruin of thousands of Jewish families who have no means now of earning their livelihood at their trade. Many of these Jews, having no other choice, have become pedlars and market dealers. The new competition which has thus been created for the Belgian market-people has caused an outbreak of antisemitism in this country, which hitherto has been regarded as free from anti-Jewish feeling. Clashes between Belgian and Jewish market-traders have been frequent in the last few weeks, resulting at times in serious fighting. Now the local authorities in several of the Antwerp suburbs have taken a hand and are refusing to allow the Jewish dealers to stand at the pitches they have held in the market-places.

ROMANIAN ANTISEMITES BUSY AGAIN: BORSHA MADE HEADQUARTERS OF
AGITATION: JEWISH POPULATION OF LARMOROSZ ALARMED:
NATIONAL PEASANTS PARTY SAID TO HAVE CONCLUDED ELECTION
PACT WITH IRON GUARD: DANILA RINGLEADER OF BORSHA POGROM
STANDING AS NATIONAL PEASANT CANDIDATE BUT OTHER IRON
GUARDISTS ANGRY AND THREATEN TO KILL HIM IF HE DOES NOT
LEAVE COUNTRY.

Bucharest, May 19th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The antisemitic terrorist Iron Guard Organisation led by Zelea Codreanu has started a fierce antisemitic campaign in Transylvania in connection with the Parliamentary elections, establishing its headquarters at Borsha, where severe anti-Jewish excesses occurred last summer culminating in the burning down of hundreds of Jewish houses. Professor Corneliu Codreanu, Zelea Codreanu's father, who is Professor Cuza's chief aide, has arrived at Borsha.

A big antisemitic campaign has also been launched at Larmorosz, where the Jewish population is in a state of alarm.

The National Peasants' Party, which constituted the recent Maniu and Mironescu Governments, is said to have concluded an election pact with the Iron Guard, putting Danila, the ringleader of the antisemitic agitation in Marmorosz and Borsha last summer, on its list of candidates. Other members of the Iron Guard Organisation are displeased at Danila's action, and have sent him a letter ordering him to leave the country and threatening that otherwise he will be killed.

GENERAL COUNCIL FORMED TO PROTECT JEWISH INTERESTS IN CONNECTION WITH CALENDAR REFORM.

London, May 20th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

A conference of Jewish religious leaders concerned in safeguarding Jewish interests in connection with any proposed changes in the present Calendar, was held last week at Frankfort, under the Presidency of Grand Rabbi Israel Levi of France, the J.T.A. is informed.

It was decided to request the representative organizations of the various countries to appoint delegates to a General Jewish Council on that question, and to enlarge the present Central Executive Committee, to include representation of German and East European Jewry. Grand Rabbi Levi was elected President of the Council, and Chief Rabbi Dr. J. H. Hertz was elected Chairman of the Executive Committee.

IMMIGRATION TO AMERICA DROPS TO LOWEST SINCE 1862: LESS THAN 100,000 TO BE ADMITTED THIS YEAR.

New York, May 12th. (J.T.A. Mail Service).

Immigration to the United States this year will be the lowest since 1862, lower even than the bottom mark established in the war year of 1918. Less than 100,000 aliens would be admitted during the year, or 10,000 less than were admitted in 1918, it was stated yesterday by officials of the Immigration Bureau.

Under the quota restrictions, immigration was cut down appreciably, and in the last few months, disregarding the decreases caused by depression, it has been reduced almost to nothing. In the consular offices abroad American representatives have received high discretionary powers by the "new consular policy" affording them means to enforce actual and subtle restrictions, denying applicants permission to enter the United States as permanent residents.

CANADIAN IMMIGRATION DECLINES 45% UNDER NEW RESTRICTIONS: 2,895 JEWISH IMMIGRANTS ENTERED CANADA IN YEAR ENDING LAST MONTH.

Montreal, May 11th. (J.T.A. Mail Service).

Immigration to Canada declined approximately 45 per cent. during the fiscal year ended March 31st. The number of newcomers to the Dominion was 88,223, compared with 163,288 in the 1929-30 period.

These figures, issued by Mr. W. A. Gordon, the Minister of Immigration, are accompanied by details showing that the sharpest reductions took place in recent months, and were a direct result of the Government's new immigration policy.

2,895 Jewish immigrants entered Canada from April 1930 to April 1931, it was reported to the annual meeting of the Jewish Immigrant Aid Society of Canada held here yesterday, Mr. S. W. Jacobs, one of the Jewish members of the Canadian Parliament, said that there was no hope of the immigration restrictions being relaxed for some time. Both the Government and the opposition parties were definitely opposed to opening the doors, fearing it would add to the economic crisis. He was convinced himself that the closed door was doing Canada more harm than good, but the political parties did not see it and there was no hope of any change at present.

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