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AGUDATH ISRAEL AND JEWISH AGENCY: NO GENERAL LINES FOR CO-OPERATION BUT QUESTION TO BE CONSIDERED EACH TIME DEVELOPMENT CALLING FOR CONCERTED ACTION ARISES PLENARY MEETING OF AGUDATH WORLD EXECUTIVE DECIDES: NEW STEPS TO BE TAKEN TO SECURE EQUAL RECOGNITION FOR SEPARATIST ORTHODOX COMMUNITIES WITH KENESSETH ISRAEL: OPPOSITION DECLARED TO PROJECTED JEWISH WORLD CONGRESS DESCRIBED AS DANGER TO JEWRY: AGUDATH WORLD CONGRESS BEING CALLED THIS WINTER.

Berlin, Sept. 2nd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

No general lines are to be laid down on the question of co-operation between the Agudath Israel and the Jewish Agency, but whenever there is any development requiring concerted action it should be considered jointly with the Rabbinical Council of the Agudath Israel World Organisation and a decision taken accordingly, the plenary meeting of the Agudath Israel World Executive now meeting in Frankfurt has decided. The decision is regarded as in the nature of a compromise between the two sections in the Agudah, who respectively favour and reject collaboration with the Jewish Agency. In this connection, the meeting adopted also a resolution expressing regret at Rabbi Dr. Leo Jung's resignation from the Agudath Israel Central Council, because he is strongly in favour of participation in the Jewish Agency, of whose Council he is an active member.

Fresh steps are to be taken, it has also been decided, to secure equal public and legal recognition for the orthodox Jewish Communities in Palestine with the organised Palestine Jewish Community, the Keneseth Israel.

All organs of the Agudath Israel movement are called upon to combat the project to call a Jewish World Congress, which is declared to be a danger to Jewry.

The Executive has decided to convoke the next World Congress of the Agudist Fund, the Keren Hatorah, for the present winter.

Agudah and Jewish Agency.

The question of including the Agudath Israel in the Jewish Agency has been under consideration for many years past. As long ago as 1922, several of the leaders of the Agudah suggested the possibility of co-operation between the two bodies, and in 1925 a formal conference was held in London between representatives of the Zionist Organisation and the Agudath Israel, the Zionist delegation being headed by Dr. Weizmann. The question of the Palestine Communities Ordinance (which concerns the recognition of the Separatist Orthodox Communities) was discussed, and it was decided to appoint a Commission to find ways and means of reaching a satisfactory solution. A discussion also took place with regard to the character and competence of the Jewish Agency and the principles which are binding for the Agudah in the event of its participation in the Agency.

Last January a meeting of the Joint Commission set up by the Jewish Agency and the Agudath Israel was held in Berlin to enquire into the possibility of co-operation between the two bodies, and an agreement was reached that pending further discussions the Agudath Israel would not engage in any outside political interventions, the Jewish Agency for its part assisting the Agudath Israel in this respect by keeping it informed on all political developments as far as is possible on discretionary grounds.

The Agudath Israel, it was stated, will be content if the decision of the 12th. Zionist Congress, to respect the Jewish religious law in the public life of Palestine, will be adopted into the Constitution of the Jewish Agency with a guarantee that it will be observed. As to the demand of the Agudath Israel that the cultural work in Palestine should be taken out of the scope of the work of the Jewish Agency, it was pointed out that this could be done more easily if effect is given to the plan which has been put forward for other reasons, to transfer the direction of the Palestine schools to the organised Jewish Community of Palestine. On the question of economic co-operation, it was added in the statement, much less difficulty was encountered.

Negotiations have also been in progress between the Mizrahi movement in the Zionist Organisation and the Agudath Israel with a view to bringing about the participation of the Agudah in the Jewish Agency, where it would greatly strengthen the orthodox representation at present in the hands of the Mizrahi.

The last World Congress of the Agudath Israel held in Vienna in September 1929, shortly after the Palestine outbreak, adopted a resolution on the question of the Jewish Agency, in which it said: 'In view of the devastating events in Palestine, the Agudath Israel World Congress appeals to its brethren in the Jewish Agency to take into consideration the irreducible demands dictated by the conscience of the orthodox Jewish masses in regard to participation in the economic and political tasks of the Jewish Agency, the most important of these demands being that the competence of the Jewish Agency should be limited to economic and political activities, because the Jewish Agency should be a neutral body in such matters, and to safeguard the principle of carrying out the Jewish traditional laws. So long as this is not done and organised Jewish orthodoxy is excluded from the Jewish Agency, the Jewish Agency cannot be regarded as the representation in Eretz Israel of the Jewish orthodox masses who are interested in the Holy Land.

We Have Given Proof In Practical Policy Pursued In Palestine In Common With Zionist Authorities That We Are Not Inclined To Increase Difficulties Of Palestine And British Governments By Separatist Tendencies Within Palestine Community.

In a memorandum submitted last December to the British Government, the Agudath Israel declared that it can co-operate in fraternal unity with the Zionist Organisation so long as it is a question of representing the common interests of the Jewish people in regard to immigration and colonisation in Palestine, and the safeguarding of life and property in the Holy Land to its full extent. The Agudath is compelled, however, it proceeded, to reject the idea of concerted action and is forced to act independently as soon as religious or cultural questions are involved. As the sphere of activity of the Jewish Agency, it said, includes,

unfortunately, not only the promotion of economic organisations and the representation of the political interests of the Jewish Agency, but also the financing and administration of the educational system and the culture of the people, Jewish orthodox organised in the Agudath Israel has found itself unable to take part in the Jewish Agency because, according to the principles of Jewish religious law, such direct promotion of irreligious educational establishments is forbidden by the faith. But we have given sufficient proof in the practical policy which we have pursued in Palestine in common with the Zionist authorities, the memorandum added, that we are not inclined to increase the difficulties of the Palestine and British Governments by separatist tendencies within the Jewish Community.

On the question of the separatist orthodox Jewish Communities in Palestine, the memorandum went on to say that the Communities Law in Palestine had resulted in the establishment of a Jewish Community, the Keneseth Israel, which is publicly and legally recognised, "but the Constitution of which, in our view, does not correspond to the basic principles of Jewish religious life. The Constitution lacks the fundamental recognition of the authority of Jewish religious law in all the acts of the administration, and for this reason about 20,000 Palestine Jews have exercised their right to withdraw and have formed separate congregations, which, while they can freely develop their inner life, lack, however, public and legal recognition and the right of taxation. We consider it an injustice that these very communities which hold fast to Jewish tradition and the Jewish spirit are disregarded by the State to the detriment of their rights. We consider the removal of this injustice an urgent necessity for successful inter-Jewish relations in Palestine, so that these congregations will be given equal public and legal recognition with the Keneseth Israel, and in like manner the Rabbinate of these congregations, in addition to the Chief Rabbinate. We may mention that even in leading circles of the Keneseth Israel there is an understanding for our claims and a peaceful arrangement is not impossible if the Government is agreeable to an alteration of the laws".

Against National Minority Demands: Religion Constituting
Factor Of Jewish People.

When the first Conference on Jewish Rights was held in Zurich in 1927, the Agudath Israel refused to participate on the ground that it does not recognise the Jews as a national but as a religious minority, and when the second Conference on Jewish minority rights, which was held in Basle this August, decided to arrange for the convocation of a Jewish World Congress, the Agudist papers immediately condemned the project. The attitude of the Agudah on this question has been expressed by the President of the Agudah World Organisation, Dr. Pinchas Kohn, as follows: The minorities question in the new States opens up a new problem for the Jews who have not been out of their ghettos for more than half a century, but in a sense it is not altogether new, for right up to the middle of the Middle Ages the Jews were recognised as possessing religious distinctiveness, and the religious requirements of the Jews were taken into account by the various States. The Balfour Declaration gave the Jews the legal right of presenting to the world a demand for minority rights. The Zionist Organisation, in taking up this activity tried in this way to draw a complete parallel between the Jewish minority and the other minorities, that is to say, to put forward demands of a purely

national character. The Agudath Israel, on the other hand, holds that purely national matters do not accord with the particular form in which the Jewish people is constituted and regards religion as the constituting factor of the Jewish people. The minorities demands which the Agudah puts forward are therefore always directed towards one goal, the maintenance of the religious distinctiveness of the Jews.

CALIPHATE TO BE RE-ESTABLISHED WITH SEAT IN JERUSALEM:
REPORTED NEW CAMPAIGN BY SHAUKAT ALI LEADER OF INDIAN
CALIPHATE MOVEMENT AND HEAD OF MOSLEM DELEGATION TO
INDIAN ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE IN LONDON.

London, Sept. 2nd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Maulana Shaukat Ali, the leader of the Indian Caliphate movement and the chief Moslem delegate to the forthcoming Indian Round Table Conference in London (he is at present in Jerusalem, having broken his journey from Cairo in order to see the Arab leaders in Palestine, and he will leave on Sunday to join the "Rajputana", on which Ghandi is travelling, at Port Said, to continue his journey to London), is putting forward a scheme for the restoration of the Caliphate, under the ex-Sultan of Turkey, with its seat in Jerusalem, it is stated here in Moslem circles. Quite a stir has been created in the Moslem colony in London by reports that the Maulana has already negotiated with the British Government regarding the scheme, which is said to have the support of the Moslem masses in India, and as Shaukat Ali has notified it, of the Moslem masses in Egypt, with whose leaders he discussed it during his stay in Cairo. The National and Political League in London (with which Lord Brentford, the ex-Home Secretary, who is presiding at the anti-Zionist meeting which Shaukat Ali is to address at the Albert Hall on November 2nd., the anniversary of the Balfour Declaration, Lord Islington, Lord Lamington, Lord Danesfort, Colonel Howard-Bury, M.P., and other British politicians are associated) is also said to be supporting the scheme. Shaukat Ali intends, it is added, to utilise the opportunity of travelling to London on the same boat with Ghandi in order to bargain with him over the Hindu-Moslem Settlement in India, and to try to obtain his support for his Caliphate restoration scheme.

In London Moslem circles considerable interest is manifested in the scheme, but it is suggested that Damascus would be preferable as the seat of the restored Caliphate, because it would be free from the complications which would arise in Jerusalem.

A report received here from Jerusalem to-day says that Shaukat Ali stated yesterday in Jerusalem in the course of his talks with the Arab leaders there that he considered that the situation had grown much more serious since his last visit in January. The growing animosity of the Arabs towards the British was very noticeable, and he foresaw the possibility of a rapprochement between the Arabs and the Jews.

CODREANU LEADER OF ROUMANIAN MILITANT ANTISEMITES RETURNED TO PARLIAMENT.

Bucharest, Sept. 2nd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Zelea Codreanu, the leader of the militant antisemitic Iron Guard Organisation, has been returned to Parliament in the by-election at Neamtz, where a vacancy was created by the appointment of M. Manciolescu, the Minister of Industry, as President of the National Bank.

There are already 11 antisemitic Deputies in the Roumanian Parliament, under the leadership of the notorious Professor Cuza, and the addition of Codreanu, who disputes Cuza's leadership, complaining that it is not sufficiently aggressive, is viewed with great anxiety by the Roumanian Jews.

In 1925, Zelea Codreanu, who is the son of Professor Codreanu of Jassy, the Vice-President of the Cuzist Organisation, shot dead the Police Prefect of Jassy, M. Manciu, because he had suppressed the antisemitic disorders at the University. The trial which was opened at Focsanyi had to be transferred to Turn-Severin, where there are few Jews, because it had resolved itself into an antisemitic demonstration against the Jews of Focsanyi. Over 12,000 students and graduates, including 2,437 qualified lawyers arrived there, and sent in applications to be called as witnesses for Codreanu and to defend his action. Jewish houses were broken into and looted, furniture was destroyed, windows smashed, etc. Hardly a Jew in the town which has a Jewish population of about 1,000 families, escaped maltreatment and military had to be brought down to quell the disturbances.

Codreanu's acquittal at Turn-Severin when the trial was reopened there a couple of months after made him the popular hero of the Roumanian antisemitic movement and its recognised leader. He had shot Prefect Manciu, he told the Court, because he and his colleagues had found themselves constantly thwarted by him in their patriotic activities, and finally they had been compelled to suspend their campaign and take the defensive. He had wanted to challenge Manciu to a duel, but could not do so because Manciu was disqualified, so he had shot him.

Professor Cuza, who appeared as a witness, justified the murder by saying that Prefect Manciu had hunted and persecuted the antisemitic students of Jassy, goading them to resentment by his persistent protection of the Jews, until it was natural that a daring young student like Codreanu had been provoked to his desperate act. The fault was that of Manciu and the other police officials for preventing the students from carrying on their justified war against the Jews.

Codreanu was also behind the serious anti-Jewish outbreaks in Roumania last summer, in which the Jewish town-ship of Borsha was burnt down. He was afterwards arrested together with a number of his associates, for holding up to glorification the attempted assassination of the then-Vice-Minister of the Interior, M. Anghelescu, but he was acquitted, and in January, he was again arrested in connection with the attempt to murder M. Socor, the editor of the "Adeverul", which is constantly protesting against the antisemitic terrorism in Roumania. The police claimed to have discovered a big movement under Codreanu's leadership, to overthrow the Government by force and establish a dictatorship, which would kill all Jews. This trial, too, however, ended in an acquittal for Codreanu.

POLISH GOVERNMENT ANXIOUS TO DO EVERYTHING IT CAN TO PROMOTE PROSPERITY OF POLISH JEWS; CONFIDENT SITUATION WILL IMPROVE POLISH FOREIGN MINISTER COUNT ZALESKI ASSURES MR. MORRIS WALDMAN SECRETARY OF AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE IN GENEVA.

Geneva, Sept. 2nd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Mr. Morris Waldman, the Secretary of the American Jewish Committee, who is now in Geneva, has, at the request of the Polish Embassy in Washington, called on M. Zaleski, the Polish Foreign Minister, who is here to attend the meetings of the League of Nations Council and Assembly.

M. Zaleski showed great interest in Mr. Waldman's views concerning the economic situation in Poland, and took a very sympathetic attitude towards the particular difficulties of the Jewish population in this respect.

The Minister gave an assurance that the Government is eager to do everything it can to promote the prosperity of the Jews. He was confident, he added, that the situation will improve in due course.

EX-CROWN PRINCE OF GERMANY HURT BY ACCUSATION THAT HE IS AN ANTISEMITE; AGAINST JEWISH COMMUNIST LEADERS BUT JEWS WHO ARE LOYAL TO STATE SHOULD ALSO FIGHT AGAINST THEM; NO ONE HE SAYS HAS RIGHT TO CALL ME ANTISEMITE BECAUSE I CALL A ROGUE A ROGUE EVEN IF HE IS A JEW.

Vienna, Sept. 2nd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

About a year ago a Jewish girl staying in the same health resort used to visit his family a good deal, the German ex-Crown Prince Wilhelm told a representative of the "Wiener Journal" here in an interview, and then one day she snubbed him in the street. Afterwards she explained that her father had warned her that the Crown Prince was a notorious Jew-baiter. I was very hurt, the ex-Crown Prince said, to find that such views were held about me, and I know that there are very many other Jews who share his suspicion.

The interviewer suggested that the belief might arise from the knowledge of his association with the Steel Helm, which appears to be antisemitic. That is not altogether so, the ex-Crown Prince replied. The Nationalist elements in Germany are resisting Communism, which is led by certain Jewish Communists, and some generalise this into a struggle against all Jews. I should never lend my name to any movement which was conducting a general campaign against all Jews. I cannot understand, he went on, that the civilised world has not yet recognised the immense danger which threatens it from Eastern Europe, nor can I understand why the masses of middle class and loyal Jews in Germany, whose nationalism and loyalty is demonstrated by the fact that there are tens of thousands of members in the Union of Jewish ex-Soldiers who fought at the front, do not repudiate publicly all suspicion of any association with the anti-State groups. Your own paper, the "Wiener Journal", is evidence how middle class Jews with national sentiments can fight together with all other loyal citizens against Bolshevism, Marxism, and the other revolutionary movements carried on under the mask of democracy. I am too modern-thinking a man to be an antisemite. I have many Jewish friends who have my deepest esteem and whose friendship is very dear to me, the ex-Crown Prince said, adding: No one has any right to assert that I am an antisemite because I call a rogue a rogue, even if he happens to be a Jew.

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