

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

Ludgate House,
 107/111, Fleet Street,
 London, E.C.4.

Telegrams: Jewcorrau London.
 Telephone: Central 6501-3.

Vol. XII. No. 237. 8 pages. 16th. Oct., 1931.

JEWISH SCHOOLS CRISIS IN PALESTINE: JEWISH AGENCY EXECUTIVE
 HERE ALMOST ENTIRELY NON-ZIONIST WANT TO TRANSFER EDUCA-
 TION TO YISHUB TEACHERS CABLE TO MR. NAHUM SOKOLOV
 JEWISH AGENCY PRESIDENT: WE APPEAL TO YOU TO COME TO
 PALESTINE AND PREVENT THEIR DESTRUCTIVE TACTICS.

Jerusalem, Oct. 14th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

In view of the continuing disagreement between the Hebrew teachers and the Jewish Agency Executive over the question of reducing the educational budget of the Jewish Agency, on account of which the Jewish Agency schools are still closed nearly a fortnight after the date on which they were to have been reopened, the Union of Hebrew Teachers of Palestine has cabled to Mr. Nahum Sokolov, the President of the Zionist Organisation and the Jewish Agency, and to Mr. H. Farbstein and Mr. Emanuel Neuman, members of the Executive of the Zionist Organisation and the Jewish Agency, as follows:

The Jewish Agency Executive here, almost entirely non-Zionist, wants to transfer the work of education to the Yishub (the Jewish population of Palestine). The Education Department has therefore resigned, and no one knows when the schools will be reopened. The teachers have decided to go into the schools to work voluntarily. We appeal to you to put a stop to these destructive tactics and for this purpose to hasten your coming visit to Palestine.

WE APPRECIATE YOUR DESIRE FOR PROMPTNESS IN REOPENING SCHOOLS
 JEWISH AGENCY EXECUTIVE WRITES TO TEACHERS' UNION BUT
 YOUR DECISION TO REOPEN SCHOOLS WITHOUT AUTHORITY IS
 AGAINST INTERESTS OF DISCIPLINE AND EFFICIENCY.

Jerusalem, Oct. 14th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Jewish Agency Executive here have sent a letter to the Teachers' Union, in which they write that while they appreciate the desire of the teachers for promptness in reopening the schools, their decision to reopen the schools without authority is opposed, however, to the interests of discipline and efficiency. The Executive, the letter declares, do not accept responsibility towards the teachers and the other employees unless and until the competent authorities have decided on the necessary action to be taken.

∴ The question of transferring the Jewish educational system in Palestine to the Palestine Jewish Community had become a real issue now that the organisation of the Community had been effected, Rabbi Ostrowski said in reporting on behalf of the Education Committee to the last Zionist Congress held in Basle in July. The Jewish Agency contribution to the Education Budget was £75,000, he continued, that of the Government about £20,000 and of the Yishub over £30,000. An increase in the contribution from the Yishub was hardly possible. The Palestine Jewish Community could take over the school system only on condition, he proceeded, that the Executive continued to contribute the same amount next year, entering into a

formal agreement that it would pay this amount, directing the school system jointly with the Palestine Jewish Community. As the Executive had not yet grasped the need of this, he said, the transference would take place only in the course of the next two years. The Zionist Organisation would not be justified, however, in eliminating from its scope of activity the educational work, which was the soul of Zionism. 80 per cent. of the Jewish children in Palestine were receiving their education in the schools of the Zionist Organisation.

22,500 pupils had been attending the Jewish schools in Palestine during the year 5691, he stated. If the Education Budget for the next year was not increased by £13,000 it would not be possible to satisfy even the minimum needs of their education system. The last Congress had allocated £75,000 for the purpose and it had become clear that that amount would not suffice, yet now they were thinking of reducing it by £21,000. The Palestine Government maintained the entire Arab school system with 22,000 children at an annual expenditure of £100,000, he went on, while the Jewish schools attended by about the same number of children were given a subsidy by the Government of only £19,300.

Dr. Berkson, the Director of Education of the Jewish Agency Schools in Palestine, and a member of the Executive of the Jewish Agency (who tendered his resignation last week), said that in the view of the Executive of the Jewish Agency it was not desirable to postpone the present situation. Negotiations had been going on all through the past year, and they must fix a definite date.

Congress thereupon decided to accept the resolution submitted by the Education Committee, that a joint direction to carry on the educational system in Palestine should be set up by the Jewish Agency and the Palestine Jewish Community within the course of the next two years, by the time the next Zionist Congress is held, and that till then no transference to the local institutions is to take place.

Congress further decided to instruct the new Executive to effect the necessary economies in the Education Budget, and to call upon the Palestine Government to increase its contribution to the Jewish school system in Palestine in accordance with the needs of Jewish education.

JEWISH AGENCY STAFF IN PALESTINE REDUCED FROM 130 IN 1929 TO 60 OWING TO FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES.

Jerusalem, Oct. 14th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The staff of the Jewish Agency in Palestine has on account of the financial difficulties been reduced from 130 officials employed in 1929 to 60, by the decision adopted today to dismiss another 30 officials in addition to those whose services were dispensed with last year.

.. The question of the Jewish Agency officials in Palestine and their salaries occupied the attention of the Hebrew press in Palestine to a very great extent at the beginning of the year, urging reductions both in the staff numbers and salaries, as well as in the salaries of the members of the Executive and the Directors of the Fund, in view of the financial crisis. The Jewish Agency Executive in Palestine, and the head offices of the Keren Hayesod and the Jewish National Fund responded by publishing their salaries list, giving the number of their officials and the amount of their salaries.

Colonel Kisch, who was until the last Congress, when he resigned, the head of the Jewish Agency Executive in Palestine, dealt with the question at considerable length on one occasion when the prolonged economic depression in Palestine had brought a wave of criticism in connection with the question of the numbers and salaries of the Jewish Agency officials. The charges which have been repeated in the Jewish press both in Palestine and in the Diaspora, he stated, may be summarised as suggesting that the Zionist Executive and its dependent institutions, the Keren Hayesod, the Jewish National Fund, etc., are greatly overstaffed with idle officials who live in luxury and make no sacrifice for the common interest during the present distress. I do not hesitate to say, and I can speak with some knowledge of the subject, Colonel Kisch declared, that the staff which we employ is by no means excessive for the work which it has to do and which, but for the exceptional devotion and zeal of the staff, would not be effectively dealt with without a considerable increase in personnel. I should add that many members of the staff remain extra hours in the office after closing time, while others regularly take office work to their homes to do at night. No overtime salaries or allowances are paid.

There remains, Colonel Kisch went on, the question of the contributions of the staff to the common welfare, both generally and with reference to the present crisis. I would first mention that not only does the whole staff pay Maasor to the Keren Hayesod, but that whenever there is a collection for any national purpose, as, for example, inscribing a name in the Golden Book of the Jewish National Fund, the first address to be visited by the collectors is that of the pikidim, and such appeals invariably meet with a generous response. On the occasion of the recent collection of the Moazath Poalei Jerusalem for the unemployed, unmarried officials of the Palestine Zionist Executive all gave 12 days' salary to the workers' relief funds, and married officials gave nine days' salary. Finally, it is with regret that I have to record that the officials have received no salaries for the last three months, and have loyally accepted this suspension of what had become due to them. It is a deplorable thing that the Executive has been obliged thus to hold up the salaries earned by the officials by continuous and steady work under conditions of great pressure, and were it not for the devotion of the officials and for their desire to share the distress of their comrades in the field of labour, such suspension of salaries would have produced demoralisation, which has happily been entirely absent. Instead of attacking and criticising the officials, he said, Jewish labour in Palestine and supporters of Zionist funds everywhere should appreciate both the work they are doing and the sacrifice they have made. It seems to me that the Jewish public ought to have helped the Executive to create a Civil Service of expert officials devoted to the national aspirations and honoured by the public for their labours.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT IN PALESTINE CO-OPTED AS MEMBER OF
GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Jerusalem, Oct. 14th. (Jewish-Telegraphic Agency).

Mr. Lewis French, the Director of Palestine Development, has been co-opted a member of the Government Executive Council, which hitherto has consisted of the High Commissioner and his three principal officers, the Chief Secretary, the Attorney-General and the Treasurer.

It is rumoured here that Mr. French will remain in Palestine as Director of Agriculture in succession to Mr. Sawyer, the present Director, who is now out of the country and who, it is reported, will not return to Palestine.

The Colonial Office, on enquiry by the J.T.A., discredits the rumour that Mr. French is to be appointed Director of Agriculture in Palestine, and states that after concluding his investigations in connection with the Development Scheme in Palestine, Mr. French will return to London.

When the Mandate for Palestine was promulgated, it was intended by the Government to establish a Legislative Council, consisting of the High Commissioner, ten official members and twelve elected members, eight Moslems, two Jews and two Christians. The Arabs, however, boycotted the elections to the Council, which the Government thereupon declared null and void, and in consequence the Government of Palestine is being conducted without participation by representatives of the population. The present system is that Ordinances are considered first by the Executive Council, consisting of the High Commissioner, the Chief Secretary, the Attorney-General (till recently Mr. Norman Bentwich), and the Treasurer. They are then submitted to the Advisory Council, which consists of the members of the Executive Council, together with five heads of Departments and one of the District Governors. They have also to be approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and are then published in the "Official Gazette" in the three languages, English, Hebrew, and Arabic, and "except in rare cases of special urgency", they are not finally enacted until a month after publication, during which amendments can be suggested. This has been the method of Government since 1922.

GENERAL SIR ARTHUR WAUCHOPE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR PALESTINE
RECEIVES MR. SOKOLOV AND DR. BRODETSKY:

*London, Oct. 14th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

General Sir Arthur Wauchope, the new High Commissioner for Palestine, received yesterday (Tuesday) at his home in London, Mr. Nahum Sokolov, the President of the Jewish Agency, and Professor Selig Brodetsky, member of the Jewish Agency, and discussed with them for over an hour a number of questions affecting the situation in Palestine.

AMERICAN ZIONISTS REACH AGREEMENT ON DISPUTE BETWEEN TWO
OPPOSING PARTIES: SPLIT AVOIDED BY FORMATION OF COMMITTEE
INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH SIDES TO PREPARE AGENDA
FOR AMERICAN ZIONIST CONVENTION NEXT MONTH.

New York, Oct. 14th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

An agreement has been reached between the two contending groups in the American Zionist movement, by which the split in the American Zionist ranks which was feared has been avoided.

The agreement was concluded at a meeting of the National Executive of the Zionist Organisation of America, attended among others by Mr. Louis Lipsky, former President of the Zionist Organisation of America, and the leader of the Opposition, Mr. Robert Szold, the present Chairman of the Zionist Organisation of America, and Mr. Emanuel Neuman, the American member of the Zionist World Executive, who has been delaying his departure for London in the endeavour to arrange an agreement between the two factions.

Mr. Szold delivered an address in which he declared that the present Administration of the Zionist Organisation of America fully recognises the sovereignty of the Convention of the Zionist Organisation of America. (The next Convention is due to be held on November 8th. at Atlantic City). The Executive then adopted a resolution, proposed by Mr. Louis Lipsky, recommending the appointment of a Committee, to be approved by the Convention, which will be empowered to recommend the selection of a National Administration, which will disregard partisan differences, and will aim at securing the co-operation of all Zionist forces without regard to majorities or factions. This Committee, which was immediately appointed and consists of Mr. Robert Szold, Mr. Louis Lipsky, Mr. Brodie, Mr. Abraham Tulin, Mr. Morris Rothenberg, and Judge William M. Lewis, will prepare the agenda for the Convention next month.

.. We are not unfamiliar with the attacks on the present Administration which began indeed the day after it was elected at Cleveland, the "New Palestine", the official organ of the American Zionist Organisation, writes in an editorial in its latest issue to arrive in London (October 2nd.). Despite the fact that the tempo and bitterness of these assaults have increased since the Congress and have found their way into the general press, it proceeds, we have hitherto been able to refrain from utilising "The New Palestine" from entering upon a defence which could only increase bitterness and intensify that internecine strife which seems to delight some, but distresses and mortifies most Zionists. We have so far chosen the hard path of refraining from response to what in public amounts to a continual changing of issues and in private descends at times to very low levels.

The present Administration, it then says, took office because the movement was in peril. It asked for and gave no pledges. It has bettered some local conditions, and it believes that in the international field it has achieved some real gains. It has been conscious of the serious situation in Palestine, and it is deeply aware that the financial crisis is still the most serious of all problems that Zionists have to face. In the light of facts we have no lust for battle, or for indulging in the luxury of what we believe to be a wholly deplorable and artificial stirring up of factional differences.

The Zionist Convention, it concludes, is still the supreme deciding body in American Zionism. Its meetings and those of the National Executive Committee seem to us the proper place for discussing differences of principle - if they exist. We hope, therefore, that we shall be able to continue in our policy of avoiding "politics".

REVISIONISTS AND ZIONIST ORGANISATION : GERMAN ZIONIST FEDERATION
FOLLOWS UP GERMAN REVISIONIST DECISION TO LEAVE FEDERATION
BY DECLARING MEMBERSHIP OF REVISIONIST UNION INCOMPATIBLE
WITH MEMBERSHIP OF ZIONIST ORGANISATION: ENQUIRY ADDRESSED
TO ZIONIST EXECUTIVE IN LONDON WHAT STAND IT TAKES TOWARDS
CALAIS DECISION OF REVISIONIST WORLD EXECUTIVE.

Berlin, Oct. 15th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Following the decision adopted by the Conference of the Zionist Revisionist Union in Germany (reported in yesterday's J.T.A. Bulletin) to leave it open to its members as individuals to belong or not to belong to the local groups of the Zionist Federation of Germany, but declaring it no longer obligatory on its members to belong to the German Zionist Federation and recommending them to establish independent Revisionist groups, the Executive of the German Zionist Federation has adopted a decision to-day declaring that membership of the Zionist Revisionist Party is incompatible with membership of the Zionist Federation.

This decision, it adds, is not directed against the Revisionist idea, but against the attitude adopted by the German Revisionist Union, which can only be harmful to the interests of the Zionist movement. At the same time, the Executive of the German Zionist Federation has addressed an enquiry to the Zionist World Executive in London, asking it what attitude it is adopting with regard to the Calais decision of the Executive Committee of the World Union of Zionist Revisionists (given in the J.T.A. Bulletin of the 1st. inst.), to the effect that in view of the circumstance that a section of the members of the Revisionist Union have no desire to retain further their membership of the Zionist Organisation, the paragraph of the basic principles of Revisionism, which defines the Union as a whole as an integral part of the Zionist World Organisation is expunged from the new formulation of the basic principles, and the membership of the Revisionist Union is in future not restricted to Shekel-payers.

∴ The report of the Zionist World Executive to the last Zionist Congress held in Basle in July (before the Calais decision) contained the following paragraph:

The structural character of this Union (Union of Zionist Revisionists) has assumed forms which can no longer be regarded with indifference from the constitutional point of view. The Union has acted not only as a political Congress party within the rights allowed to it by the Constitution, but has even gone further by endeavouring to form a separate inter-territorial organisation parallel to the World Zionist Organisation. It has established constituent bodies comprising local societies in different countries, which have held conferences; it has instituted a special membership contribution called "Dinar", held periodical inter-territorial conferences modelled after the Zionist Congress and attended by elected delegates, and appointed at these conferences an Executive which had its headquarters first in Paris, then in Berlin, and now in London, and also created a number of independent financial and political institutions. The activity of the Union and of its institutions has escaped the control of the Executive owing to the fact that it is illegal from the point of view of our Constitution, as well as because of its known relationship towards the Zionist Organisation.

DR. WEIZMANN IN BERLIN TO ORGANISE MEASURES AGAINST GERMAN NATIONALISTS SAYS HITLERIST PRESS.

Berlin, Oct. 15th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Dr. Ch. Weizmann, the late President of the Zionist World Organisation and the Jewish Agency (who is now in Berlin), has come to Germany in order to consult the German Zionists with regard to organising a movement for Jewish attack against the Nazis and the entire National Opposition, the "Voelkischer Beobachter" and all the other Hitlerist papers in Germany declare to-day in unison.

TRIAL OF HITLERIST RINGLEADERS OF ANTI-JEWISH ROSH HASHANAH EXCESSES IN BERLIN WILL TAKE PLACE NEXT WEEK: OBJECTION AGAINST JUDGES UPHOLD NOT BECAUSE OF THEIR CONNECTIONS WITH JEWS BUT BECAUSE SAME JUDGES ALREADY FOUND GUILTY AND CONDEMNED COUNT HELLDORF'S CHAUFFEUR FOR SAME AFFAIR.

Berlin, Oct. 14th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The trial of Count Helldorf and the other prisoners who are accused together with him of having organised and directed the anti-Jewish excesses in Berlin on Rosh Hashanah will be resumed next Thursday, the 22nd. inst., following the decision of the court to uphold the objection lodged by the Counsel for the Defence against the presiding judge, Land Court Director Schmitz, and his associate judge, Land Court Director Thiemann.

The decision on the objection of the court presided over by Land Court Director Friedman, which has just been handed down, begins by pointing out that in sustaining the objection, it casts no doubt whatever on the impartiality and objectivity of the judges of the criminal court who had been trying the case. The court was rather concerned in its decision by the feeling that any real lack of confidence by the accused in the court that was trying them, based on a belief that they would not have a fair and impartial hearing, was sufficient cause for a fresh trial. Ground for such anxiety on the part of the accused existed in the fact that the same judges had already found guilty and condemned Helldorf's chauffeur Kuhn on a charge connected with the same accusation as that brought against him.

The upholding of the objection does not, however, it proceeds, indicate any acceptance of the assertion that the judges, for reasons of Jewish relationship or otherwise, are under Jewish influence. Membership of the Jewish Community or relationship to Jews does not disqualify a judge or jurymen. In the case of the jurymen, Lothar Stark, however, he had himself risen to explain that he was not impartial in the case, because he was a Jew, and consequently the court had to accept his own ruling of his partiality.

150 YEARS OF JEWISH EMANCIPATION IN AUSTRIA.

Vienna, Oct. 14th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Jews of Austria are commemorating to-day the 150th. anniversary of the promulgation of the Toleration Decree by Emperor Josef II., the son and successor of the Empress Maria Theresa, which gave recognition to the non-Catholic religions in the Austrian Empire and opened a new era for the Austrian Jews by giving them their emancipation.

The Emperor Josef was an admirer of Voltaire, and a disciple of the school of enlightenment, so that when he came to the throne he adopted a liberal attitude towards the Jews of his country, differing from that of his mother, who had imposed many restrictions on them, considering it his duty to improve their condition.

The principle underlying the decree of toleration published on October 13th., 1781, was the guarantee to all religious bodies, recognised by law, of freedom of worship, the management of their own affairs, and the undisturbed possession and disposal of their property. A week later, on October 21st., 1781, Emperor Josef issued another order, abrogating all the laws which had required the Jews to wear a distinctive dress. The enlightenment of the Jews was one of his cherished plans, and to this end he demanded that the Jews should assimilate themselves to their surroundings, adopt the language of the country and establish schools according to modern educational principles, that they should be allowed

to enter all high schools and universities, to lease lands for agricultural purposes if they worked it with Jewish hands, and to engage in all mechanical trades, arts and wholesale commerce. This decree was issued on October 19th., 1781. On December 19th. of the same year, he abolished the poll-tax, directed the authorities to treat the Jews like fellowmen, and commanded that Jewish children in the public schools should receive proper consideration.

The toleration decree, the so-called Toleranzpatent, was introduced by the Emperor with a statement that it was his aim to permit all his subjects, without distinction of creed and nationality to participate in the welfare and freedom of his Government. The specific ecclesiastical restrictions against the Jews dating from the time of the Vienna Council, prohibiting Jews from being abroad before noon on Sundays and Catholic Holy Days and from visiting places of amusement, were abolished. He also compelled the Jews in 1787 to assume fixed family names and to serve in the army, in each case the first instance of the kind in Europe.

Improvement Does Not Last Long: Francis II Introduces New Restrictions.

The improvement did not last long. When the Emperor Josef died, after reigning for ten years, the Bishops presented a petition to his successor, Leopold II., asking him to abrogate the laws relating to the Jews, who should be again declared crown vassals, with their position depending solely on the goodwill of the monarch. Leopold evaded the question, however, and during his short reign of less than two years no action was taken in this regard.

But his son, Francis II. was a man of narrow views, and under his rule the principle of improving the condition of the Jews by opening to them new ways of activity, as Josef II had intended, was given up. Agriculture, which Josef II. had endeavoured to introduce among the Jews, was restricted: Jews were prohibited from farming rural property. Similarly a Jew could foreclose a mortgage on real estate only under the condition that he should not buy it or take it under his administration, and the Emperor wrote with great indignation to one of his Ministers, that he had heard that the Vienna Jews bought houses in the name of Christians and that this scandal would not be tolerated. A law of 1804 prohibited Jews dealing in saltpetre and another of 1814 prohibited them dealing in salt and grain. A law of 1818, which was repeated in 1829, prohibited Jews from being druggists. In 1802 it was decreed that no Jew should henceforth obtain permission to reside in Vienna, but this law was later amended in favour of the wealthier Jews. The law that Jews should not employ Christian servants in their houses was repeatedly renewed between 1803 and 1807. The ecclesiastical laws were also applied with regard to the internal affairs of the Jews. Nevertheless, under his reign, a Jew named Hoenig, a member of a family of famous financiers, was appointed in 1810 as an officer in the army, the first case in Europe outside France.

Ferdinand I., his son, who succeeded him in 1835, was an invalid without much influence on the affairs of the Government, and he abdicated after the Revolution of 1848, being succeeded by his nephew, Francis Josef, who died during the Great War, and in whose reign the Jews obtained full rights. Ferdinand was very friendly to the Jews, and effected several improvements in their condition and after his abdication, when he went to live in Prague, he became a member of the Chevra Kadisha there, till his death in 1875, paying a special contribution that Kadish should be said for him for the whole year after his death.

(NOT FOR PUBLICATION UNLESS BY PREVIOUS ARRANGEMENT).