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DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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LORD MELCHETT'S FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY: LORD READING SPEAKS
AT MEMORIAL SERVICE HELD IN PALESTINE: BUT FOR HIS IN-
SPIRATION HE SAYS I WOULD NOT HAVE DONE TENTH OF WHAT
I HAVE DONE FOR PALESTINE: LORD AND LADY READING PLANT
TREES IN BALFOUR FOREST BESIDE THOSE PLANTED BY LORD
MELCHETT.

Jerusalem, Dec. 27th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The first anniversary of the death of the first Lord Melchett (Sir Alfred Mond) which occurred at his home in London on the afternoon of December 27th., 1930, was observed this afternoon by a traditional Jewish memorial service held in the Imperial Chemical Building in Haifa, at which the Marquess of Reading, who had close family and business relations with Lord Melchett, delivered the address.

But for Lord Melchett's inspiration, I should not have done a tenth part of what I have done for Palestine, said Lord Reading, who is Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Palestine Electric Corporation, was Vice-Chairman of the Palestine Emergency Fund raised after the 1929 Palestine massacres and has on several occasions rendered great help to the Zionist movement, notably after the 1929 outbreak, when a tribute was paid to him at the meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Jewish Agency and the Actions Committee for his co-operation with the Executive in making representations to the Government, and again after the issue of the Passfield White Paper in the negotiations which led up to the issue of the Prime Minister's letter of authoritative interpretation.

Lord and Lady Reading also each planted to-day a pine in the Balfour Forest in the Jewish Colony of Jinjar, in the Valley of Jezreel, next to those planted in 1928 by the late Lord Melchett, Lady Melchett and Lady Erleigh, Lord Melchett's daughter, and daughter-in-law of Lord Reading, when the then High Commissioner, Field-Marshal Lord Plumer, inaugurated the Balfour Forest during their visit to Palestine.

The Zionist movement is young and therefore impatient, the late Lord Melchett said on that occasion, declaring himself highly optimistic with regard to the future of Palestine, but Zion is thousands of years old and despite repeated failures it always rises again, concluding his speech by quoting in the Hebrew the passage from Isaiah "Nachmuh, Nachmuh Ami" ("Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people").

Mr. Pinchas Rutenberg, the Managing Director of the Palestine Electric Corporation, and Mr. Epstein and Mr. Weitz, of the Jewish National Fund head office in Jerusalem, who went to Jinjar specially for the occasion, were present at the planting of the saplings in the Balfour Forest by Lord and Lady Reading.

NEW DRASTIC LAND ORDINANCE IN PALESTINE: DISPUTES TO BE DECIDED OUTSIDE COURTS: VAST ADMINISTRATIVE POWERS.

Jerusalem, Dec. 27th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

A drastic Ordinance enabling District Commissioners to make orders regarding the possession of land concerning which a dispute exists which is likely to cause a breach of the peace, is published in the Official Gazette.

The District Commissioners are empowered by this Land Disputes Ordinance to summon the parties concerned to attend before him and to put in written statements their respective claims, and after reading these statements they are to examine the parties, take evidence and, if possible, decide who was in actual possession of the land at the time of the dispute.

If it appears to the District Commissioner that in the two months preceding the dispute any party has been forcibly dispossessed, he may treat the party so dispossessed as if he had been in possession at such date. In such a case the party shall be entitled to possession until evicted in due course of law.

Proceedings under this Ordinance will be deemed to be proceedings before a magistrate as regards taking evidence on oath, service of orders, summonses and other documents, enforcement of orders and the like but no appeal will lie against any order by the District Commissioner under this Ordinance.

An order made under this Ordinance will prevent the alienation of the land which is the subject of dispute and a copy of the order will be served on the Registrar of Lands.

If the District Commissioner decides that none of the parties was in actual possession of the land in dispute or is unable to satisfy himself which of them was in actual possession, he may order its attachment until a competent Court has determined the rights of the parties, but he may withdraw the attachment at any time if he is satisfied that there is no longer any likelihood of a breach of the peace.

The Ordinance also deals with the time-old custom of using land or water for grazing, cutting wood or reeds, watering animals, irrigation, fishing or other like purpose and empowers the District Commissioner to make an order prohibiting any interference with the exercise of such practice until a competent Court has decided whether a right to such uses exists.

LABOUR LEGISLATION IN PALESTINE: COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO RECOMMEND AMENDMENTS OR NEW LEGISLATION: WILL EXAMINE QUESTION OF HIGHER WAGE FOR ARABS.

Jerusalem, Dec. 27th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

A Committee of which Major Campbell, the District Commissioner for the Jerusalem District, is Chairman, and the members are Colonel Horon, Director of the Government Department of Health, Colonel Hudson, the Postmaster-General, Mr. Bowman, the Director of Education, Mr. Hyamson, the Chief Immigration Officer, Miss Nixon, the Welfare Inspector, Mr. Pinchas Rutenberg, Mr. Auni Bey Abdul Hadi, Mr. Elias T. Gelat, and Dr. M. Smolra, has been appointed by the High Commissioner, General Sir Arthur Wauchope, to consider the operation of existing labour legislation in Palestine and to make recommendations for its amendment, if necessary, or for the introduction of new legislation.

The Committee will review in particular the provision in force as regards the protection of children in wage-earning employment, the prevention of sweating evils, compensation for industrial accidents and compulsory sickness insurance. It is also to examine the question of creating machinery for the fixing of a minimum wage in Palestine and whether measures should be introduced with a view to ensuring that in all Government and Municipal works, whether carried out by the Government or Municipality direct or through contractors, there shall be conditions of labour similar to those guaranteed in works carried out under the Palestine and East African Loans Act of 1926.

The question of fixing a higher minimum wage for Arabs and whether it is likely to cause an influx of Arabs to the towns which would swell the ranks of unskilled labour in the towns is also to be examined by the Committee.

BRITISH POLICY IN PALESTINE: JEWISH NON-CO-OPERATION WITH GOVERNMENT URGED AT POLISH REVISIONIST CONFERENCE TO BRING ABOUT REVERSAL OF ANTI-ZIONIST ATTITUDE.

Warsaw, Dec. 27th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The proclamation of a vigorous policy of non-co-operation with the British Government in order to bring about a reversal of the present anti-Jewish attitude of the British Government was urged by Mr. Meer Grossman, Vice-Chairman of the Zionist Revisionist World Union, in addressing the Fifth Conference of the Polish Revisionist Organisation which was opened here this evening, with about 280 delegates present from all parts of the country.

Mr. Vladimir Jabotinsky, the President of the Revisionist World Union, is arriving in Warsaw to-morrow to address the Conference. During his stay Mr. Jabotinsky will also speak at a mass meeting where he will deal with the present position of Zionism, the outlook for further practical work in Palestine, and the relations between the Zionist movement and the Mandatory Power.

WARSAW JEWS PROTEST AGAINST BARRING OF JEWISH IMMIGRATION TO PALESTINE: CRITICISE JEWISH AGENCY FOR ACCEPTING 350 IMMIGRATION CERTIFICATES.

Warsaw, Dec. 27th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

A big mass meeting to protest against the barring of Jewish immigration to Palestine was held here last night at the Scala Theatre.

Speakers belonging to various sections of the Zionist movement complained of the action of the Palestine Government in issuing to the Jewish Agency only 350 immigration certificates for the coming half-year, and criticised the Jewish Agency for accepting such a small number of certificates.

FRUIT IMPORT TRADE IN POLAND TO BE MADE A MONOPOLY?: JEWISH PRESS ANXIOUS OVER REPORT THAT GOVERNMENT CONTEMPLATES GRANTING MONOPOLY FACILITIES TO BRITISH FIRM: FEARS DISPLACEMENT OF TENS OF THOUSANDS OF JEWISH TRADERS: SUGGESTION THAT THIS WILL BE FIRST MOVE TO MONOPOLISATION OF TRADING AS A WHOLE.

Warsaw, Dec. 27th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Fruit importers and traders in Poland, the great majority of whom are Jews, are in a state of excitement over a report that the Government intends to monopolise this branch of trading, the Yiddish daily "Najer Hajnt" writes, and if this is true, it says, tens of thousands of Jewish traders who are now engaged in this branch of enterprise, will be displaced.

The report has appeared in a number of Polish papers, the "Hajnt" says, and has been denied, but in spite of the denial there is some truth in it. For a number of reasons connected with the general economic situation, it explains, the Government is conducting its import policy in such a way that there should be an equivalent in exports for everything that is imported. Oranges, lemons, and bananas would be imported freely to the amount for which Polish goods would be exported in return. Faced with this situation, the fruit importers were engaged in an effort to establish an export co-operative to take the matter in hand. At this point, however, a British firm came on the scene with a proposal to take over the entire import of fruit and to arrange for the export of Polish crops to Britain in return. The monopoly would be disguised by the Government introducing three categories of customs payments on fruit - 300 zlotys, 200 zlotys and 100 zlotys per hundred kilos, and the British firm in question alone would be charged at the lowest rate, so that it will be impossible for any other concerns to compete with it.

The scandal is the greater, the "Hajnt" says, because the chairman of the Fruit-Trade Section of the Jewish Merchants' Federation, Mr. Silbergleit, is engaged in the negotiations in association with the British firm, and the other merchants consider that he has betrayed their interests, creating a situation in which tens of thousands of Jewish and other merchants are in danger of losing their livelihoods.

The Jewish Merchants' Federation, it continues, is, of course, opposed to the whole business, but it has not been able to influence the President of the Fruit Trade Section to change his attitude and the demand is now made that he should resign his office.

The non-Jewish merchants in the trade, the paper adds, are solid with the Jewish merchants in this matter, endeavouring to find a way out of the danger which is threatening their common interests.

In the "Koment" Mr. Stupnicki publishes an article headed "Is there to be a new Monopoly?"

There has been a lot of talk of late about a new monopoly being created in the fruit import industry, he writes, and as usual the report has been denied. It does seem, however, in spite of the denial, that there is a foundation of truth in the report, and that the Ministry of Finance has already completed a project for establishing a monopoly in foreign fruit, giving the monopoly to a foreign concern which will build the necessary storehouses in the Polish port of Gdynia. The monopoly would be exercised by giving this firm the privilege of importing fruit at a smaller rate of duty, while other importers would have to pay double and treble the amount of duty.

The outlook is an alarming one, Mr. Stupnicki concludes, because people are not at all certain that the monopoly is going to stop at the fruit trade. The impression is rather that the fruit trade monopoly is only to be a first move towards a general monopolisation of trading as a whole.

BARON DE HIRSCH CENTENARY MEETING IN PARIS: BARON ALFRED DE
GUINZBURG PRESIDES: TRIBUTES BY ICA MANAGER M. LOUIS
OUNGRE AND ZIONIST GENERAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT MR. LEO
MOTZKIN.

Paris, Dec. 24th. (J.T.A. Mail Service).

A big memorial meeting on the occasion of the centenary of Baron de Hirsch was held here last night under the auspices of the Federation of Jewish Societies. Baron Alfred de Guinzbourg was in the chair, and the Presidium included, M. I. Efroikin, Mr. Leo Motzkin, President of the Actions Committee of the Zionist World Organisation, Dr. Kreinin, one of the Directors of the Hicem, and M. Louis Oungre, Manager of the Ica.

Baron de Guinzbourg paid tribute to the life and work of Baron de Hirsch, describing him as a great man with immense attachment to his people, whose life he had sought to rebuild on a sounder and more healthy basis. Baron de Hirsch has not died, he concluded, he lives in his work.

Advocate Henri Sliosberg, who was unable to be present owing to the recent death of his wife, sent a letter to the meeting in which he described the great achievements of Baron de Hirsch on behalf of Russian Jewry. The Jewish people has not had many philanthropists like Baron de Hirsch, he wrote.

Dr. Kreinin, speaking from first-hand knowledge, described the life of the Jews in the colonies founded by Baron de Hirsch in the Argentine, and the other South American countries.

We honour Baron de Hirsch's memory, he said, but the Jews of the Argentine colonies love him. We are proud of him, but they look to him as their father. From this meeting, he concluded, we send our blessings and our greetings to Argentine Jewry, and we wish that they should increase and continue to prosper.

Professor Oualid, in a message to the meeting, wrote that Baron de Hirsch had modernised Jewish life and all Jews owe him something, because he had helped to improve Jewish life as a whole, elevating Jewish dignity and Jewish pride.

In order to understand properly Baron de Hirsch's greatness, Mr. Motzkin said, they must first transport themselves into his period. According to the estimate of the late Oscar Straus, Baron de Hirsch had given more than a hundred million dollars for Jewish work. That is a colossal figure, he said, a legendary amount.

Zionists were not content with what Baron de Hirsch had done, he went on, but whatever they felt about his work, it was beyond question that he had conferred tremendous benefits on Jews. We no longer have Jewish philanthropists like Baron de Hirsch, he concluded. Baron de Hirsch was happy to have the opportunity of helping Jews, of improving their status, of changing their life for the better, and his memory will remain for ever enshrined in Jewish hearts.

Messages were received by the meeting from Dr. Bernhard Kahn, on behalf of the Joint Distribution Committee, from Mr. O. E. d'Avigdor Goldsmid, on behalf of the Jewish Board of Deputies, from the Zionist Executive in London, the British Section of the Jewish Agency and from the Ezra Society in Antwerp.

BARON DE HIRSCH CENTENARY MEETING IN PARIS: BARON ALFRED DE GUINZBOURG PRESIDES: TRIBUTES BY ICA MANAGER M. LOUIS OUNGRE AND ZIONIST GENERAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT MR. LEO KOTZKIN.

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I believe these figures provide the best answer to the enemies of Israel when they argue that the Jew cannot be an agriculturist.

Indeed, the task was heavy. It was not done without mortification, but the results achieved by force of perseverance and energy are such that the Ica has been able to follow the same programme of colonisation in other countries. In Canada, Brazil, the United States, Palestine, everywhere, you find to-day Ica colonists living peaceably and honestly by working on the land.

Enormous Masses Of Jews Still Remain In Russia And Cannot Be Abandoned There.

In spite of all possible human efforts, M. Oungre continued, enormous masses of our co-religionists remain in Russia, continuing to suffer there. They cannot be abandoned there and, in spite of all the obstacles to the free development of philanthropic activity, it is essential to come to their aid in some possible measure. First of all, it was necessary to provide instruction for the children; then to train the youth for a career; then to support the traders and artisans in the exercise of their professions, and so the Ica created a considerable network of elementary and professional schools in which thousands of children were prepared for the battle for life. Another innovation for which the Ica claims credit is the initiation of a large mass of Jewish traders and workers to the advantages of mutual-help and co-operation. It created the co-operative loan banks and financed them at first; everywhere the voluntary workers were instructed by the Ica in the organisation and direction of these co-operative establishments which, on the eve of the European war, numbered 650 and shed the rays of their charitable work on the largest towns, as well as on the smallest village, supplying to our co-religionists the credits which were refused them everywhere else.

The Terrible Situation Which Confronted The Ica At End Of War: Everything Had To Be Reconstructed And Efforts Of Past Thirteen Years In This Direction Not Been In Vain.

If the world war has been a catastrophe for the entire world, from which it still suffers at the present day, this is unfortunately even more particularly true of Judaism, M. Oungre said. You know all the sufferings that have been endured. So far as the Ica, in particular, is concerned, it found itself since the Armistice, faced by a lamentable picture - all its works destroyed, unspeakable misery among the Jewish populations of Russia, Poland, Roumania, Lithuania, Latvia, Czecho-Slovakia, etc. An enormous task fell upon it, as heavy and difficult as it was urgent. Everything had to be reconstructed, new necessities faced, the inevitable emigration extended, oversea establishments ameliorated and intensified, and new steps taken to relieve and help those of our co-religionists who had to remain in Eastern Europe.

I believe I can say that the efforts pursued for thirteen years in this direction have not been in vain: in Poland, Soviet Russia, Lithuania, Latvia, Czecho-Slovakia, Roumania, a vast network of loan-banks have been reconstituted, thanks to the joint action of the Ica and its great American sister, the Joint Distribution Committee. At the same time the newly established regimes in the countries of Eastern Europe have permitted the creation of an agricultural work of vast scope. You know of the Jewish colonisation enterprise in Soviet Russia, of the colonisation work in Bessarabia, in Poland, in Bukovina, etc.

At the same time, emigration has been the object of special activity. The combined action of the Ica, the Hias, of New York, and the Emigdirekt in Eastern Europe, has produced the Hicem, which takes under its aegis all our brothers going out to create a new existence in those other countries where they are given a better welcome. In the field of elementary and vocational instruction, all our pre-war programme has been reset and realised. Finally, in the countries of immigration the largest amount of support for the consolidation and development of the new Jewish settlements has come from the Ica:

If To-day Jewry - American Argentinian Brazilian Canadian - Has Taken Development You Know It Is Not Rash To Say Baron de Hirsch Played Important Part In Bringing It About: From Warsaw To Rio de Janeiro Jewish Youth Small-traders And Artisans Jewish Land Workers In Russian Steppes Argentine Pampas and Canadian Prairies And Jewish Immigrants Going Out To New Countries All Look To Baron de Hirsch As Their Father.

And if to-day, Jewry - American, Argentinian, Brazilian, Canadian - has taken the development that you know, M. Oungre said, and in all these countries our co-religionists play a considerable part in commerce, finance, politics, letters, the arts, etc., it is not rash, I think, to say that the Ica, which is to say Baron de Hirsch, has played an important part in bringing about this great achievement.

When death took from Baron de Hirsch his only son, M. Oungre concluded, he said: "I have lost my son; but I have not lost my heir". To-day his heirs are all over the world. In the two hemispheres, the Jewish youth in the Ica vocational schools, in Warsaw or in Rio de Janeiro, the Jewish peasants working the land in the Steppes of Russia, in the plains of Bessarabia, in the Canadian prairies, in the Brazilian forests, in the Argentine pampas, the Jewish small-traders and artisans who in numerous countries form queues at the doors of our loan banks, and the Jewish emigrants who are on the road to a new existence in the new countries, all look to Baron de Hirsch as their father, who had regard for their misery and with paternal solicitude sought to improve their lot. They all bless his memory, and all we others should join with them in vowing to his memory eternal recognition for all that he has done for them. Men like Baron de Hirsch are an honour to Judaism, to all humanity - they embody the specifically Jewish ideal of justice, good-doing and brotherhood.

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