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# FIRST NATHAN STRAUS DEATH ANNIVERSARY OBSERVED AT STRAUS HEALTH CENTRE IN JERUSALEM.

Jerusalem, Jan. 11th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The first anniversary of the death of Mr. Nathan Straus was observed this afternoon by a memorial gathering held this afternoon at the Nathan and Lina Straus Health Centre in Jerusalem, which he founded.

Dr. L. J. Kligler, Professor of Hygiene at the Hebrew University, who was the first Director of the Palestine Malaria Research Department, was in the chair, and Miss Henrietta Szold, the founder of the Hadassah Health Unit, paid tribute to Mr. Nathan Straus's character and his many philanthropies. Dr. A. J. Levy afterwards delivered a lecture on the development and aims of public health.

The many charitable gifts which Mr. Nathan Straus bestowed on Palestine will not be forgotten, the late High Commissioner for Palestine, Sir John Chancellor, wrote to the Jewish Agency Executive last January when Mr. Nathan Straus died. His endowments for the promotion of social hygiene and infant welfare among all sections of the community remains a lasting memorial to his philanthropy in the Holy Land.

Colonel G. W. Peron, the Director of the Health Department of the Palestine Government, in a tribute which he gave the Jewish Telegraphic Agency at the time, said: Mr. Straus's system of pasteurised milk distribution was the principal reason for the remarkable diminution of the infantile death rate in recent years in America, Europe and elsewhere. In Palestine, his benefactions, with which his wife was associated, were designed to benefit all communities, and were in no way influenced by political considerations. His generosity is remembered by those who suffered destruction of their property in the 1927 earthquake in Palestine. The value of his Health Centres in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv from the curative, educational and charitable aspects cannot be too highly emphasised. The influence which they exert on the minds and bodies of the children of Palestine will be a permanent memorial to the great and wise benefactor.

The Nathan and Lina Straus Health Centre in Jerusalem, which Mr. Straus gave to the Hadassah, was dedicated on Mr. Straus's 81st birthday, on January 31st., 1929, by Rev. Dr. John Haynes Holmes, the Minister of the Community Church in New York, who was specially selected for the mission by Mr. Straus.

The corner-stone of the Nathan and Lina Health Centre was laid on March 2nd., 1927 by the then High Commissioner, Field-Marshal Lord Plumer, Mr. Nathan Straus being present at the ceremony, and Mr. Straus, in explaining his plans with regard to it said that it is to be for the use of all the inhabitants of the country, irrespective of race, creed or colour. It is to be a model structure of its kind, he went on, the centre from which health propaganda will radiate to all sections of the country; it will

serve as the headquarters of the Health Welfare Department of the Hadassah, giving the rest of its space to other health activities not before undertaken by the Hadassah. It will include all the preventive measures which the numerous modern scientific inventions in medicine make possible. My experience in pasteurisation of milk, he added, has taught me how much sickness and death can be prevented. The activities of the Health Centre will comprise every department of practical application for health of the inhabitants of the Holy Land - a contribution to the sum total of human happiness.

PALESTINE HIGH COMMISSIONER VISITING JEWISH COLONIES WITH DR. ARLOSSOROFF.

Jerusalem, Jan. 11th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The High Commissioner, General Sir Arthur Wauchope, accompanied by Dr. Arlossoroff, the head of the Palestine Zionist Executive, is flying to-morrow morning (Tuesday) to Semakh, in order to make his first inspection of the Jewish colonies in the Jordan Valley. The High Commissioner and Dr. Arlossoroff will lunch at the Jewish settlement Dagania.

JEWISH CHARACTER OF TEL AVIV POLICE FORCE TO BE RETAINED.

Jerusalem, Jan. 11th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Mr. Spicer, the Chief of the Palestine Police, has reached an agreement with the authorities of the Jewish town of Tel Aviv, the J.T.A. learns, which satisfies their main demands with regard to the maintenance of the Jewish character of the Tel Aviv police force.

Mr. Dizengoff, the Mayor of Tel Aviv, in his address of welcome to the High Commissioner, when he paid his first official visit to the town at the end of December, took the opportunity of raising with him the matter of the proposed abolition of the Tel Aviv police as a separate municipality force, which would have involved the abolition of its specifically Jewish character, and urged that the project should be dropped.

800 DUNAM OF LAND TO BE BOUGHT IN PALESTINE ON PROCEEDS OF NEW YORK JEWISH NATIONAL FUND ANNIVERSARY DINNER.

New York, Jan. 11th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The 30th. anniversary of the Jewish National Fund was celebrated last night at a banquet given here at the Edison Hotel, attended by 800 guests, each paying 25 dollars, thus raising a sum of 20,000 dollars, which is being assigned for the purchase of 800 dunams of land in Palestine.

Mr. Nahum Sokolov, Rabbi Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Mr. Louis Lipsky, Mr. Emanuel Neuman, Rabbi Meir Berlin and Mr. Robert Szold addressed the gathering.

SIX YOUNG JEWS SHOT ON ROMANIAN FRONTIER WHILE TRYING TO CROSS RIVER DNIESTER: OFFICIAL REPORT DESCRIBES THEM AS COMMUNISTS WHICH PARENTS DENY: DEPUTY LANDAU INTERVENES WITH GOVERNMENT AND GETS ENQUIRY COMMISSION APPOINTED.

Bucharest, Jan. 11th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Six young Jews, between the ages of 16 and 20 have been shot dead at Soroca, in Bessarabia, while trying to cross the River Dniester into Soviet Ukraine. The names of the victims are Seida, Pferdman, Riva, Darcauzan, Leib Rudmann and Saul Tzichinowsky.

The frontier guards claim that they shot them because they did not reply to their challenge.

Deputy Michael Landau, the Jewish National Party representative from Bessarabia, has arrived in Bucharest, and has taken up the matter with the Minister of War, General Stefanescu, and the Minister of the Interior, M. Ottescu.

Reports have been put about that the victims were Communists. Their parents, who live in Soroca, deny this.

The Government has promised Deputy Landau to hold an enquiry into the matter, under the direction of the Public Prosecutor. Deputy Landau left to-day for Soroca to be present unofficially at the enquiry.

A report from Bucharest which has appeared in the London press, said that the Roumanian frontier guards fired on Sunday on six men who were trying to cross the River Dniester into Soviet Russia, severely wounding all of them, one man later dying in hospital. Five of them, the report added, were Communist agents and the other a smuggler.

ROUMANIAN JEWS IN AMERICA AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK  
REMINDE ROUMANIAN GOVERNMENT FUTURE OF COUNTRY DEPENDS  
ON CO-OPERATION OF ALL ELEMENTS: JEWS ARE ABLE AND WILL-  
ING TO CONTRIBUTE IF THEY ARE NOT SUBJECTED TO DISCRIMINATION.

New York, Jan. 11th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Resolutions were adopted at the 23rd. annual Convention of the Federation of Roumanian Jews in America, which was concluded here to-day, calling on the Roumanian Government to assist the Jewish cultural and social institutions in the country, and not to discriminate against Jewish financial institutions, because the future of Roumania, the resolutions declare, depends upon the whole-hearted co-operation of all elements of the population, and the Jews are willing and able to make their contributions towards Roumania's prosperity.

POLISH JEWS IN AMERICA LOSE FAITH IN POLISH GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO IMPROVE POSITION OF POLISH JEWRY: FEDERATION OF POLISH JEWS THEREFORE WITHDRAWS FROM POLISH-JEWISH GOODWILL COMMITTEE IN AMERICA.

New York, Jan. 11th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Polish Government is doing nothing to improve the Jewish situation in Poland, says the Federation of Polish Jews in America, announcing its withdrawal as a body from the Polish-Jewish Goodwill Committee in America. To retain our membership in the Goodwill Committee, the statement, which is signed by Mr. Benjamin Winter, the President of the Federation says, would lead to a distorted view of the Jewish situation in Poland.

Dr. Joseph Tenenbaum, the President of the Polish-Jewish Goodwill Committee in America, resigned the Presidency at the end of November, explaining in a letter to the Polish Ambassador, H. Titus Filipowicz, that for two years, since the Federation of Polish Jews in America, acting on his suggestion, had launched the Goodwill movement, he and his associates had been labouring under the most difficult conditions to bring about a rapprochement between Poles and Jews, but he felt that the time had come when the most enthusiastic sentimentalist had to draw the line as to how far he could proceed without betraying the interests of the three million Jews in Poland. We have been told to have patience, he concluded, but I feel that it is not only futile to go on preaching goodwill in vain, but that it would reflect on my sense of duty if I were to remain the head of an abortive movement.

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PROTEST IN POLISH PARLIAMENT AGAINST ASSURANCES GIVEN TO JEWS  
BY POLISH AMBASSADOR IN AMERICA: WHAT RIGHT DEPUTY ASKS  
HAVE POLISH REPRESENTATIVES ABROAD TO PROMISE ABOLITION  
OF POLISH UNIVERSITY AUTONOMY WHEN GOVERNMENT TELLS US  
IT HAS NO INTENTION OF ABOLISHING IT.

New York, Jan. 11th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Deputy Rymer, a member of the antisemitic National Democratic Party, wanted to know to-day in the discussion in Parliament on the budget of the Foreign Ministry what was the meaning of M. Filipowicz, the Polish Ambassador in America, and other Polish representatives abroad, making reassuring statements to the Jews abroad about the position of the Jews in Poland and the Government's intentions, which were in conflict with the statements made by the Government itself at home.

He wanted to know in particular what right M. Zbyszowski had to declare that the autonomy of the Polish Universities was being abolished, when the home Government was giving them assurances that it had no such intention.

Deputy Dr. Rosmarin, speaking on behalf of the Club of Jewish Deputies, complained that the anti-Jewish excesses and the anti-Jewish boycott movement in Poland are on similar lines to the Hitlerist campaign in Germany and are doing a great deal of harm to Polish prestige abroad. The numerous clausus schemes which are being pressed by the Pan-Polish Party, thinking to ride into power on the wave of support the measure would secure, cannot pass without rousing grave concern among world democracy, Dr. Rosmarin said. If the autonomy of the Universities exist only to give freedom to the students to beat Jews, it will be impossible, Deputy Rosmarin said, to find any sympathy abroad for such autonomy.

CZECHO-SLOVAKIAN BLOOD LIBEL AFFAIR TO BE-DROPPED? REPORT  
SAYS AUTHORITIES NOW CONVINCED OF BASELESSNESS OF CHARGE.

Prague, Jan. 11th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The blood libel affair in the Province of Carpatho-Russia is being dropped, the J.T.A. representative is informed in a reliable quarter. The proceedings against the two accused Jews which were to have been resumed on December 24th. but were held back on that day will not be reopened, it is stated.

Fresh medical experts who have been called in have presented reports completely in conflict with the report of the official Ukrainian medical officer, whose opinion at the outset, that the two children, Helena Bogdan and Vasil Kosta, had been subjected to a drawing of blood, which he believed was done for ritual purposes, resulted in the proceedings being taken by the authorities.

The authorities in Carpatho-Russia are only anxious to discover a way, it is stated, of ending the affair without themselves coming out in a bad light for having given official cognisance to the affair by pressing the charge.

THE WEISSBERGER AFFAIR IN CZECHO-SLOVAKIA: WITNESSES WHO  
DECLARE THAT WEISSBERGER WAS TEN KILOMETRES AWAY FROM  
SCENE OF MURDERS OF WHICH HE IS ACCUSED SERVING CUSTOM-  
ERS IN HIS SHOP WHEN THEY WERE COMMITTED.

Vienna, Jan. 10th. (J.T.A. Mail Service).

In the nineties of last century, the Czechs won an unenviable name in the Jewish world by the Hilsner blood libel affair in Polna, which almost brought Hilsner to the gallows, and finally sent him to prison for a life-term because of the terrible attitude on the question of ritual murder by Jews taken up by the judges and the legal authorities, the "Neue Welt" here writes. There was one man, Professor Masaryk, who saved the Czech people from that infamy, it proceeds. After the Great War, it continues, it was this same Professor Masaryk who won the independence of the Czecho-Slovakian State. The Jews have wished the Czech people well. It is an irony of history that it is under the rule of this very man, it goes on, that the evil spirit of Polna has risen again. Again there is a ritual murder trial in Czecho-Slovakia. Again public prosecutors, gendarmes and investigating judges and other authorities are at work to resurrect the lie of Jewish blood ritual. Under the Government of Professor Masaryk, the Legionary Horak, who murdered and robbed seven Jews, has amid the acclamation of the people been unanimously acquitted by the jury. Under his Government, a Jew, Weissberger, has been thrown into prison on a charge of having shot Czech peasants. The Horak case caused an outcry in Jewry, so now the attempt is being made to bring forward a Jewish murderer to counterbalance the Christian murderer and rouse anti-Jewish feeling.

We therefore publish the following letter, the "Neue Welt" says, which we have received from Michalovce, the home-town of the arrested man, Samuel Weissberger, signed by Bernat Hecht, an iron-dealer, of the same town:

From December 1st., 1917 till April 1st., 1920, I was employed in the Weissberger ironmongery firm in Michalovce. At that time, Samuel Weissberger, who is now under arrest, was already the head of the firm. During the war he was a gendarme stationed at Strazeca (Ormoza). Weissberger was demobilised on November 3rd., 1918, and after that date he was again working in his business at my side. On November 10th., 1918, a motor lorry arrived at Satoralja with a detachment of flying corps men, and the peasant Kucik was taken out of his house and shot, and the peasant Jurca, who was attending the Sunday service at Church was also taken out and shot. This happened on November 10th., and on this day Weissberger was in Michalovce, 10 kilometres away, wearing civilian clothes and serving his customers in his shop.

This, the letter goes on, was confirmed on December 17th., 1931, before the investigating judge, Dr. Szanto, by ten witnesses, five of them Christians, a Chief Notary, a Solicitor, a police captain, a police inspector, and a barber. The other five witnesses, including myself, are Jews. In spite of the evidence of these witnesses, Weissberger is still kept under arrest.

STARVING JEWS BREAK INTO JEWISH COMMUNITY BUILDING IN RIGA  
AND DEMAND FOOD.

Riga, Jan. 11th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

300 Jews, shouting that they are starving, broke today into the building of the Riga Jewish Community, demanding food. Deputy Dubin, the leader of the Agudath Israel Party in Latvia, who was in the building at the time, was threatened by the crowd. Police were finally brought in and dispersed the crowd.

GRAND RABBI OF JUGO-SLAVIA APPOINTED MEMBER OF SENATE.

Belgrade, Jan. 11th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Grand Rabbi of Jugo-Slavia, Dr. Isaac Alkalay, has been appointed a member of the Senate by King Alexander, who has nominated 30 of the 48 Senators comprising the first Senate of the country.

Even if my appointment as a Senator is an act of personal recognition, Dr. Alkalay said to the J.T.A. representative to-day at the opening meeting of the Senate, and is not in recognition of the Grand Rabbi of Jugo-Slavia, it is nevertheless a high distinction and in a way a recognition of Jugo-Slavian Jewry.

Grand Rabbi Alkalay is the only Jewish member of the Jugo-Slavian Parliament, Upper or Lower House.

THE PALESTINE POTASH COMPANY: NO CHANGE OF POLICY INVOLVED  
IN MR. NOVOMEYSKY'S MISSION TO AMERICA.

London, Jan. 12th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The mission to America which is being undertaken by Mr. M. A. Novomeysky, the concessionaire of the Dead Sea Works, and Lord Glenconner, does not involve any change of policy in the Palestine Potash Company, the J.T.A. is informed here to-day. Mr. Novomeysky and Lord Glenconner will take the opportunity of consulting the American members of the Board of Directors, but there is no question of any change of policy. The work of the Palestine Potash Company, it is stated, is proceeding very satisfactorily.

THE FEELING OF PALESTINE JEWRY IN PRESENT CRISIS: NO CRITICISM  
BUT CALM AND CONFIDENCE IN FINAL SUCCESS: SPEECH BY HEAD  
OF HASSIDIC COLONY BNAI BRAK: DR. WEIZMANN'S DREAMERS:  
CORRECTION BY DR. BRODETSKY.

London, Jan. 11th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The attitude of Palestine Jews in the present crisis was described to the Conference of the Zionist Federation of Great Britain and Ireland by Mr. Isaac Gerstenkorn, the founder and President of the Hassidic Colony, Bnai Brak, in Palestine, when he addressed the delegates, conveying the greetings of Palestine Jewry.

I have listened here to criticism and complaint, Mr. Gerstenkorn, who is in London in connection with the affairs of his colony and is proceeding on the 22nd. inst. to South Africa, probably together with Dr. Weizmann, who is to head the Keren Hayesod campaign there, said, but I have not heard here any expression of the feeling of certainty in our victory and the confidence and calm which animates Palestine Jewry. The Jews in Palestine are convinced of success, they know that Palestine will be ours, and that is why they go on with their work quietly and proudly, undiverted by anything. That, in his view, he said, was the difference between a Zionist in Palestine and a Zionist in the Diaspora. In Palestine there is the feeling of actually being on the spot and engaged in the building. Other peoples, the Hitlerists and their like, are

thinking to build their future on Jewish blood and Jewish misery. We Jews in Palestine are also building with blood, but our own blood.

The Bnai Brak colony was founded in 1924, at the time of the Fourth Aliyah by middle-class orthodox Jews from Poland and is situated between Tel Aviv and Petach Tikvah. Without assistance from the Zionist funds it has built up its life, consisting now of 1,200 souls, with its own synagogue, Talmud Torah and school. There is also a textile factory and a bank and each colonist has an orange grove, a brick-built house, and the colony has an excellent water supply. The colony is on the road to becoming self-supporting, and Mr. Gerstenkorn has succeeded in obtaining help in England to further this goal.

Dr. Brodetsky informs the J.T.A. in connection with his speech at the luncheon given to Mrs. I. M. Sieff by the Federation of Women Zionists (reported in the J.T.A. Bulletin yesterday) that in speaking of her membership of the small band of helpers which Dr. Weizmann had around him in Manchester in the very early stages of the present phase of Zionism, he had spoken of them as "dreamers", not as "greenhorns", as he was misheard to say.

PASSOVER RELIEF FOR RUSSIAN JEWRY: SOVIET AUTHORITIES AGREEMENT WITH LONDON FEDERATION OF JEWISH RELIEF ORGANISATIONS.

London, Jan. 12th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The representative in Russia of the Federation of Jewish Relief Organisations has made arrangements with the Soviet authorities for the issuing, from the Government stores, of flour and other commodities that could be used for Passover, the Federation announces. Three standard Passover parcels have been fixed upon, it says, consisting mainly of flour and other commodities. The recipients of such parcels would bake their own matzoth.

The Federation has cabled to the Manischewitz Matzoth Company in Cincinnati for details of their agreement with the Soviet authorities concerning matzoth, it is added.

The agreement between the Manischewitz Matzoth Company and the Soviet official agency in America, the Derutra Transport Corporation, which is linked with the Amtorg (reported by cable in the J.T.A. Bulletin) provides that the matzoth concern must ship into Soviet Russia, between January 1st. and March 15th. next, "not less than 200,000 packages of matzoth each weighing eleven pounds gross", or a minimum allotment of two million pounds.

Mr. Leo Broches, representing the Am-Derutra, states in the letter of negotiation to Mr. Manischewitz:

We undertake to accept for shipment the above quantity of matzoth parcels and to transport same to their points of destination by permission and authority received by us from the Soviet Government and the Soviet Government will guarantee the prompt, free and safe delivery to the addressees of such parcels up to April 20th., 1932, and in case of non-delivery through the fault of the Soviet Government, the cost of such parcels will be refunded at the price paid for same.

The agreement now entered into exists solely for the ensuing Passover, and any further agreement will depend upon future developments, Mr. Manischewitz has explained.