

(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. XIII. No. 18.

5 pages.

21st. Jan., 1932.

THE SOROCA SHOOTING AFFAIR: DEPUTY LANDAU ASKS FOR INTERVIEW WITH KING: ACCUSES INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE OF IGNORING HIS EVIDENCE AGAINST OFFICERS OF FRONTIER GUARD: ASKS HOW VICTIMS CAN BE ACCUSED OF COMMUNISM WHEN ONE OF THEM WAS A HEBREW TEACHER AND COMMUNISTS PERSECUTE AND EXILE HEBRAISTS.

Bucharest, Jan. 20th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Deputy Landau has asked the King for an audience, in order to place before him the facts in his possession with regard to the shooting of the six young Jews by the frontier guard at Soroca; showing that the facts contradict the statement made in the official communique exonerating the frontier guard, to the effect that the victims were Communists.

There is an outburst of indignation in wide circles in Roumanian Jewry and in the democratic press of the country against the official report exonerating the Soroca frontier guard. The democratic papers publish a letter to-day from Deputy Landau, in which he accuses the investigating commission of having ignored the evidence which he produced showing that the officers and non-commissioned officers of the frontier guard were guilty of having laid a trap for the victims.

Deputy Landau points out that one of the girl victims, Zelda Pferdman, was a Hebrew teacher at the Soroca Hebrew High School of the Tarbut Organisation, and a keen Hebraist, and she could therefore not have had any Communist leanings, because the Communist regime persecutes Hebrew and exiles Hebraists to Siberia.

∴ The Hebrew High School of the Tarbut Organisation at Soroca was in the news about a year ago, in February 1931, when the Minister of Education ordered it to be closed down, on the charge that there was a Communist cell discovered among the students.

The Jewish Deputies protested against the closing of the school, and the matter was raised several times in Parliament. Deputy Landau and Senator Rosenhaupt of Soroca visited the Minister of Education and obtained a promise from him to conduct an investigation into the charges, as a result of which the school was later reopened.

RABBI CHAIM OZER GRODZENSKI REPORTED ELECTED CHIEF RABBI OF WARSAW.

Warsaw, Jan. 20th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Yiddish daily "Najer Hajnt" carries a report to-day that the Executive of the Warsaw Jewish Community, which has an Agudist majority, has invited Rabbi Chaim Ozer Grodzenski, of Vilna, known as the Gaon of Vilna, to accept the office of Chief Rabbi of Warsaw.

Rabbi Grodzenski, who was elected last week by the Conference of Polish Rabbis as Ponorary President of the Federation of Polish Rabbis, is regarded as one of the great scholars in Israel, and the Agudists in Vilna have looked up to him for years as the virtual Chief Rabbi of Vilna. The Vilna Jewish Community, however, against the Agudist claims, elected in 1929 ex-Senator Rabbi Rubinstein, one of the Miz-rachist leaders, as Chief Rabbi of Vilna, and since the Agudists obtained their majority in the Warsaw Jewish Community they have made efforts to induce Rabbi Grodzenski to accept the post in Warsaw.

When Rabbi Rubinstein was elected Chief Rabbi of Vilna, the Agudists in Vilna appealed to the Government, contending that Vilna has no need of an official Chief Rabbi and that the Jews of Vilna regard Chaim Ozer Grodzenski, the head of the Vilna Beth Din, as being in effect the Chief Rabbi of the town. The Ministry of Education and Public Worship nevertheless overruled the objection and issued a decree confirming the election of Rabbi Rubinstein to the Chief Rabbinate. When the matter came up before the Board of the Vilna Jewish Community in March 1929 for ratification, seventeen members voted in favour and five members of the Agudath Israel voted against, and three other members abstained. For a time it was understood that the Agudist members of the Vilna Jewish Community intended to secede from the Community as a protest, and to form a separatist Community. The Vilna Rabbinate at the time also lodged a protest with the Jewish Community of Vilna against its action in ratifying Rabbi Rubinstein's election to the Chief Rabbinate.

Before Senator Rubinstein's election there was no Chief Rabbi in Vilna since the time of Rabbi Samuel, (1777) the last officially recognised head of the Beth Din. From Rabbi Samuel's time the title "Rosh Beth Din" was discarded, no Rabbi subsequently elected being authorised to assume that title.

Rabbi Dr. Pinchas Cohn, the President of the Agudath Israel World Organisation, speaking at the time of the situation created in Vilna by the Government's ratification of Rabbi Rubinstein's election as Chief Rabbi of Vilna, said: The position can be properly understood only by bearing in mind the place occupied by Rabbi Rubinstein as Rabbi in Vilna as against the great authority exercised by the Gaon Rabbi Chaim Ozer Grodzenski. When Vilna was part of the Czarist Empire, the Russian Government required that in every town a person should be appointed who had a thorough knowledge of the Russian language, for the purpose of keeping the registers of the Jewish Community. These people bore the title of Rabbi only to the outside world. To the Jewish population, the Government Rabbi was a matter of complete indifference. Rabbi Rubinstein held the post of Government Rabbi in Vilna, but Rabbi Grodzenski was the sole religious authority, not only to Vilna, but to half the Jewish world.

There is no official Chief Rabbi in Warsaw, but Rabbi Professor Schorr, the preacher of the Warsaw Great Synagogue, which is a "German" or "modernised" congregation, is regarded in many quarters as Chief Rabbi, as was his predecessor, Rabbi Professor Samuel Roznanski.

GERER REBBE ON WAY TO PALESTINE DISCUSSES IN VIENNA PALESTINE  
JEWISH AFFAIRS WITH FAMOUS RABBIS OF CHORTKOV AND SADAGURA.

Vienna, Jan. 20th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Gerer Rebbe who has arrived here from Warsaw on his way to Palestine, met here the famous Hassidic Rabbis of Chortkov, Sadagura and Kopyczyn, and discussed with them various matters affecting the position of the Jewish settlement in Palestine.

The Rabbi left to-day for Constantinople, on his way to Palestine.

THE BOMB OUTRAGES IN PALESTINE: POLICE FEEL THEY ARE NOT ISOLATED  
CASES BUT PLANNED BY SINISTER ORGANISATION: STATEMENT BY  
HAIFA DISTRICT COMMISSIONER TO HEAD OF JEWISH COMMUNITY.

Jerusalem, Jan. 11th. (J.T.A. Mail Service).

The police feel that the bomb outrages in Haifa are not isolated cases, but planned by an organisation prompted by sinister motives. Mr. Keith-Roach, the District Commissioner of Haifa, is understood to have agreed with Mr. G. Levin, the President of the Jewish Community of Haifa, when he called on the District Commissioner yesterday to express to him the anxiety of the Jewish population in connection with the repeated bomb explosions, and to press for urgent police action.

The police are doing everything possible, Mr. Keith-Roach further stated, in order to discover the persons responsible for the outrages, but it is too early yet to disclose the results which have been obtained. Mr. Keith-Roach also assured Mr. Levin that he is in permanent contact with the police, and is personally watching all developments.

BLOW TO PALESTINE MATCH INDUSTRY: NUR FACTORY MAY CLOSE.

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

The order of January 1st. under the Matches Excise Ordinance of 1929 greatly varying the duty on matches manufactured and sold in Palestine may lead, it is stated, to the almost immediate closing of the well-known "Nur" Match factory at Acre.

The manufacturers claim that the duty has been virtually doubled, from £3.750 to £6.250.

CHRISTIANS SHOULD WEEP AND WAIL AT WAILING WALL: SUGGESTION BY  
PALESTINE CHRISTIAN ARAB AS METHOD OF INFLUENCING GOVERNMENT  
TO RESTORE PATRIARCHAL THRONE TO PALESTINE ARABS.

Jerusalem, Jan. 10th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Arab Orthodox Community should apply to the Mufti for permission to weep and wail at the Wailing Wall for the restitution of the Patriarchal throne to the Palestine Arabs, Mr. Nakhla Kattan, a Palestine Christian Arab, proposes to his co-religionists as a protest against the Government's decision authorising the Patriarchal election. Go to the Wailing Wall every Sunday to wail and cry, he says, don sackcloth and ashes, boycott the Greek Patriarch and demand from the Government an Arab Patriarch.

2,624 ILLEGALLY-ENTERED IMMIGRANTS IN PALESTINE HAVE THEIR STAY  
LEGALISED.

Jerusalem, Jan. 11th. (J.T.A. Mail Service).

2,624 immigrants registered officially with the Palestine police up to the middle of December 1931, when the amnesty granted by the Palestine Government in connection with the recent census for the legalisation of the stay of immigrants who entered the country illegally lapsed. 1,080 immigrants registered in Jerusalem, 1,133 in Tel Aviv and the neighbouring colonies, and 411 in Haifa, Tiberias and the vicinity. Many of them are heads of families and the Hebrew Labour daily "Davar" estimates that between 5,500 and 6,000 people have thus had their position legalised.

1,756 JEWISH ALIENS DEPORTED FROM UNITED STATES IN LAST TEN YEARS: LESS THAN HALF PER CENT. OF TOTAL NUMBER OF JEWISH IMMIGRANTS ADMITTED.

New York, Jan. 19th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

1,756 Jewish aliens, a little over one half per cent. of the total number of 339,054 Jewish immigrants who were admitted to the United States during the ten years between 1921 and 1930 were deported during that period from the United States, according to figures collected by Mrs. Cecilia Razovsky Davidson, the Director of the Department of Service to the Foreign Born of the National Council of Jewish Women. Altogether 92,157 aliens were deported in the course of the ten years, out of the total of 4,107,209 immigrants, of all races and nationalities admitted, making a total of 2.2 per cent. of deportations, four times the proportion of Jewish deportations.

Eight hundred and eighty-nine Jews were deported in the last five years, 72.3 per cent. being sent out of the country on charges of illegal entry in comparison with 57 per cent. for the same reason for all deportations. Seventeen per cent. of the Jewish deportees were sent out of the country either because they had become public charges from conditions arising prior to their entry or because they were likely to become public charges. Only 9.2 per cent. of the Jews were deported for criminal offences as compared with 14.2 per cent. in the case of the total number of deportations.

AMERICAN JEWS GAVE FIVE MILLION DOLLARS TO JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OUT OF TOTAL OF 16 MILLION CONTRIBUTED DURING 30 YEARS OF FUND'S EXISTENCE.

New York, Jan. 11th. (J.T.A. Mail Service).

The Jewish National Fund has raised a total sum of 16 million dollars during the 30 years since its foundation, with which it has redeemed 320,000 dunam of land in Palestine, and American Jews have contributed five million dollars, almost a third, towards this total, Mr. Nelson Rutenberg, the President of the Jewish National Fund in America, said at a dinner held here last night at the Edison Hotel, to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the Jewish National Fund. 800 guests attended the dinner, and Mr. Nahum Sokolov, the President of the Jewish Agency, was the principal speaker. 20,000 dollars were raised at the dinner, each guest contributing 25 dollars, the price of one dunam of land in Palestine, to purchase another 800 dunam.

Despite the depression in America, Mr. Rutenberg said, the Jewish National Fund has during the three months in which he has been President, shown a slight increase in its receipts, as compared with last year.

JEW SUPPLIES FREE MEALS TO UNEMPLOYED IN DETROIT: NO QUESTIONS ASKED: ONLY REQUIREMENT IS HEALTHY APPETITE.

New York, Jan. 11th. (J.T.A. Mail Service).

For the second year in succession, a Detroit Jew, Ierman Radner, opened yesterday his free lunch-room at Walkerville, Ontario, providing 1,200 unemployed with as much food as they can eat.

Representatives of the city administrations of all the Border Cities, including Windsor, Walkerville, and Sandwich, and of civic and industrial organisations in Detroit and the Canadian cities, were present at the opening.

No questions are asked, Mr. Radner said, and the only requirement for service at our free lunch room is a healthy appetite.

Mr. Radner will spend over 25,000 dollars in maintaining the lunch room for the next three months. In a period of three months last year Mr. Radner's free lunch room provided food for 110,000 people at a cost of 28,000 dollars. Hundreds of children were given free meals.

JEWISH GROCER AND HIS WIFE PROSECUTED FOR USING THEIR SAVINGS TO FEED STARVING KENTUCKY MINERS: INDICTMENT PRESSED BY COAL CORPORATION FILE GOVERNMENT COMMISSION LAUDS THEIR GENEROSITY.

New York, Jan. 11th. (J.T.A. Mail Service).

For a Jewish grocer, Harry Appleman, and his wife, of Everts, in Harlan County, Kentucky, used up their savings to supply flour to the starving miners of Harlan County who have been dismissed for joining the union, and fed forty and fifty children daily, until they were prosecuted through the instigation of the Black Mountain Coal Corporation, was revealed at a hearing held at Frankfort, Kentucky before the Commission appointed by former Governor Sampson to investigate conditions in Harlan County.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Appleman have for twelve years conducted a general store in Everts. The Applemans, immigrants from Poland, had saved up some money to buy a motor-car, and this money they used last Passover to purchase a carload of flour, which was given away in 24 pound bags, regardless of creed or colour, to needy families in Everts and the surroundings, so long as the supply lasted.

As soon as the flour was distributed the Applemans were arrested, and indicted for criminal syndicalism. Mr. Appleman was forced to go into hiding.

Mrs. Appleman testified that when she asked the prosecuting attorney what he had against her and her husband, he said that he had nothing against them, only the Black Mountain Coal Corporation did not like the fact that the Applemans were feeding the starving miners and their children. Later the indictment was dismissed.

Commenting on the case, the Governor's Commission states:

Here it seems that the finest trait and virtue, charity, was ill rewarded by the authorities. Mrs. Appleman's testimony should be read in full for its probative value lies in the detail of circumstances she relates. The Commissioners taking her testimony were greatly impressed by her sincerity. It is the testimony of a good and truthful woman.

10,000 JEWISH SABBATH OBSERVERS IN NEW YORK PETITION STATE PARLIAMENT TO BE ALLOWED TO CONDUCT BUSINESS ON SUNDAYS.

New York, Jan. 11th. (J.T.A. Mail Service).

Ten thousand signatures have been obtained to a petition requesting the New York State Legislature to allow thousands of Jewish businessmen in New York who observe the Sabbath to conduct their business on Sundays unmolested.

The petition has been drawn up by retail store-keepers who observe the Sabbath, at the instance of the Jewish Sabbath Alliance. Under the existing laws, Sabbath observers are compelled to be idle two days in the week.

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