

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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JEWISH SCHOOL SYSTEM IN PALESTINE STILL AT STANDSTILL: TEACHERS
HOLDING ANOTHER MEETING TO CONSIDER ACTION: JEWISH AGENCY
EXECUTIVE AGREES TO WITHDRAW FORMAL NOTICES OF DISMISSAL
SENT OUT LAST SEPTEMBER: DIFFICULTY OVER INABILITY TO
GUARANTEE PAYMENT OF SALARIES.

Jerusalem, Feb. 8th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Although nearly four weeks have passed since the teachers employed in the schools of the Jewish Agency in Palestine went on strike, demanding contracts for all teachers for the current year and a guarantee that they will be paid their salaries for eleven months in the year, and promissory notes for the four months' salary due to them from last year, no settlement has yet been reached, and the Jewish Agency school system remains at a standstill, despite the urgent appeals of the parents whose children have been left without schooling.

The teachers are convinced now that it is impossible for the Jewish Agency Executive to undertake to guarantee to them the full and prompt payment of their salaries as they demand, but they are unwilling to accept this state of affairs.

Another meeting of the teachers is being held to-day at which the situation will again be considered, and it is said to be possible that a decision may at last be reached to reopen the schools in response to the urgent appeals of the parents of the school children.

The Executive of the Jewish Agency has agreed to-day to withdraw the notices of dismissal which were sent last September to all teachers employed in the Jewish Agency schools as a formal act on the expiration of the term of office of the retiring Executive prior to the Seventh Zionist Congress.

HEAVY SNOWFALL IN JERUSALEM: FIRST SINCE 1927: HEAVY RAIN ENDS
DROUGHT PERIOD: AEROPLANES FEARED LOST IN BLIZZARD.

Jerusalem, Feb. 7th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Snow fell heavily to-day in Jerusalem, the first snowfall since 1927, when the unaccustomed weight brought about the collapse of a number of roofs in the city which had not been constructed to bear such a weight. The snow is lying two inches thick on the houses and in the streets.

The snowfall was accompanied by a severe blizzard, and followed a heavy rain which has made up in the last 48 hours for the whole of Jerusalem's shortage of water, which had been giving serious concern, and had already led the authorities to post an official notice that no water would be available for certain services after March 1st. The danger of a drought is now averted.

Snow is falling heavily also in other parts of Palestine, and it is reported that three Royal Air Force aeroplanes were caught in a snowstorm in the Syrian Desert and are missing. Great anxiety is felt at the Royal Air Force headquarters in Jerusalem.

9/2/32.

LADY ERLEIGH LEAVES FOR PALESTINE: MAY BREAK HER JOURNEY IN EGYPT TO SEE LORD READING: WILL ATTEND NEW PLANTING AT TEL MOND NEXT MONTH.

London, Feb. 8th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Lady Erleigh, daughter of the late Lord Melchett and daughter-in-law of Lord Reading, left London yesterday for Palestine, where she is expected to arrive on the 17th. inst.

Lady Erleigh will most probably proceed direct from Port Said to Palestine, where she will stay at Villa Melchett, in Migdal, which was bequeathed to her by her father. She may, however, break her journey to be able to visit her father-in-law, Lord Reading, in Egypt, if his state of health should require it.

Her brother, Lord Melchett, who is now recuperating from an illness in Montreux, in Switzerland, may join Lady Erleigh in Palestine, if his health becomes sufficiently good. Lady Melchett has gone to Colombo, and she, too, may go on to Palestine from there to join her husband.

Lady Erleigh has gone to Palestine in connection with the planting of the new section of the Palestine Plantation Company on the Melchett Estate at Tel Mond, which is to be started in April.

Lady Erleigh was in Palestine a year ago, in March 1931, and she planted on that occasion the first two trees of Section 2 of the Palestine Plantations Company's plantations at Tel Mond. The first section, consisting of a thousand dunams had then been already fully planted, and equal progress has now been made with the second section, necessitating fresh planting. The plantations on the estate are largely allocated among purchasers in England and other countries who have bought small lots of five to ten dunams.

Lady Erleigh addressed the workers on the estate, telling them of her late father's keen desire to help in the rebuilding of Palestine by useful and constructive enterprises, of which the Tel Mond estate was the foremost. She and her brother, the present Lord Melchett, she said, intended to carry on their late father's work on the same economic basis.

In an interview with the J.T.A. shortly after the conclusion of the last Zionist Congress, Lady Erleigh said: "Our work in Tel Mond is of great interest to us, to my brother, Lord Melchett and myself. I am well aware, and so is my brother, that our participation in the work in Palestine, through Palestine Plantations, Limited, continues to identify the name of Melchett with the work of developing Palestine, which was our father's great ideal. We realise that it is the one formal memorial to our father, the memorial which is most enduring".

GERMAN GOVERNMENT WILL NOT HESITATE TO USE FORCE TO PROTECT JEWISH RIGHTS: STATEMENT BY GENERAL GROENER MINISTER OF DEFENCE TO JEWISH DEPUTATION.

Berlin, Feb. 8th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The German Federal Government will protect the rights of the Jewish population by every means at its disposal and if necessary it will not hesitate to use force, General Groener, the Federal Minister of Defence told the deputation of leaders of the Central Union of German Citizens of Jewish Faith and other Jewish representatives who visited him this week, in order to urge on him the need of giving protection to the Jewish population in face of the violent antisemitic agitation of the Hitlerists.

General Groener was full of praise of the war services of the German Jews at the front during the war, and he urged the Central Union to intensify its work of enlightenment of the non-Jewish population as to the real part played by the Jews in the life of the country, which, he said, would be the most effective way of showing how baseless the antisemitic allegations are.

HITLERISTS CROSS INTO KEMEL DISTRICT AND ATTACK JEWS SAYS LITHUANIAN PAPER.

Kovno, Feb. 7th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

A number of German butchers wearing Hitlerist badges arrived a few days ago at Panemun in the Kemel district (where Lithuanians are alleged, according to an official note sent by the German Government to the League of Nations, to have carried out a coup d'etat), says a report which has been received here, and started shouting "Death to all Jews!". They broke into the shop of a Jewish butcher named Kaplan, smashed the windows, wrecked the interior, threw the meat into the street, and severely injured Kaplan. By the time the police arrived the hooligans had escaped. The next day a group of Hitlerists came from Tilsit and attacked another shop owned by a Jew named Levitan, and this time, too, the police arrived when the hooligans had already escaped.

One of the Yiddish papers in Kovno got on to the telephone to the Governor of Kemel, who confirmed that there had been several attacks on Jews, but the matter is under the jurisdiction of the autonomous police of the Kemel District, he added, and the Lithuanian authorities cannot interfere. A similar statement was made by the Director of the Citizenship Protection Department in Kovno, M. Novakas, and by the Lithuanian Government police in Panemun. The Kemel district police administration at Pagegen stated in reply to the enquiry: "We know what happened at Panemun. There was some resentment over some business competition between several butchers, and there was a fight. The police detachments in the town have been reinforced and order has been restored. On being asked whether the assailants were local butchers, or whether they had come from Tilsit, the police replied that it was possible that some of them might have come from outside the district."

DEPUTY GRUENBAUM NOT RESIGNING HIS SEAT IN PARLIAMENT.

Warsaw, Feb. 7th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The statement that was made recently in connection with the Polish Zionist Conference that Deputy Gruenbaum is shortly leaving Poland and will therefore resign his seat in Parliament, is contradicted by the Yiddish daily "Majer Hajnt", to which Deputy Gruenbaum is a close contributor. We are informed by an authoritative source, the paper says, that Deputy Gruenbaum will not resign his seat in Parliament. Deputy Gruenbaum intends to go to Paris for family reasons, it states, but it is not yet certain that he will remain there permanently. In any case, it is not true that he will withdraw from his political activity in Poland, and he will not resign his seat in Parliament.

The antisemitic daily "Gazeta Warszawska" says that it is delighted to hear that Deputy Gruenbaum is leaving Poland. In reply journey to Palestine, it writes, and don't ever come back to Poland.

NUMBER OF JEWISH OFFICIALS IN POLAND.

Warsaw, Feb. 7th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The complaints made constantly by the Jewish Parliamentary representatives that Jews are discriminated against in the Polish State service are borne out by the figures published in the forthcoming issue of the Vilna Yiddish Scientific Institute monthly, collected by Dr. J. Gliksman. The figures, which are all taken from official sources, show that among the 3,682 officials employed in the Central Government offices there are only 40 Jews, or 1.1 per cent. Among the 116,288 officials in local and special institutions there are 3,072 Jews - 2.7 per cent., and among the 1,735 officials in temporary service there are 30 Jews - 1.7 per cent. Altogether there are 3,142 Jewish officials in Poland, or about 2.6 per cent. of the total number of State officials in the country.

The largest number of Jewish officials are teachers, who number 2,108, or about 3.1 per cent. of the total.

Any of the Central Government offices have not a single Jew employed there. There are practically no Jews at all among the officials and workers in Government works. The State Forests and Lands Department, for example, has only one Jew among 3,442 officials. Among the 53,208 officials and workers employed in Government works there are 738 Jews - about 1.39 per cent.

The territorial distribution of the Jewish officials shows also that most of them are concentrated in the Southern provinces, which account for 709 Jewish officials out of the total number of 808 Jewish officials in the entire country, which means that in the majority of cases the Jewish officials all held their posts at the time that these parts of the country were under Austrian rule, and have been retained by the Polish State. There have been practically no accessions to the number of Jewish officials, however, since the establishment of the Polish State. In the other parts of Poland, the doors to State service are practically closed against Jews.

LURING DISTRESS AMONG JEWISH POPULATION OF LATVIA.

Riga, Feb. 7th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The distress among all sections of the Jewish population, especially in Riga, is assuming catastrophic dimensions, says an appeal issued here by the Jewish Emergency Relief Committee. Tragic times have suddenly come upon Latvian Jewry, it proceeds. The crisis is claiming new victims every day. Hundreds of Jewish families have been completely ruined. Thousands of Jewish souls in Riga have not a crust of bread. Merchants, shopkeepers and artisans, who never knew what it was to ask for charity, are compelled to beg for help, and there are not enough funds to help them all. The number of people in want is growing from day to day, and the Jewish Emergency Relief Committee is unable to cope with the distress. Thousands are in need of help. The appeal to the entire Jewish population, the Relief Committee says, to try to save the situation. Thousands are literally suffering from hunger and cold. Heartbreaking scenes take place in thousands of Jewish homes. Unless something urgent is done thousands of Jews in Latvia will starve to death.

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