

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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WASHINGTON FOREST TO BE PLANTED IN PALESTINE TO COMMEMORATE  
BICENTENARY OF FIRST PRESIDENT OF UNITED STATES;  
MESSAGES FROM PRESIDENT HOOVER AND PALESTINE HIGH  
COMMISSIONER GENERAL WAUCHOPE WELCOMING DECISION READ  
TO NEW YORK CONFERENCE OF JEWISH COMMUNAL WORKERS CON-  
VOKED BY JEWISH NATIONAL FUND.

New York, Feb. 22nd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

A Washington Forest of eucalyptus and pine trees will be planted in Palestine as a tribute from Jews and non-Jews in America to commemorate the bicentenary of General George Washington, the first President of the United States, which was celebrated to-day.

The decision was adopted at a Conference of Jewish communal leaders held here to-day at the Pennsylvania Hotel, convoked by the Jewish National Fund, in order to consider a suitable method of celebrating the Washington bicentenary. Several thousand people were present.

President Hoover sent a message to the Conference, expressing his approval of the project, and other messages favouring a Washington Forest in Palestine were received from Mr. Henry Ford and from many members of the United States Senate.

A cablegram was also read from the High Commissioner of Palestine, General Wauchope, welcoming the decision.

PALESTINE AS A HEALTH RESORT: TIBERIAS HOT SPRINGS CONCESSION  
TO JEWISH COMPANY SIGNED.

Jerusalem, Feb. 22nd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The concession for the exploitation of the famous hot springs at Tiberias was signed to-day by Judge Bernard B. Rosenblatt, of New York, former American member of the Zionist Executive, and first President of the American Zion Commonwealth, on behalf of the Jewish concession company, and the Mayor of Tiberias on behalf of the City of Tiberias, at the Pasha's Governorate, in the presence of the Governor, Mr. Keith-Bouch.

The concession is for five years, providing for the immediate improvement of the baths, after which there will be a new concession with the Palestine Government for a period of forty years. The undertaking involves the formation of a hot springs company with a capital of £40,000.

The leading members of the Company are Mr. Suprasky, one of the leaders of Palestine Jewry, Mr. Gesundheit, a prominent South African Zionist, who is now living in Palestine, and Judge Rosenblatt.

The Company will take over the baths on February 28th.

.. The last High Commissioner, Sir John Chancellor, signed in April 1929 the Government concession for the exploitation of the Tiberias hot springs, which was given in the name of Mr. Suprasky, Mr. Gesundheit, and Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt.

The J.T.A. reported as far back as January 1928 that a Jewish company, headed by Mr. Suprasky had purchased the concession for the exploitation of the Tiberias hot springs from an Arab-Syrian company which had during the war obtained the concession from the Turkish authorities, and in 1926 received from the British authorities a ratification of this concession for a period of 40 years.

90 per cent. of the shares in the company formed to exploit the concession, it was stated, belong to Messrs. Suprasky, Gesundheit and Judge Rosenblatt. The other ten per cent. are held by two Arabs, the former owners of the concession, Messrs. Soleiman Nassif and Amin Rizek.

The concession was granted for a period of 40 years, the concessionaires paying the Government a sum of £3,000 annually.

The granting of the concession was delayed by a dispute between the Palestine Government and the Tiberias Municipality over the question of the ownership of the hot springs. In 1927 an action was started in the High Court against the Government by the Tiberias Municipality, which objected to a ruling given by Lord Plumer, then High Commissioner, that the springs are not the property of the Tiberias Municipality but Government property and ordering the demolition of the existing buildings for the purpose of proceeding with the erection of modern accommodation. This dispute was settled in March 1929 by an arrangement between the Government and the Municipality, under which the Tiberias Municipality was to receive two-thirds of the income from the exploitation of the springs, the local Wakf (Moslem Religious Endowment) receiving one-sixth. After the expiration of the term of the concession for the exploitation of the springs, all the buildings and installations were to become under the agreement the property of the Tiberias Municipality.

The present baths at Tiberias were built in 1833 by Ibrahim-Pasha during the Egyptian occupation of Palestine. Additions were made in 1890 by the Turkish Government, but the accommodation is inferior. The temperature of the springs is about 143°F. and the waters contain sulphur, chloride of magnesium and iron. They are said to be in many respects similar to those of Carlsbad and are reputed to cure chronic rheumatism and various skin diseases. It has also been stated that they possess valuable radio-active properties. They were well known in Roman times, when the heights near the thermal baths were surrounded by Roman villas and Temples and crowned by Herod's Acropolis. Pliny extolled the excellent properties of the springs.

The waters of the Tiberias hot springs, it is claimed, are from a curative point of view equal to those of Carlsbad, Marienbad, and other celebrated spas.

JERUSALEM TURNS OUT TO HEAR JASHA HEIFETZ: HIGH COMMISSIONER  
AMONG ENTHUSIASTIC AUDIENCE.

Jerusalem, Feb. 22nd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Jerusalem turned out in force to-day to attend a concert given by Jasha Heifetz, the famous Jewish violinist, at the New Edison Hall. The High Commissioner, General Sir Arthur Wauchope, was present in the audience. Heifetz was given an enthusiastic reception.

Heifetz has taken a very close interest in the movement which was launched a few years ago by the famous pianist Leon Godowsky to establish a conservatoire in Palestine. He has visited Palestine before and in 1926 he gave his first concert in Jerusalem before a crowded audience, including Lady Samuel, wife of the former High Commissioner, Colonel Symes, who was Acting High Commissioner, Dr. Weizmann, and many Government officials. He scored a tremendous triumph, and was given endless ovations. The stage was snowed under with flowers and bouquets. All the proceeds of a series of five concerts which he gave in Palestine that year, he said, would be devoted to the establishment of a concert hall in Jerusalem as part of the projected Jewish conservatoire of music.

Speaking of the movement to establish the Conservatoire in Palestine under his direction, he suggested that the conservatoire should be built on a site adjoining the Hebrew University, to serve as a centre for Oriental musical culture. Prominent Jewish teachers of music in Europe and America would teach at the conservatoire and would promote the study of both Jewish and Oriental music and also of world music. The conservatoire would accept students in the Orient as well as from Europe and America.

Godowsky and I, he said, have taken on ourselves the establishment of the Conservatoire, not because of Zionism, but because we are convinced that a Hebrew conservatoire will be the most valuable element in a movement for the brotherhood of the peoples.

I am not and shall not be a Zionist in the political meaning of the word, he said in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. But I have always had an interest in Palestine, and when I heard of the love for art and music which exists here, I decided to help Palestine. Certainly, when a centre of art and culture is established in Palestine, it will also increase the economic strength of the country. So, too, will our artistic effort contribute to the growth of Palestine in general. The country has made a deep impression on me, and I hope to return. I would like to visit Palestine each year, and to stay here for some time.

With regard to what would be done with the proceeds of his concert in Palestine, Heifetz said that he hoped that it would be possible with this money to build a concert hall in Jerusalem which would be gradually enlarged and converted into a national conservatoire. I hope the idea of a Jewish conservatoire in Palestine will not remain a dream and that it will be realised in the near future, he concluded.

EX-DEPUTY FARBSTEIN ARRIVES IN PALESTINE AND TAKES UP HIS DUTIES IN JEWISH AGENCY EXECUTIVE.

Jerusalem, Feb. 22nd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

Ex-Deputy Farbstein, leader of the Polish Mizrahi and member of the Jewish Agency Executive, arrived in Palestine to-day to take up his duties on the Executive. He was met on arrival by representatives of the Jewish Agency, the Keren Hayesod, and the Mizrahi Organisation, and by some of the leading Polish residents in Palestine.

LEMBERG JEWS ALARMED BY DEATH OF POLISH BOXER IN MATCH WITH JEWISH BOXER: INCITEMENT AMONG POPULATION THAT JEW DELIBERATELY KILLED CHRISTIAN.

Warsaw, Feb. 22nd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

A great deal of anxiety has been caused among the Jewish population of Lemberg by an outcry among a section of the population that the death of a Polish boxer named Bodlewski in the ring while fighting a Jewish boxer named Grosz in a boxing tournament between the Jewish sports club Hasmonoa and the Polish sports club Pogon, was a deliberate act of a Jew killing a Christian and calling for revenge against the Jews.

ROUMANIAN PREMIER ORDERS SOROCA HEBREW SCHOOL TO REMAIN CLOSED.

Bucharest, Feb. 22nd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Prime Minister, Professor Jorga, has ordered that the Hebrew High School of the Tarbuth Organisation at Soroca, which was closed down after the Soroca shooting affair, on the charge that the school was being used as a nest of Communist propaganda, is to remain closed, the J.T.A. representative here learns.

The Premier's decision, taken on the basis of a report presented by Inspector Sherban, of the Ministry of Education, who was sent to Soroca to enquire into the matter is considered surprising because the Minister for Bessarabia, M. Cristi, declared only a few days ago that he was urging the reopening of the school, and was certain that it would be reopened in a few days.

The Presidium of the Zionist Organisation of Roumania is making strong representations against the closing of the school, contending that there is no justification for the charge, and Deputy Dr. Lupu has also promised to raise the question with the Ministry of Education.

SOROCA QUESTION IN HOUSE OF COMMONS CAUSING LIVELY COMMENT IN ROUMANIA: PROFESSOR JORGA'S ARTICLE IN 1927 AGAINST DNIESTER OUTRAGES RECALLED.

Bucharest, Feb. 22nd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The question put in the House of Commons last week by Colonel Wedgwood on the Soroca affair has roused a great deal of comment in Roumania, and is being widely discussed in the press and in political circles.

The "Dimineatzta" and the "Adeverul" recall in this connection that on October 10th., 1927, the "Neamul Romanesc", the organ of the Prime Minister, Professor Jorga, published an article by Professor Jorga, in which the present Premier wrote:

We have had an officer in Bessarabia put on trial for taking the liberty of shooting down people at the Dniester, and we seem to think that we are alone in the world, and that no one sees or hears us, what is happening in our country, and then we are astonished when we receive an indictment from England such as that arrived.

The situation in 1927 and now is analogous, the papers point out, only instead of an indictment from England we have had the question of Soroca raised in the British House of Commons. But this time, Professor Jorga is Prime Minister, and his attitude is no longer the same that it was in 1927.

#### JORGA-CUZA ELECTION ALLIANCE CONFIRMED BY "CURENTUL".

Bucharest, Feb. 22nd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The claims made recently by Professor Cuza that at the next elections he would be in alliance with the Prime Minister, Professor Jorga, with a united antisemitic front, is confirmed by the "Curentul" here, which states that the Prime Minister, Professor Jorga, has declared to political friends, that in the event of a dissolution of Parliament, he had decided to enter into a pact with the Cuzists. There have already been conversations in the last few days, the paper says, between representatives of the Jorga Party and delegates of the Cuzist League of National Christian Defence to draw up the basis of an election bloc.

#### NEW POLISH EDUCATIONAL BILL WILL DESTROY JEWISH PRIVATE SCHOOLS SYSTEM.

Warsaw, Feb. 22nd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Jewish political representatives and the representatives of the Jewish teachers are up in arms against a new Government bill for the reform of the educational system of the country, which they complain will spell the end of the Jewish private schools system. The bill has already been adopted by the Education Commission, and will probably be passed by the Government majority in the plenary session of the Sejm in a few days, thus becoming law.

In drawing up the bill, it is pointed out by the Jewish representatives, the Government asked only the opinions of the Polish teachers' organisations, completely ignoring the representatives of the teachers of the minority nationalities.

The Central Committee of the Organisation of Jewish Secondary School Teachers has issued a statement on the position, in which it says:

The law presents some very serious dangers to the Jewish schools system. 95 per cent. of the Jewish youth study at the private Jewish secondary schools (gymnasiums). The bill creates a new class of secondary schools called lyceums, which will be State institutions, and without passing through these it will be impossible for the students to obtain admission to the University. Thus there will be a new obstacle to restrict still further the admission of Jewish students to the universities.

From the point of view of the teachers in the secondary schools, dividing up secondary education into two grades - gymnasiums and lyceums, will have the effect of increasing unemployment among the teachers. There is another danger in the bill, where it deals with the appointment of teachers, both in the secondary schools and in those elementary schools which are private institutions not maintained by the Government.

The bill empowers the officials of the Ministry of Education to exercise discretion in deciding to what extent any teacher is loyal to the State, thus raising the dangerous question of the political fitness of teachers in private schools, which will have to be tested not only by the Ministry of Education, but by the local officials and police. This will give very wide opportunities to the officials to put difficulties in the way of the work of the schools and of the teachers if they do not happen to be altogether to their taste. This provision applies mostly to the schools of the minorities, both the Slav schools in the Eastern frontier districts, and to the Jewish private schools all over the country.

The Government bill is in fact a discriminatory law against the minority schools, the statement says, and makes their further existence subject to the arbitrary action of the officials and the police.

Deputy Sommerstein, on behalf of the Club of Jewish Deputies, speaking on the bill at the meeting of the Education Commission of the Sejm, said: "We Jews, more than all the other minorities, are interested in the maintenance and development of the private schools system, because we are the only minority which has no public schools with Government rights, and also we cannot get our children admitted into the State schools. The private schools are therefore our only opportunity of educating our children in the Jewish national spirit. This bill is full of a spirit of distrust to the citizen and will undermine the existence of the Jewish schools. The bill violates our right to establish schools freely with Hebrew or Yiddish as the language of instruction, because it makes it necessary to prove to the satisfaction of the authorities that a private school is required. It also demands that the people founding the school, directors and teachers, should produce a certificate of loyalty to the State. The bill does not indicate how the State will issue these certificates of loyalty and for what period they will be valid."

Deputy Sommerstein went on to quote a number of cases to show how the police supervision over the private schools frequently amounts to acts of chicanery against the Jewish schools. He demanded that the bill should be radically changed, because it was in complete contradiction to the Constitution.

The Vice-Minister, M. Pieracki, in his reply to the discussion, referred to Deputy Sommerstein's speech, and argued that the bill did not diminish the rights of the minorities and that the Government had no intention of restricting the rights of the private schools of the minorities.

MOVEMENT TO SUPPLY MATZOTH TO JEWS IN SOVIET RUSSIA IS COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY JEWISH COMMUNIST PRESS SHOUTS: ATTEMPT TO GET JEWS TO WRITE TO RELATIVES ABROAD THAT THEY NEED PASS-  
OVER FOOD IS INTENDED TO SHOW THAT THINGS GO BADLY WITH  
THEM IN SOVIET RUSSIA: ONLY COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES WILL  
WRITE SUCH APPLICATIONS.

Moscow, Feb. 22nd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The Yiddish press in the Soviet countries has already started its annual campaign against the movement among Jews abroad to supply the Jews in Russia with matzoth for Passover.

The parasites, idlers and clericals who have been left in Jewish life in the Soviet Union are linked up with the black forces of the Fascist Jewish bourgeoisie and clericalism abroad, the Stern, of Charkoff, for instance, writes. The so-called matzoth question is in reality a counter-revolutionary move by the Jewish Fascists abroad.

The campaign to get Jews in Russia to write to their relatives abroad that they should send them Passover food parcels, is only a move, it alleges, to be able to say that there are all these Jews who have not enough food in Russia.

There are still plenty of clericals, idlers and parasites left in the towns and townships, it says, who will take the opportunity of writing such letters, and there will also be probably many of the workers who are not class-conscious who will write to their relatives abroad complaining of their bitter fate, and asking for Passover parcels. We must therefore explain to the masses, the "Stern" says, the counter-revolutionary nature of this movement of the foreign Jewish bourgeoisie. We must explain to them that the Jewish bourgeoisie of America and Poland are not thinking of the matzoth, but are exploiting the matzoth campaign for a counter-revolutionary agitation against the Soviet Union. We must develop an atmosphere of social contempt for all those people who take advantage of the despicable help which is offered by Jewish Fascist clericals abroad.

"HY THE COMZET LEADERS WERE DISMISSED: SERIOUS CHARGES BY INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE AGAINST DIRECTORS OF JEWISH COLONISATION"  
"ORK."

Moscow, Feb. 22nd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The reason for the recent change in the composition of the Comzet, involving the dismissal of the old leaders of the Jewish settlement movement is explained in the report of the investigating committee into the work of the Comzet, which is published to-day, and on the basis of which the charges were made:

The men in charge of the work are accused in the report of having conducted it without any plan or system. No one was responsible for anything, it says. Things were done without any sort of control, with the result that the plans laid down were not carried into effect. According to the plan given to the Comzet, there should have been about 12,000 transmigrant families in the Crimea by January 1st. Actually only 9,000 families migrated, and more than 5,000 of them went back to their old homes, meaning that the plan was only 33 per cent. effective.

In Bureya there should have been 14,000 Jewish transmigrants by January 1st. Actually only 7,730 souls migrated, and only about 5,000 have remained there, meaning that the plan has been only 43 per cent. effective. According to other reports, the number of settlers who have left Bureya and gone back to their homes is much larger.

The Comzet had thus failed in two directions, the report says. It had not carried out the plan of recruiting the quota of migrant settlers, and it had allowed a big stream of re-emigration to set in. The Comzet failed to take any steps to discover the reasons for this re-emigration or to put a stop to it. The damage done by this failure is not only that the area of land sown in the Crimea and in Bureya was less than had been fixed upon, but the fact that the greater half of the settlers left the places of settlement and went back to their old homes meant that thousands of hundredweights of wheat; hundreds of hectares of other corn, and hundreds of hectares of cotton were left to rot on the fields, because there were no workers to gather it. Many Jewish collective farms were compelled for that reason to hire labour, meaning a big expenditure, with the result that the collective farms were rendered destitute.

The fact that the plan in regard to the work in Bureya was not carried into effect meant that there was no possibility of providing the required quantity of timber, of building roads, of conducting the amelioration work, all of which went to do a great deal of damage both to the transmigration movement and to the interests of the State as a whole.

The investigation commission accuses the old leaders of the Comzet of having had no knowledge of what was happening in the places of settlement, of having left the transmigrants unprovided with food, housing and other essentials, the result being that a great many of them ran away, and the entire work fell into chaos.

Even after Stalin issued his famous six directives for carrying on the work on a new big scale, the Comzet, the report declares, still continued to work on the old lines. It had not only failed to prepare a real operative plan for the transmigration in 1932, but it had not even adopted any definite decision with regard to the number of transmigrants to be recruited this year for the Crimea and for Bureya. Nor had it fixed the amount of money that should be allocated for the work during the year, or how many immigrants should be recruited in each of the Soviet Republic.

In that way, the Comzet imperilled the entire transmigration work for the year, the report says.

Discussion In Comzet Over Respective Merits Of Crimea And Bureya: Each Side Would Have Destroyed The Work Of The Other.

There was a terrible amount of dissension in the Comzet, the report complains, between the adherents of settlement in Bureya and the adherents of settlement in the Crimea. Meresszin personally is accused of having failed to put a stop to these internal dissensions.

The feeling in the Comzet has been such, the report declares, that those who worked in the Crimea would have liked for reasons of competition to kill the entire work in Bureya, and the workers in Bureya would for the same reason have liked to do the same with the work in the Crimea. This constant friction in the Comzet completely broke up the machinery of the organisation and made it incompetent to do the work with which it was entrusted.

The Commission comes to the conclusion that the machinery of the Comzet must be radically changed, and that workers must be brought into it who will introduce the militant methods of the five-year plan work in the works and factories to push on the activity and carry out the plans laid down to the full 100 per cent.

EPSTEIN'S OLD TESTAMENT DRAWINGS.

London, Feb. 23rd. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The illustrations to the Old Testament by Mr. Jacob Epstein at the Redfern Gallery have the general interest of any work of Mr. Epstein's and the special interest of illustrations to a Jewish chronicle by a Jewish artist, the "Times" writes to-day. They call up the association of "fat" Jewish lettering - just as Mr. Gill's work seems to go with Roman.