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SIR JOHN CHANCELLOR ON JEW AND ARAB IN PALESTINE: ARAB POPULATION INCREASING BY 25,000 A YEAR HE SAYS: PALESTINE A SMALL AND POOR COUNTRY AND THIS INCREASE IS GOING TO CREATE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEM: I HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY BOUQUETS SO FAR SIR JOHN CONFESSES: APPEALING FOR HELP FOR WELFARE WORK AMONG NON-JEWISH CHILDREN IN PALESTINE HE EXPLAINS JEWISH CHILDREN ARE FORTUNATE IN HAVING PUBLIC HEALTH ORGANISATION PROVIDED FOR THEM BY THEIR OWN PEOPLE WHICH IS INDICATIVE OF WHAT COULD BE DONE FOR ARAB CHILDREN BY SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND.

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

The Arab population in Palestine is increasing by 25,000 a year. Palestine is a small and a poor country, and in view of the natural absorptive capacity of this small and poor country, this increase is going to create a political and economic problem which I cannot touch upon to-night, Sir John Chancellor, late High Commissioner for Palestine said, when he spoke at a meeting held here this evening at the home of Lord Headley, President of the British Moslem Society, organised by the Near and Middle East Association in furtherance of the work of the Save the Children Fund.

Sir Arnold Wilson, who presided, said that when the dust of conflict died down - it was already dying down - it would be realised by both sides that Sir John Chancellor of all the High Commissioners for Palestine was the one who most clearly saw the good points of one side, and was most forgiving and tolerant of some of the bad points of the other.

The object of this meeting, he went on, is to raise funds to enable the Save the Children Fund, to aid Arab children in Palestine. The fund works irrespective of creed.

In regard to Palestine, Sir Arnold continued, I would say that I feel sure that all the representatives of Iraq and Palestine present here to-night will agree with me when I say that the problem for the Arab is not whether he can "stand alone" in the phrase of Article 22 of the League of Nations Covenant, but whether he can keep in step with the rest of the nations of the world. Keeping in step is not to be achieved by legislation, but rather by example, by setting up here and there in the towns and villages, welfare centres, from which some educative influence can radiate.

9/3/32.

Sir Arnold Wilson Sees Problem Of Unique Difficulty In Palestine:
Two Different Sets Of Races Living Together: Jewish Community
Very Healthy And With Low Child Death Rate: While Arabs Have
Increasing Difficulty In Modifying Ways To Accord With New
Environment.

In Palestine, he said, we are faced with a problem of unique difficulty, for here we have two different sets of races living together in colonies, etc. close by each other. One, the Jewish community, is very healthy, and with a low death rate among children, and on the other hand are the Arab population, who have been by our own act and by the economic tendency transported from nomadism and made within a single generation town dwellers. It is evident that they should have increasing difficulty in modifying their customs and ways to accord with their comparatively new environment.

We wish to extend our activities in Palestine, Sir Arnold concluded, especially in Haifa, where work has begun in one particular welfare centre. The condition of the Arab children leaves much to be desired. We would like to see the work of that welfare centre extend and radiate an influence, and also to see it multiply.

I confess, Sir John Chancellor said, referring to Sir Arnold Wilson's remark about himself, that I have not received many bouquets so far. I am pleased to come here to-night to do something to improve the hygienic conditions of the non-Jewish children of Palestine.

Sir Arnold said, he went on, that the Save the Children Fund worked irrespective of race and creed, and some of you may be surprised to find me here taking a special interest in the care of non-Jewish children. You might ask why this discrimination between Jewish and non-Jewish children? The Jewish children of Palestine are fortunate in having provided for them by their own people a public health organisation. What they have done in Palestine is indeed very remarkable. It is a marvellous record of the zealous application of knowledge regarding health. It is a record of what has been done by the Jewish population, but it is also an indication of what could be done by the Save the Children Fund for the Arab population.

After the British occupation, the Hadassah Medical Organisation was set up in Palestine from subscriptions made by the Jews of the world. This medical organisation, with its five hospitals, twenty-one child welfare centres, maternity centres and clinics, has done and is doing admirable work among the Jewish people in Palestine.

Then there is the wonderful Nathan Straus Health Centre in Jerusalem, set up by the benefactor with the request that it be open to both Arab and Jew. The Jews readily admit Arabs to all their hospitals and clinics, but on account of difference of language, and other reasons, the Arabs do not avail themselves of the offer extended to them. Nevertheless, they are welcome when they go.

9/3/32.

When Public Health Organisations Were Started Jews Were Scornful Of Government Help Sir John Chancellor Says: Now Subscriptions Not Coming In So Freely And Question Of Government Help Been Spoken Of: I Hope Jewish Health Organisations Will Be Maintained Independently Of Government To Relieve Government Of Heavy Expense.

Then again, the Jewish Agency have done important work to improve health by drainage of the swamps in the Jewish colonies, Sir John Chancellor declared. The Jewish Labour Federation, a highly organised body, provides sick benefits for the Jewish worker. So from birth to middle-life, the whole of the Jewish population is amply provided for by public health organisations.

When the public health organisations were started, Sir John said, they had ample funds, and the Jews were scornful of Government help. Now subscriptions are not coming in so freely, and the question of Government help has been spoken of. I hope the Jewish public health organisation will be maintained independently of the Government, so as to relieve the Government of a very heavy item of expense.

Jewish enthusiasm for hygiene is clearly evidenced in the Jewish schools. It is indeed a wonderful zeal that the Jewish children show. I visited the Evelina de Rothschild school in Jerusalem, where Miss Landau is the headmistress - a very remarkable lady - and she showed me with justifiable pride the facilities provided for the health of the children. I saw the dental clinic, the eye clinic, - eye disease is terribly prevalent - and I saw the other facilities for the health and instruction of the children. As the result of all these measures on behalf of the Jewish population their health figures are very remarkable.

When Jewish Colonies In Palestine Were First Formed There Was Large Mortality Rate Now Diminished Considerably By Sanitation And Drainage: Current Jewish Death Rate 9.6 Per Thousand While Arab Is 27.9 Per Thousand: One Cannot Expect That Zeal For Hygiene In Arab Rural Areas That Jews Have Sir John Chancellor Says: But Whatever Money Is Subscribed For Health Work Will Not Be Wasted Or Unappreciated.

When the colonies were first formed, the incidence of malaria was very heavy, Sir John said, and there was a large mortality rate. Now this has been diminished considerably by sanitation and drainage. The current death rate of the Jewish population is 9.6 per thousand, whereas the death rate among the Arabs is 27.9 per thousand.

I should mention in order to qualify the low figure I quoted in regard to the Jewish population that the 100,000 Jews who entered Palestine were for the most part carefully selected. They were comparatively young and certainly healthy. All the same, the difference in the figures I have quoted is very striking. The infant mortality rate among the Jews in 1930 was 69 per thousand, and this figure compares very favourably with England, where in 1931 it was 66 per thousand. The Arab infant mortality rate was 169 per thousand in 1930, and it was 204 per thousand in 1929.

That shows the great room there is for improvement in the health of the Arab population. I know one cannot expect that zeal for hygiene in Arab rural areas that the Jews have where they live. For one thing the Arabs suffered under the heavy hand of the Turks, and perhaps their fatalistic outlook has in the past had something to do with it. I would say that the Arabs are a very alert and an intelligent race, who are very proud of their traditions, and whatever money is subscribed will not be wasted or unappreciated.

The Arab population under the Turkish regime was practically stationary, he said. Now the birthrate of Arabs is 60 per thousand, and with the death rate nearly 28 per thousand, there is a striking difference of 32 per thousand. The Arab population is therefore increasing in round figures at the rate of 25,000 a year.

Palestine Government Can Never Hope To Provide Public Health Organisation In Palestine On Same Scale As Hadassah For Jews: It Would Cost Half The Arab Revenue.

Speaking of what the Government is doing for public health in Palestine, Sir John Chancellor said that there were 19 Government-maintained maternity infant welfare clinics for the Arab population, which represented five-sixths of the total people of the country, while the Jews have 21 for their sixth of the population. That shows you, he said, what a tremendous lot has to be done for the poor Arab children of Palestine. The Government can never hope to provide a public health organisation on the same scale as the Hadassah for the Jews. If we were to provide a medical organisation on the same scale as the Jewish one, it would cost half the Arab revenue. That is obviously quite out of the question.

I hope, he concluded, that the Save the Children Fund when it decides to do something for Arab children will co-operate with the Society of St. John of Jerusalem and the Public Health Department of the Government.

Russeini Bey Afnan, the Charge d'Affaires for Iraq, who described himself as a Palestinian in origin, said that it was very surprising that one section of the population in Palestine could have all the resources, and that the other race was not entirely exterminated by the lack of means. When we say Arab children, he went on, we use the phrase as denoting an Arab child of any Arabic-speaking country. The Arab child has not had a fair chance, he declared. Our children are very restless. The reason is that they have come in contact with a new civilisation and a new mode of living. In Palestine they imitate the British and endeavour to adapt themselves to influences that have come from outside their own country. This is an age of nationality, he concluded, and the Arab youth everywhere are seeking the realisation of their national aspirations. Whether the Arab is on this side of the Mediterranean or on the other side of the Persian Gulf, he is absorbed in his work for the realisation of his national aspirations.

WE REAFFIRM ARAB-JEWISH ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE PROPOSALS WERE INDEED MADE AND CONSIDERED IN ARAB-JEWISH CIRCLES AND WERE DUE TO BE ANNOUNCED IN FEBRUARY UNDER OFFICIAL AUSPICES: DECLARATION BY REVISIONIST HEADQUARTERS: WE PREFERRED ODIUM OF BEING ACCUSED OF PUBLISHING DOCUMENT DECLARED TO BE UNSUBSTANTIATED RATHER THAN GIVING SCHEER CHANCE OF BECOMING ACTUAL VENGE: WE FOLLOWED POLICY WE ADOPTED ON WHITE PAPER PUBLICATION.

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

As far as we are concerned, we re-affirm that the proposals were indeed made and considered in Arab-English circles, and that they were due to be announced in Jerusalem on February 8th. or 9th. under official auspices; and that the Palestine Administration is greatly concerned about the leakage which made possible the premature publication of the proposals and has compelled the initiators to withdraw for the time being, Mr. Meir Grossman declares in a statement on the Arab-Jewish Round-Table Conference plans made public in the press recently, issued to-day by the Executive Committee of the Zionist Revisionist World Union.

The Jewish public should not give credence to the denials, he continues, as it is but natural that the promoters of a prematurely revealed scheme should endeavour to make people believe that it had never really existed. We are satisfied, Mr. Grossman says, with the result of our publication, as we indeed, directed our efforts to preventing the proposals reaching a stage in which they could be regarded as actual. We preferred the odium of being accused of publishing a document which is declared to be unsubstantiated, rather than giving the scheme a chance of becoming an actual menace. In this case we followed the policy we adopted on the occasion of the publication of the White Paper, but fortunately we had more time to play with in order to prevent the mischief.

INFIAI LANDS ARE JEWISH PROPERTY: PALESTINE HIGH COURT DISMISSES ARAB APPEAL AGAINST JEWISH COLONISTS OF HEDERAH.

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

The Supreme Court dismissed to-day on a technical point of law the appeal brought by the Arab squatters to the Infiait lands of the Jewish colony of Hederah, and thus finally adjudged the lands, which have been in dispute for several years, to be Jewish property.

The Haifa Land Court rejected the Arab claim to the Infiait lands in December 1930, upholding the decision of the Land Settlement Officer given the previous July.

The judgment recognised the rights of the colonists of Hederah to the majority of the lands claimed by them - approximately 7,500 dunams, in addition to the sandy lands of which the Government took possession.

The Arabs of Infiait thereupon decided to appeal to the High Court, which has now given its decision, upholding the Jewish claim to the land.

The Arabs laid claim to the Infiait lands in January 1929, breaking down the fences, and driving off the Jewish ploughmen. Police were called in, who maintained order. The late High Commissioner, Sir John Chancellor, then intervened, ordering that until the dispute between the Jews and the Arabs had been settled by the land court, the lands which were uncultivated should remain uncultivated, the lands cultivated before the dispute by the Jews should continue to be cultivated by them, and the lands cultivated by the Bedouins should continue to be cultivated by the Bedouins.

The Jewish colonists of Hederah produced documents showing that their rights to the land covered the whole of the area for a period of forty years.

RABBI LEVIN ATTACKS DEPUTY GRUENBAUM IN POLISH PARLIAMENT: REPUDIATES HIS ELDER ON RABBIS.

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

Deputy Isaac Gruenbaum, who in the course of a speech on the new Government educational bill delivered in the Sejm about a week ago, made slighting references to the Polish Rabbis, suggesting that they were the tools of the Government, was vigorously reprimanded in the Sejm to-day by Deputy Rabbi Levin, one of the leaders of the Agudath Israel, who sits on the Government benches. Rabbi Levin described how the Polish Rabbis work for the welfare of the masses of the Polish Jews, singling out the Gerer Rebbe as one of the greatest and noblest figures in contemporary Jewish life.

.. — The Government, Deputy Gruenbaum said in the speech with which Rabbi Levin dealt, is not concerned with the Jewish religion; but is only concerned to support the Rabbis, who are driving their flocks to vote for the Government. That is why, he alleged, the Government has given their present powers to the obscurantist Rabbis, whose influence had been dying out. The Rabbis, he cried, are now your colleagues.

The Vice-President of the Sejm, M. Palakevich, interrupted Deputy Gruenbaum, suggesting: Perhaps you will speak with a little more restraint of people who cannot defend themselves here.

This is the first time, Deputy Gruenbaum retorted to this, that the Rabbis are taken under the protection of the Sejm Presidium.

SPLIT IN POLISH BUND FORESHADOWED: MINORITY AGAINST AFFILIATION TO SECOND INTERNATIONAL.

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

A split in the Jewish Socialist Party Bund is fore-shadowed by the Yiddish daily "Najer Hajnt", which states to-day that the Left wing minority is threatening to secede.

At the last meeting of the Central Committee of the Bund, it reveals, the Left wing minority opposed the affiliation of the Bund with the Second (Socialist) International, which has recently agreed to and complained that the Party leaders were placing restrictions on the work of the Party and its members.

The majority retaliated by adopting a resolution demanding the stoppage of the minority's opposition organ "Gegen Strom" (Against the stream). The minority thereupon announced that they would not submit to this demand.

The minority section in the Bund, the paper adds, will shortly call a separate Conference, at which it will probably be decided to leave the Party.

BERNARD G. RICHARDS OF AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS BANQUETTED ON COMPLETING 25 YEARS OF PUBLIC WORK.

New York, Mar. 7th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

A banquet was held here to-day arranged by the American Jewish Congress, for the completion of the 25 years of Jewish communal and journalistic work by Mr. Bernard G. Richards, until recently Executive Secretary of the Congress, since its foundation 16 years ago. About 300 prominent Jews from all over the country were present.

President Hoover and Mr. Roosevelt, the Governor of New York State, sent messages of congratulation to Mr. Richards.

Mr. Adolf S. Ochs, publisher of the "New York Times", Mr. Adolph Lewinohn, Mr. Louis Lipsky, former President of the Zionist Organisation of America, Mr. George Medalie, United States Attorney, Mr. Carl Sherman, former Attorney General of the State of New York, Mr. Morris Rothenberg, Judge Otto Rosalsky, Judge William M. Lewis, Mr. Jacob Fishman, editor of the "New York Jewish Morning Journal", and Dr. S. Margoshes, editor of the New York Yiddish daily "The Day", were members of the Richards Testimonial Committee.

Mr. Richards started his journalistic work on the "Boston Post" and the "Boston Evening Transcript". He has taken an active part in the Zionist movement in America, and was associated with Dr. J. L. Magnes, now Chancellor of the Hebrew University in Palestine, in the organisation of the Jewish Community of New York. He was Secretary to the delegation which represented the American Jews at the Peace Conference at Versailles, which included among its members the late Mr. Louis Marshall and Judge Julian Mack.

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