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WORLD JEWISH CONFERENCE OPENS TODAY IN GENEVA; TO DISCUSS JEWISH CONGRESS ADVISABILITY

Professor Moritz Sobernheim Proceeds to Geneva, to Represent "Israelitischer Gemeindebund"; Central Union of German Citizens of the Jewish Faith Declines Participation; Controversy in Warsaw Over Selection of Agudath Israel Head to Represent Kehillah

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

BERLIN, Aug. 12.—Professor Moritz Sobernheim, head of the "Israelitischer Gemeindebund" has departed for Geneva and will be present at the opening of the world Jewish conference there on Sunday, which is to discuss the advisability and feasibility of constituting a world Jewish congress.

Professor Sobernheim is proceeding to Geneva as the delegate of his organization despite the opposition of the Central Union of German Citizens of the Jewish Faith which has decided not to participate in the Geneva deliberations.

The conference is scheduled to be attended by 100 delegates from 25 countries, whose acceptances of their invitation The American Jewish Congress says it has received.

The American delegation, headed by Rabbi Stephen S. Wise and Bernard S. Deutsch, honorary president and president of the American Jewish Congress are already in Europe.

The World Zionist Organization, as well as American Zionists are to be represented at the conference. Nahum Sokolow, president of the World Zionist Organization, will convey the greetings of that body.

WARSAW, Aug. 12.—A controversy has arisen in Jewish circles here over the selection of the head of the Agudath Israel, Mazur, who is also the head of the Warsaw Kehillah, dominated by the Agudath Israel, to represent the Kehillah at the Geneva conference on Sunday.

The Agudath Israel, as the represen-

Oldest Hebrew Writer

In Poland Succumbs

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

CRACOW, Aug. 12.—The oldest Hebrew writer in Poland, Shimon Menachem Lasar, who began his Hebrew literary career forty-five years ago, died here today.

Lasar began as a contributor to the Hebrew Journal Haosif and subsequently became the editorial writer of the periodicals Hamagid and Hampizpah. He was also the editor of a Hebrew-German dictionary.

tative organization of extreme orthodox Jewry received and turned down an invitation to participate in the conference and the selection of its head to represent the Kehillah in the face of this action, is regarded as inconsistent and has brought about complications.

Mr. Mazur today sent a letter to the conveners of the conference for inviting Deputy Isaac Gruenbaum, who has recently taken up residence in Paris, to address the conference on the position of the Jews in Poland.

At the same time the Nationalist section of the Kehillah, which comprises a minority, has sent a protest to Geneva against the decision of the Kehillah to be represented by Mazur instead of by two delegates who would also represent the Kehillah as a whole.

The protest states that Mazur cannot speak for the Kehillah as a whole

FORGE SIGNATURE OF RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY TO LEAFLETS WIDELY DISTRIBUTED CALLING ON JEWS TO UNITE WITH COMMUNISTS

Central Union Investigating Incident; Hand Grenades Thrown Into Jewish Stores; Great Damage Wrought; Central Union Assures Provinces Measures to Assist Jews Will Be Taken

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

BERLIN, Aug. 12 — Mimeographed leaflets carrying the Soviet emblem and five stars to which the forged signature of the Jewish Religious Community of Germany was attached have been distributed in East Prussia, Baden, and Pommern, for provocative purposes, it is learned today.

The leaflets call upon the Jews to concentrate their efforts for the purpose of preventing the Nazis from gaining power and to openly join the Communists to fight for a Soviet regime in Germany.

The absurdity of the attempt to fasten responsibility for this appeal upon the Jews is pointed out here in the light of the fact that a religious community could not sympathize with a government such as the Soviet which bans religion.

The Central Union of German Citizens of the Jewish Faith is investigating this incident.

The Central Union issued a statement

Delfiner Will Reopen Silk Factory in Tel Aviv Closed Several Years Ago

Closing Was Announced Because of Dissatisfaction with Attitude of Palestine Administration

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

VIENNA, Aug. 12.—Mazi Delfiner, owner of a silk factory in Tel-Aviv, whose operations he suspended several years ago, because of his disappointment with the attitude of the Palestine Administration, has decided to re-open his plant, it was learned here today.

Mr. Delfiner has already appointed a number of experts in preparation for the factory's re-opening and will himself proceed to Palestine in September.

Czernowitz Street Named After Spinoza on Tercentenary

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

CZERNOWITZ, Aug. 12.—The municipality of Czernowitz today named a street after Baruch Spinoza, famous Jewish philosopher.

The naming of the street is to mark the tercentenary of Spinoza's birth.

today to Jews in the provinces, where the Nazi terrorization is at its height, assuring them that all possible measures to assist them will be employed.

The Central Union has in recent weeks been flooded with communications from the provinces revealing how the "hitherto peaceful Jewish life in the small towns has been turned into a veritable hell, where the Jews fear for their lives."

Hand grenades were thrown today into Jewish stores in Gleiwitz, Hindenburg and Muensterberg. All wrought great damage.

The Central Union has started action against the Nazi organ "Volkskampf" of Kiel for its charge that all Jews are criminals and should therefore be deported.

The Central Union also demands that the "Volkskampf" be prohibited by the authorities of Kiel.

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Jewish Blind Mark

Periodical's Anniversary

With the August number of the "Jewish Braille Review," just published, the Jewish blind of America celebrate the first anniversary of the only distinctive Jewish Braille periodical in the world.

This monthly magazine, printed in the Braille system and sent free to its readers, was launched last August chiefly through the initiative of the Federation of Temple Sisterhoods. It is published by the Jewish Braille Institute of America, Inc., an organization established to minister to the cultural and spiritual needs of the Jewish blind.

The magazine is edited by Leopold Dubov, executive secretary of the Institute, who is himself without sight.

St. Louis Zionist Leader

Gets Judge's Nomination

(Jewish Daily Bulletin)

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 12—Max G. Baron, one of the founders of the Zionist Organization of St. Louis, has received the Democratic nomination for circuit court judge for the full six year term.

Mr. Baron is a former member of the faculty of St. Louis University. He has served as president of the Zionist organization here and was the founder of the Associated Hebrew Schools of which he is now Chairman of the Board of Directors.

POLAND GROSSLY VIOLATING MINORITY RIGHTS OF JEWS INSTITUTE OF POLITICS TOLD; IS LARGELY RESPONSIBLE FOR ECONOMIC DISTRESS OF JEWS

Max J. Kohler, Jewish Legal Authority and Communal Worker, Informs Institute of Politics of the Civil, Political, Religious and Linguistic Discriminations Against the Jews of Poland; Says 700,000 Jews Lost Livelihood Before Depression, Through Government's Nationalization Attempts; Edward Weintal, Press Attache of the Polish Embassy, Says That Application of Minorities Treaties to Jewish Situation of No Value Whatsoever

(Jewish Daily Bulletin)

WILLIAMSTOWN, Aug. 12—The Institute of Politics in session here was informed yesterday of Poland's violation of the minority treaties as relates to Jews in both the economic and educational fields by Max J. Kohler, prominent Jewish legal authority and communal worker.

Mr. Kohler, who assisted in the drafting of the minorities clauses of the peace treaties at the Paris Peace Conference, aroused the ire of Edward Weintal, press attache of the Polish Embassy, who was present at the round table discussion.

Mr. Kohler charged that most of the distress suffered by the 3,000,000 Jews of Poland, who comprise about a fourth of all the Jews in the world, may be laid to the door of Poland for its violation of the specific provisions intended to safeguard the rights of the Jews.

The very first articles of the Polish Minorities Treaty prohibiting civil, political, religious and linguistic discriminations have been grossly violated from the outset and are still being violated, while the Czaristic laws continued in force until last year.

The representation of 40 to which the Jews were entitled on the basis of population and membership at large in the lower house of the Polish Legislature was reduced, as was also the right of the Jews to 7 members in the Senate.

Further, says Mr. Kohler, a decree in 1927 forbade the use of Yiddish and Hebrew in public assemblies in Galicia while the use of these languages for transmitting telegraph and telephone messages was seriously curtailed.

The right of the Jews to enter various professions and public life have been curtailed by what Mr. Kohler termed "ingenious restrictions not specifically naming the Jews."

Mr. Kohler asserts further that the lack of adequate schools which has brought about the curtailment of the entrance of Jews to vocational, secondary, high schools and universities, is further aggravated by the failure of the government to assign "equitable shares" of public funds for the Jewish schools which serve as substitutes for the public schools closed to them. The government, he said, has persisted in granting the Jewish schools a mere pittance despite the numerous protests.

The infractions of the economic treaty rights are absolutely crushing in their effect upon the Jews, Mr. Kohler states. The Jews, he points out, bear the bur-

den of taxation, paying about 31% of the taxes even though they constitute a small portion of the population, he says, as to fall upon the urban population, the Jews being mostly city dwellers, while the majority of the Polish population is rural.

The Land Reform initiated by the government for the purpose of reducing the agricultural population has also hit the Jews. This it did, he said, "by forcing landed proprietors owning more than a certain amount of land to sell but 10% of the population. The tax on the surplus with a view to investing the proceeds in the cities and inducing their employees to move from the country to the cities. But practically all of these were non-Jews, though business and trade competitors for the Jewish city-dwellers thus suddenly arose. In order to aid these non-Jewish transplanted farm laborers and their Christian city-dwelling competitors, the government next embarked on a series of State enterprises. It established large credit funds, which were loaned to city traders, industrialists and employees, but practically shut the Jews out of the receipt of such aid. Next, they proceeded to nationalize whole industries in which the Jews had been largely employed and then appointed as Government employees therein practically only non-Jews. One important industry after another was thus nationalized, including the tobacco, salt and alcohol industries, Jewish employees being forced to give way to Christians. It has been estimated that more than 700,000 Jews had been deprived of the means of earning their livelihood by these devices before the economic depression set in," Mr. Kohler asserted.

Mr. Weintal, the Polish Embassy's press attache, took issue with the statements made by Mr. Kohler and asserted that the application of minorities treaties to the situation of Polish Jews has no practical value whatsoever. He claimed that there has not been a single instance of a petition by a Jewish minority being submitted to the League of Nations under the terms of the minorities treaties.

Referring to Mr. Kohler's charges regarding the taxation system, Mr. Weintal asserted that the system as devised places the greater responsibility upon the commercial and industrial population, of which the Jews form a large part.

"Near East" Cites Citrus Development as Growing Basis For Arab, Jewish Co-operation

Jewish Initiative Lauded; Israel B. Brodie Says Viewpoint is Gaining Adherents

The "Near East and India," a publication considered as close to the Colonial Office, which has just reached this country, carries a full page editorial entitled "Development in Palestine" where it cites the development of the citrus and other industries, due to Jewish initiative, as a growing basis for co-operation between Jew and Arab.

The publication sees further the removal of an obstacle to Arab and Jewish co-operation when material progress in Palestine is assured permanence.

The "Near East and India" states that where co-operation is hampered or prevented, the responsibility rests on the actions of the politically-minded of the two sections of the Palestine population. On the Arab side, the paper asserts, there can be no question but that those who are most vocal in their hostility to the Jews are the spokesmen of those who are the worst enemies of the fellahen.

The paper comments also upon the present meeting in London of the Economic Board for Palestine; the second annual meeting of the stockholders of Palestine Potash, Limited, the company which operates the Dead Sea Concession; the interview between Sir Philip Cunliffe-Lister, Secretary of State for the Colonies, and Nahum Sokolow, President of the World Zionist Organization; and the "growing movement among American Jews, as well as among the Jews of Europe, for investment and middle-class settlement in Palestine."

"Near East and India" also verifies that there is practically no unemployment among the Jews of Palestine.

"Not the least satisfactory feature of the citrus industry is the opportunities it provides for co-operation between the Arabs and Jews," says the editorial, "and there can be no question of the advantages that the Arab orange growers have derived from the example set by the Jews in all that concerns the improvements introduced into the industry—improved methods of cultivation, of packing and grading and of marketing. The dependence of the Arabs in this respect on Jewish initiative would seem to be taken so much for granted by

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Mark Anniversary of Death of Frischman

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

WARSAW, Aug. 12.—The Literary Society here yesterday marked the tenth anniversary of the death of David Frischman, distinguished Jewish poet and author.

Speakers at the memorial exercises included leading Jewish journalists and authors.

J. D. B. NEWS LETTER

Calls for Economic Boycott of Germany by Jews Should Hitlerism Win
By Our Special Chicago Correspondent

CHICAGO—An economic boycott of Germany on the part of Jews throughout the world in the event Hitler should come to power and seek to carry out his plans of depriving Jews of their citizenship, possessions and even of their domicile rights in Germany, is proposed by the Chicago Jewish Courier as the most effective means of meeting this eventuality.

The paper points out that Jews consume more German products than all the Balkan countries together. Should the Jews unite in a boycott of German products, the German industrialists will feel the loss, and having the choice between giving millions to Hitler as at present, and receiving millions from the Jews, they will sober up, according to the Courier.

The paper, presenting this project editorially, reviews the history of Jews in Germany and states that up until the present, Germany not only offered a haven to Jews, but may be regarded as the parent of Jewish culture.

The editorial says in part:

"In the past several centuries, the Jewish people, wherever resident, has been friendly in its attitude toward Germany. In Russia, the Jews were victims of pogroms. In Germany, they had peace and freedom. And if their emancipation was not complete, still Jews were able to attain great and influential positions in Germany. Then, too, Germany granted the Jews academic freedom. If the world today marvels at Jewish ability and Jewish reactivity, thanks are due to the cultural strides of German Jewry. Jewish culture has been bound up with German culture and the German Jewish philosopher, Herman Cohen, was not wrong when he declared that Germany is the motherland of modern Jewish culture, while Palestine is the fatherland of Jewry at large.

"Their friendship for Germany was evinced by the Jews during the period of the war. Soon after the outbreak of the world war, Jewries in all the lands not affiliated with the Allies, took a stand with Germany. And this pro-German stand was maintained until America entered the war on the side of the Allies. When the world war ended and the peace terms were announced, Jewry was opposed to their effect on Germany. Until the rise of Hitlerism, the Jews sympathized with Germany with the result that Germany profited.

"Germany is today the worst enemy the Jews have. Should Hitler come into power tomorrow, he would not hesitate not only to divest the Jews of their possessions, but to send them from the land where have resided their ancestors for

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Scores Author of Charge Ritual Murder by Jews Proved in Scriptures

Benammi in "London Jewish Chronicle" Expresses Astonishment This Article Was Permitted in "Hibbert Journal"

The author of the article in the Hibbert Journal, Ray Knight, who states that "the charge of ritual murder persistently brought against the Jews and always dismissed as a malignant calumny is proved up to the hilt by their own scriptures" is sharply criticized while surprise is expressed that L. P. Jack, editor of the quarterly should have permitted this statement to appear, by Benammi, prominent Jewish columnist, writing in the July 29th issue of the London Jewish Chronicle which has just reached this country.

Quoting the Ray Knight statement on Jews and ritual murder, Benammi declares: "The Jewish reader will rub his eyes in wonder. Where is he? What is he reading? The writer of this damnable charge, who hails from Assam, gives himself a very poor testimonial for scholarship or fairness. But that Mr. L. P. Jacks, of all people, should have printed stuff of this sort is incomprehensible. Is it a case of Homer caught napping? Or is Saul also among the Prophets? By penning these words the writer of the note really shows that he is unfit to write in the Hibbert journal. Does he (or is it she?) not know that early Christians were also accused of ritual murder? Does he not know that the Bible prohibits blood as food, and that down to this day Jews have an abhorrence of blood, so much so that they will not eat an egg with a spot of blood in it? Has he ever heard of the numerous Popes who have publicly expressed their abhorrence of the shameful accusation? Has he ever read Professor Strack's comprehensive study of this subject and does he know the conclusion at which this famous Christian theologian arrives? We say to Ray Knight what Tertullian, one of the Church Fathers, said to those who accused the early Christians of what Ray Knight accuses the Jews: 'If you really believe it, prove it; if you cannot, cease to believe it!'

"It is quite evident that Ray Knight cannot be regarded as an authority. To repeat so terrible an accusation on so flimsy a basis betokens stupidity or irresponsibility, or both. But what is difficult to understand is this: How comes

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15,000 in Tisha B'Ab Pilgrimage to Wailing Wall

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

JERUSALEM, Aug. 12.—Fifteen thousand persons took part in the annual Tisha B'Ab pilgrimage yesterday to the Wailing Wall.

Excellent order was maintained throughout with nothing untoward happening.

"Near East" Cites Citrus Development as Growing Basis For Arab, Jewish Co-operation

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them, that they are usually content to see the whole duty of investigation and research shouldered by the Jews in the hope, no doubt, that the bulk of the expense, if not all of it, will be borne by the latter. In other directions other speakers (at the meeting of the Economic Board) were able to give the same account of the steady expansion, in fruits, in vegetables, in dairy produce and in various industries. In a year's time, moreover, it may be supposed the output of Palestine Potash, Limited, already several years ahead of its contract schedule, will be making itself felt in the State Exchequer.

"The material progress in Palestine," the paper proceeds, "will be the more permanent, because it is based on a sound foundation, and a great obstacle to Arab and Jewish co-operation will be removed. In the sphere of business enterprises this co-operation is already abundantly in existence, and where it is hampered or wholly prevented the reason is to be sought in the actions of the politically-minded of the two sections of the Palestine population. On the Arab side there can be no question that those who are most vocal in their hostility to the Jews and to the present regime are those, or the spokesmen of those, who are also the worst enemies of the fellaheen. The progress of Palestine requires a marked improvement in the lot of the fellaheen, and their standard of living; and it is unfortunate that the undue stress laid in certain quarters on the political aspirations of Zionism tends to strengthen the position of what is generally known as the effendi class with their own fellaheen and so regards the work that Jewry has set itself to perform in Palestine."

Chairman of Economic Committee Applauds Viewpoint

In a statement made to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today, by Israel B. Brodie, chairman of the American Economic Committee for Palestine, Mr. Brodie applauded the viewpoint by the "Near East and India," particularly in view of its past diffidence to Jewish agricultural and economic enterprises in Palestine.

Mr. Brodie stated that the view expressed by "Near East and India" is in many respects "ample recognition of the correctness of the belief that the most effective means of accelerating the growth of the Jewish National Home, of securing needed co-operation from the government and of creating the basis for enduring understanding between Arab and Jew is to develop the large industrial and economic possibilities of the land in a business-like manner."

"That this view is rapidly gaining adherents is indicated," he said, "by the large number of inquiries we are receiving at the New York office of the American Economic Committee for

J. D. B. NEWS LETTER

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1500 years. Hitler's spirit is infesting Germany, and Germany has therefore become more dangerous to the Jews than Russia was, because Hitlerism seeks to organize the whole world against us. This Czarist Russia did not do and not even benighted Spain.

"Not only German Jews but the Jews throughout the world must now arm themselves against Germany and stand on the watch to prevent Hitlerism from rooting itself in the various countries of the world.

"Hitlerism is an international plague and constitutes international danger for us. Because Hitlerism seeks to poison the atmosphere everywhere against us, we must everywhere stand on the watch.

"To vanquish Hitlerism, it is necessary for us not only to prevent the consummation of its plans, but we must take the offensive. And we have sufficient weapons against Germany. Many countries in East Europe are the best customers of Germany. The Jews in these East European lands are the largest consumers of German products. The peasants of Lithuania and Poland, Latvia and Roumania, need no German manufactures and do not buy them. But the middle class elements in these lands buy German manufactures and other products. The day will come when Jews throughout the world will refuse to purchase German products. Germany seeks to undermine our foundations, and we must assume both the defensive and the offensive. To take the offensive means to declare a boycott against German products. Of the 18,000,000 Jews throughout the world, 15,000,000 are buyers of German products. Should the Jews declare an economic boycott against Germany, Germany will fare much worse than if Roumania or Lithuania were boycotting her products.

"Jews throughout the world purchase more German products than do all the Balkan lands combined. The victory of Hitlerism in Germany must produce a general boycott of German products by Jews.

"This will be the concrete evidence of our changed attitude to Germany. This is the only language Germany will understand. The great German industrialists who aid Hitler financially and thus enable to carry on his campaign of vilification against us, will feel the loss of their enterprise resulting from an economic boycott by the Jews of the world. If the choice is presented to them of handing millions to Hitler and receiving millions from us, they will sober up. Then Hitlerism will collapse."

Palestine and at our Bureau in Tel-Aviv, from prospective settlers and investors as well as the numerous offers of co-operation we have had from Jews in other countries in the few weeks since the Committee announced its facilities."

Scores Author of Charge Ritual Murder by Jews Proved in Scriptures

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it that a person of such crude and prejudiced judgments is allowed to write in the Hibbert Journal?" Benammi concludes.

"Exponent" Also Scores Attack

The Philadelphia Jewish Exponent also comments upon this matter in its current issue and in an editorial entitled: "Maligned in a Friend's House," says:

"The Hibbert Journal which has been consistently friendly and which is renowned throughout the world for its high standards of scholarship and its fairmindedness, lays itself open to criticism in its current issue. The otherwise splendid number of an esteemed publication is marred by a foot-note to an article in which the author says, among other things: 'The charge of ritual murder persistently brought against the Jews and always dismissed as a malignant calumny is proved up to the hilt by their own Scriptures. It dates back to the second century B.C. It was their horrible practices that led Sholmaneser and Nebuchadnessar to expel them from Palestine and when they returned they were abhorred by all their neighbors, doubtless for the same reason.'

"We have no quarrel with the writer of the article in question. He evidently belongs to the group that has never ceased to malign our people. These detractors resort to every possible subterfuge. Even the Hibbert Journal furnishes a fertile field for the sowing of their vicious seeds. And when this particular individual could not inject his propaganda into the text, he found vent for it in a foot-note. But we are amazed and chagrined that the Hibbert Journal should permit itself to be abused in this way. One does not expect to be maligned in the house of a friend," the editorial concludes.

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