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## Unsatisfactory Conditions At Bira Bidjan Confirmed By Official Commission

**Special Commission of Investigation  
Charges Local Administration with  
Negligence; Demands Punishment**

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

MOSCOW, Aug. 27.—The "Emess" today publishes part of a report rendered by a special White Russian Commission which investigated conditions at Bira Bidjan. The Commission had been sent to the Jewish colonies in order to establish officially why the Jews of White Russia were turning their backs upon Bira Bidjan.

The representative of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency has seen the complete official report in which a true picture of existing conditions is given. It relates that when Jewish wanderers arrive at Bira Bidjan they find no shelter, are unprovided with employment or food and are disappointed with the treatment they receive at the hands of some of the local officials.

The report gives instances of the failure on the part of officials and demands their punishment. In one case a large group of 485 Jews arrived from Zinovjevsk. They were compelled to remain without shelter and found themselves without work because the administration had done nothing to prepare for their arrival. Similarly, ten Jews from White Russia remained for three successive nights during the rain period without work, food or shelter. All of them deserted on the fourth day. Other instances are given of groups from Mohilev that were subject to the same conditions.

The investigating commission charges the Bira Bidjan administration with negligence and calls for proper action.

## Jewish Worker Given 10 Years Imprisonment on Nazi Evidence

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

BERLIN, Aug. 27.—The special summary court today sentenced Arthur Kopper, a Jewish worker, to ten years imprisonment upon evidence produced by the Nazis that he had participated in an attack upon a police official.

This heavy sentence was meted out in spite of the evidence on the part of Kopper's family, whose members swore that he was at home at the time the attack is reported to have taken place. Kopper's wife was removed from the court in a state of collapse.

## Central Verein Publication Severely Criticizes Geneva Conference Proceedings

**Declares It Was Not Representative  
and Adopted Means Which Can-  
not Combat Anti-Semitism**

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

BERLIN, Aug. 27.—Writing in the publication of the Central Verein, Dr. Alfred Wiener sharply criticizes the work of the Jewish World Conference recently held at Geneva.

Dr. Wiener, who is one of the leading members of the Central Verein Executive declares that, neither the Central Verein nor any other non-Zionist organization in Europe or America could have participated in this gathering which had as its basic condition recognition of membership in a Jewish political nation.

The writer protests at the impression conveyed in press reports from the Geneva conference that there exists a Jewish people united politically and having their own political aims. In doing so, he stresses the fact that the delegates at the conference went undeleated by anyone and did not represent the Jewries in whose name they spoke. With such a means, Dr. Wiener says, we cannot fight anti-Semitism, which requires a slow and incessant campaign of enlightenment on the part of every Jew.

## Effort to Redeem Ancient Spanish Synagogue Unavailing

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

MADRID, Aug. 27.—The effort made to have the ancient synagogue of Cordova returned to the Sephardic Jews of the community have proven unsuccessful. The matter had been taken up by the Cortes and was referred to the Ministry of Public Instruction for final action. The Ministry has now ruled that there is insufficient ground for the claim and has turned down the motion.

## Coty Fears Results of His Anti-Semitic Campaign

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

PARIS, Aug. 27.—The local anti-Semitic publication "Ami du Peuple," carries the statement today that Francois Coty has been compelled to hire a body-guard for his protection as a result of his anti-Jewish campaign. Since he has been carrying on his anti-Semitic propaganda, the paper declares, assassins have been hired to make an attempt upon his life.

## Urgency of Jewish Needs Made World Congress Inevitable

**Wise and Deutsch Return from Geneva;  
Appeal to American Jews to Pre-  
pare for World Gathering**

Every aspect of Jewish life will be reviewed and every Jewish problem will be included in the program of the World Jewish Congress to be called in 1934, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, the initiator of the movement for a Jewish world gathering, declared yesterday upon his return from Geneva, where the decision for a World Congress was made.

Dr. Wise returned on the S. S. Leviathan together with Bernard S. Deutsch, president of the American Jewish Congress and in the course of a joint statement issued upon arrival, said:

"Let us say at once that the chief value of the preliminary Geneva Conference lies in the better understanding it brought to the Delegates through authoritative information and subsequent consultation. Not since the Paris meeting of the committees of Jewish Delegates of the American Jewish Congress, under the leadership of Messrs. Mack and Marshall, Motzkin and Sokolow, has there been a gathering of Jews from many lands bent upon considering Jewish problems, which has been comparable in significance and inclusiveness to the Geneva Conference.

"The high calibre of the Delegates, especially from Central and Eastern Europe, was a joy, though not a surprise to those responsible for the convening of the Conference. We felt we were in the presence of some of the finest Jewish minds in Europe. It may be that the Conference was no more

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## Dr. Samuel Goldflam, Warsaw Leader, Dead at Age of 80

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

WARSAW, Aug. 27.—Dr. Samuel Goldflam, leading Jewish member of the medical profession and a member of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, died here today. He was eighty years old.

The deceased was an outstanding authority in neurology and in the course of his long career published more than fifty important treatises on the subject.

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## Young Poale Zion Hold 11th Convention in Syracuse

(Jewish Daily Bulletin)

SYRACUSE, Aug. 27—Delegates from all over the United States and Canada, representing several thousand members of the Young Poale Zion Alliance, will meet here over the Labor Day weekend for the 11th Annual Convention of that organization.

The Alliance is the youth organization of the Socialist-Zionist movement in America, and includes the Poale Zion-Zeirei Zion Party, the Jewish National Workers Alliance and the Women Pioneers Organization.

Several hundred guests are expected to attend the sessions, and will include Goldie Myerson, leader of the Palestine labor movement; Meyer Brown, president of the Jewish National Workers Alliance and General Secretary of the Poale Zion-Zeirei Zion Party; Haym Greenberg, editor of the "Yiddisher Kaepfer"; Isaac Hamlin, national secretary of the Palestine Labor Committee; Joel Entin, Jewish author; Dr. A. Appelbaum, vice-president of the Jewish National Workers Alliance; and Sophie Udin, of the Pioneer Women's Organization of America.

## St. Louis Zionist in Fatal Automobile Accident

(Jewish Daily Bulletin)

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Aug. 27—Samuel Gubernik, a leading member of the local Poale-Zion group, was killed in an automobile accident in front of his home here yesterday. His wife and children witnessed the tragedy.

The deceased was a member of the Cheruth colony in Palestine and had recently arranged to leave for Palestine with his family and settle there. The local Poale-Zeire-Zion are arranging a public memorial meeting.

## Scholars Find Library of Theological Seminary Inexhaustible Source

A new register of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, which has just been published, draws attention to the extent to which scholars, the world over, turn to its library as a source of help and information. Among the distinguished savants who have declared their indebtedness to this library in their published works, are Professor David Yellin of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and Dr. B. Lewin of the Tachkemoni School in Haifa. Dr. E. W. Rabinowitz, Dr. Michael Higger, Rabbi Joseph Marcus, of the Seminary alumni, have published works based on MSS. found in the collection. In his translation of the Memoirs of Gluckel von Hameln, Marvin Lowenthal includes several reproductions from the library's books.

The Museum of Jewish Ceremonial Objects which was opened last November, was visited by more than 1,000 persons each month. Because of the widespread demand for its use, it has been kept open during the summer months.

The Seminary celebrated this year the thirtieth anniversary of its reorganization which took place in 1902, when Dr. Cyrus Adler became president of the board of directors. In honor of this occasion more than 500 people throughout the country joined in a testimonial of greeting to Dr. Adler, which was presented to him at the Commencement exercises.

## Permanent Police Protection Given Berlin Synagogue

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

BERLIN, Aug. 27—The local police have decided to establish a permanent guard during the period of services at the Kiel synagogue. This synagogue was recently the scene of an attempted bomb outrage.

The possible danger to which Jewish worshippers will be exposed during the forthcoming Rosh Hashonah and Yom Kippur holidays and the manner in which they can best be given protection, is now being given consideration by local Jewish leaders and it is understood that the government will be expected to take protective measures in the neighborhoods of synagogues throughout the country.

## British Military in Akaba For Temporary Stay

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

JERUSALEM, Aug. 27—An official communique issued today by the local government denies that Britain is undertaking any military operations in the Akaba territory. Some members of the Transjordanian Frontier Force and the Royal Air Force have been temporarily established there, the communique declares, in order to prevent Ibn Saud's enemies from obtaining assistance.

## Urgency of Jewish Needs Made World Congress Inevitable

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than a human sounding-board for those who drew up stern and unforgettable indictments of their countries. In any event we who were present were satisfied with that humble part. Every expenditure of time and effort and means seemed abundantly justified as we heard the German Delegates pour forth their hearts in proud condemnation of present-day things in Germany. These declared that in those dark hours the Conference gave them a sense of solidarity with and sympathy from their fellow-Jews, which they had not known before, which above all, "will strengthen us for the difficult days that may lie before us."

"Something unusual happened. The representatives of the Press, themselves for the most part non-Jews, were visibly moved and did their work with enthusiasm. Christian bodies, such as the Baptist Union of England, telegraphed their good wishes. The reception of the Praesidium at the League of Nations was hearteningly sympathetic rather than merely formal. Geneva correspondents of the European Press declared that it was fine for Jews at last publicly to meet and consider their problems and that it was good for the Nations to learn just what and how wide-spread and grave Jewish problems were.

"Soon after the Conference began, the convening of the World Jewish Congress loomed as inevitable. In the end the decision to call the Congress was reached not because of formal resolution but by reason of the urgency and gravity of Jewish needs as unmistakably revealed by the Conference. The impatient, if so they may be called, fought for a Congress at the earliest possible moment, but the moderate and conciliatory prevailed, apart from the factor of time needed for adequate preparation.

"The World Jewish Congress that is to be will thus be the first Jewish Assembly in history of representatives of all lands to face and seek to solve Jewish questions. Its Executive Committee and the larger Council made up of representatives from the leading World Jewries may be counted upon to act in the interim as trustees of a United Jewry in the making.

"At the Congress, when summoned, every aspect of Jewish life will come under review and all Jewish problems will be embraced within the Agenda.

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Funeral services were held in Newark, N. J. for Louis Alboum, centenarian, whose lifetime of 103 years was believed to have earned for him the distinction of being the city's oldest Jewish resident. Up to the past year or two he attended synagogue services daily. He is survived by several children and a number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Rabbi Alexander S. Kleinfeld, recently of Beth David Temple, New York, was unanimously elected assistant to Rabbi Jacob H. Kaplan of Temple Israel, the same city.

## Lack of Funds the Only Handicap in Development of Palestine, Lipsky Declares

**Reporting Exceptional Progress, He Calls on American Zionists to Help Salvage Diaspora Jewry**

The failure of American Jewry to contribute its proportionate share of funds was the chief handicap placed upon Zionist constructive efforts in Palestine, Louis Lipsky declared yesterday upon his return from abroad.

The American Zionist leader had participated in the meetings of the Zionist Actions Committee and the Administrative Committee of the Jewish Agency, which have taken place in London during the past few weeks. Discussing the result of these gatherings, Mr. Lipsky said:

"The work of the Jewish Agency in Palestine was rendered unusually difficult this past year by the failure of American Jewry to contribute its equitable share of the funds required for the Jewish Agency budget. It is hoped that during the coming months this default will be made good by the organized forces of American Zionism. Palestine has been keenly disappointed because American Jewry has not provided the support that has been so essential, particularly during the past year, when all other phases of the development in Palestine have been progressing.

"Except for the financial problems that the Jewish Agency has to face, conditions in Palestine are fairly normal and there are signs of developments in the way of industry and commerce that are most gratifying. What happened in 1925, when 30,000 middle class settlers arrived in the country, is being repeated, but now this class of settlers is better equipped and the foundations have been more firmly laid by the pioneers of national rebuilding."

Questioned regarding the French Report, Mr. Lipsky declared that there was practical unanimity of opinion regarding the document. Its findings, the Actions Committee felt, failed to offer any satisfactory basis for the discussion of a Development Scheme in Palestine. At the same time, he said, it exploded once and for all the notion that any large number of Arab peasants had been deprived of their land by Jewish settlers. Some 2,700 claims were filed with the French Committee. About half of these have already been investigated and no more than 250 have so far been found to be genuine.

Discussing current conditions in Europe, Mr. Lipsky vigorously denied recent reports that the Jews of Germany are leaving that country because of the Hitler menace. Mr. Lipsky had conferred with a number of leading German Jews and had been assured that German Jews are confident that the rational forces of the Reich will combine to frustrate Hitler and prevent the

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## J. D. B. NEWS LETTER

**Excavations on the Site of Old Sicheim Greatest Ancient Monuments Ever Brought to Light in Palestine**

By Our Special Jerusalem Correspondent

**JERUSALEM**—"Hither shall we go up. Our brethren have discouraged our hearts, saying, The people is greater and taller than we; the cities are greater and walled up to heaven; and moreover we have seen the sons of Anakims there." Such was the cry of the Israelites as they listened in Kadesh Barnea to the report brought back by the spies from the land of Canaan. The bewildering impression of a pre-Israelitish fortress town on these new invaders could be imagined in some measure from the excavations of the Jericho walls. None the less the biblical picture of the paltriness of the Israelites in the sight of Canaanite structures was held to be more a poetical hyperbolism rather than an impression of reality.

It is therefore a most sensational and like convincing testimony of the truth of these Biblical narratives which is revealed to us through the excavations carried on at the site of old biblical Sicheim now Balata, a small village near modern Nablus.

### Personnel of Expedition

Its colossal city walls, towers, and temple brilliantly excavated by Dr. Walter, are the greatest ancient monuments ever brought to light in Palestine, and are epoch making for the reconstruction of the history of civilization in Palestine before the advent of the Israelites. Collaborating with Dr. Gabriel Walter of the German State Archaeological Institute was the Bernat Metge Foundation of Barcelona, represented by Jose Gilbert. On the staff was Miss B. D. Mazur of New York City, assistant in historical research.

The work was financed by the well-known patron of arts, His Excellency F. Cambo of Barcelona.

The evidence of the earliest settlement in Sicheim is represented by a steep rampart of beaten earth forming a camp enclosure about the city. What little remains of the enclosure indicates clearly its analogy to those of Mishrafe in north Syria, and those of Hazer in Galilee. Thus the chronology of the earliest settlement may be fixed at about 1900 B.C.

### Upper and Lower City

The second period in the evolution of the city is marked by a gigantic wall constructed of so-called cyclopic masonry. Round crudely hammered stones 3 metres long, laid one above the other and held together by clay, brings the wall to a height of 10 to 11 metres, and a thickness of 3.50 m. Its present excavated length is 125 m. To it belongs a powerful tower-gate. It is a rectangular structure, also of cyclopic masonry, containing two court en-

## Work and Policy of Palestine Histadruth Highly Praised by Pinski

**Noted Author Returns from Abroad; Contrasts Condition of Jews in Palestine with That of Europe**

David Pinski, noted Jewish author and dramatist, returned last Friday from an extended trip through Europe and the Near East, and brought back a glowing report of the Jewish development in Palestine.

"There is sun and light for the Jew in Palestine and only darkness in the other Jewish centers in Europe," Mr. Pinski stated. "In direct contrast to the healthy, vigorous life of the Jews in Palestine, is the hopelessness and dreariness of the Jews in other countries. Wherever I went, whether in the great cities or in the villages, I saw mainly morose and helpless Jews, sullenly waiting for ruin to overtake them. Vilna, once a proud and prosperous Jewish center, is now a city of beggars. There is no hope and no future, unless it is in Palestine. The crying need, both for the Jews in Palestine and the various countries of Europe, is immigration to Palestine. If the barriers are lifted I am sure that there will be a tremendous influx of Jews into Palestine."

Mr. Pinski highly praised the leaders of the Palestinian workers and spoke enthusiastically of the work of the Histadruth in Palestine. He called attention to the fact that there is practically no unemployment in Palestine today and ascribed this to the far-sighted policy of the Histadruth.

Mr. Pinski spoke of the enormous growth of Hebrew as the language of the Jews in Palestine. It is a growing, living language, the language of the schools and of the people, he said. He quoted the poet Bialik as being amazed at the progress made by the immigrants in learning Hebrew. "However," said Mr. Pinski, "Yiddish has also a future in Palestine, since Yiddish will be the bridge by which the Palestinian Jews will maintain close contact with the Jews throughout the rest of the world."

trances, 3 wide doorways in the same axis and is flanked by 4 tall towers, one in each corner. The approach to the tower-gate, which is set 5 m. above the level of the valley, is by means of an inclining earth rampart.

Bonded to the cyclopic wall—which is the supporting wall for the upper city or the acropolis—is the wall of the lower city. As the function of the latter is not merely to support earth masses but to defend the city within, its structure assumes an entirely different technique and form. The general line of the city wall is elliptic; but here the line moves in continuous, alternately proceeding and receding blocks of equal length; and the single wall gives way to a wall complex consisting of

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## Urgency of Jewish Needs Made World Congress Inevitable

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We envision the Congress as a forum in which there shall be a unifying of Jewish life for the public and forthright discussion of all Jewish problems external and internal. If the hopes of its founders and the will of its conveners are to prevail, all parties and groups and factions in Jewish life from Agudist (strictly orthodox) to radical reform, from Zionist to non-Zionist, are to find place within the wide and undogmatic area of this democratic Jewish Parliament. No Jewish problem will be shut out from the Congress tribunal. No Jewry will be shut out save by themselves.

"Concretely we may sum up that out of this conference came the recognition of the truth that any Jewish body in order to deal effectively with Jewish questions must be chosen directly by the people; again, the need for the establishment of a permanent tribunal that shall be fully representative of World Jewry; the regime must end under which Jewish leaders in any land felt free to decide or leave without decision the problems of Jews in other lands; the Conference made a brave beginning in helping to awaken the conscience of the Christian nations to their solemn duty to the Jewish people; above all it behooves Jewries in all lands, putting aside parties and strife and divisiveness, to unite in the presence of wide-spread menace for the safeguarding of the life, rights and well-being of the Jewish people.

"Two years lie before us in which to prepare for the World Jewish Congress during which the Jewries of the world will be expected and as far as may be necessary enabled to organize, for participation in the Congress. Whatever their views may have been up to this time, we call upon American Jews in every community to organize and prepare for this epochal event in the history of World Jewry."

## Lack of Funds the Only

### Handicap in Development of Palestine, Lipsky Declares

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execution of his anti-Semitic program. "Native German Jews are determined to protect their rights," Mr. Lipsky declared, "and they are well in a position to do so. They have the political wisdom, the intellectual capacity and the financial means to stand their ground against Hitler and his cohorts. They are not taking flight in large numbers to any country, not even to Palestine."

Mr. Lipsky, who is national chairman of the American Palestine Campaign, appealed to all sections of the Zionist movement in America to make their work more effective, since upon the work of the Jewish people themselves, he believes, depends not merely the progress of Zionist effort but also to a large extent the salvaging of the Jewish situation in the Diaspora.

## J. D. B. NEWS LETTER

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two parallel running walls, an inner and outer, rising one above the other, with a 10 metres wide earth rampart slope between them. On the east side of the city wall is another tower-gate similar to the one noted above but containing only one room. In this complex one meets a defence network whose total height, diggings show to be about 18 metres, and thickness 16 metres. It is well preserved and traceable continuously in a circuit length of 900 metres, describing a city area of about 15 acres.

### Reconstructing Old Sicheim

The picture of old Sicheim can thus be reconstructed along the following lines: In the centre of a very narrow mountain pass between Mt. Garizim and Ebal stood the fortified town—blocking the main route from the Jordan valley to the fertile coast plain, and thereby protecting the plain region from the invasions of the East, the reservoir of nomadic people. Geographically then, Sicheim was one of the most important points in Palestine; and its external aspect expressed its barricade function. With horizontal lines of the walls, one superimposed upon the other, with the vertical forward and backward moving blocks accentuating its height, with the gigantic dimensions of its stones—all concentrated in the elliptic city plan—the fortress loomed in the landscape foreboding and unconquerable. Standing at her side the two natural bulwarks, Mts. Garizim and Ebal, reinforced the impression of impenetrability.

And even today, as one stands at the foot of these gigantic walls, one has the sense of being, as Biblical people have so justly wailed, "in our own sight as grasshoppers." One is appalled by its sheer physical force. We may presume that the power of the wall system as well as its architectonic unity is connected with the dynamic personality of its builders—perhaps a king of the country of Sicheim.

### Builders Hittite or Syrian

That the builders do not belong to the still nomadic Israelites is clear. The technique bespeaks a long existing architectural tradition and thus points to north Syria or Hittite origin of its builders. They may be a tribe of the Hyksos, that powerful people who, breaking down from north Syria, about 1800 B.C., swept through the land of Canaan and succeeded in holding lower Egypt under its domination for nearly two hundred years. In 1575 B.C. they were driven out by the Egyptians and pressed back again through these lands. Genesis 34, whose narrative of Jacob's coming to Sicheim scholars fix chronologically at about 2500 B. C., clearly designates the dwellers of Sicheim as Hittites, that supports the Hittite origin of its settlers. And as further evidence too comes the East gate, whose chronology fixed by the finds is about 1500-1400 B.C. The gate is in pure

Hittite style as presented by the somewhat younger gates of Sendshirli and Karshemesh in North Syria.

### Existed in Abimelech's Time

There is no doubt that this defensive wall structure existed till the time of Abimelech, 1100 B.C. The epoece of the turbulent Abimelech (Judges 9) is a single example of topographical account on Sicheim. The history of the attack and the final conquest of the city by Abimelech coincides topographically with the wall and its eastern main gate at whose base the plain opens up, against which Abimelech directed his attack. Yet closer concordance of archaeological evidence with biblical history appeared impossible due to the duality of names (Judges 9). Sicheim and Migdol Sicheim (Tower of Sicheim). This raised the perplexing problem of localizing two distinct but neighboring communities. However, the recent discovery by Dr. Walter of the Temple Baal-Berith establishes definitely the existence of these two settlements. At the foot of Mt. Garizim overlooking Sicheim the temple Baal-Berith with its shrines and Canaanite cultus objects was unearthed. It consists of an inner court 8 metres square, in the centre of which lies a round chiseled base of a Mazzeba; in one corner stands an altar. Around but on a higher level to be approached by steps are a row of chambers; these have an upper story built of bricks; they appear to be the magazine or store rooms for produce gifts. This is without doubt the largest Canaanite sanctuary in Palestine. While those of Besan are not distinguishable from an ordinary house, that of Migdol Sicheim is constructed as an architectural whole, a tower building of 16 m. square with an open air centrum as cult court to which one descended by means of a dark stairway. Near the altar were found tube-like incense burners, a few feet long and similar to those found in Babylonian temples and those of Besan; libation bowl, oil lamp, and in the chambers huge pithos vases and alabastra of Egyptian importation.

But most impressive of all was the foundation deposit: resting in a corner of the foundation wall near the altar were a finely carved bronze sword and two spears, buried there as if to invoke the protection of the God. Scholars teach us that Baal-Berith was the god of truce between the native Canaanites and the early invading Israelite tribes; hence the symbolism of the war weapons is striking. Around the sanctuary there seem to be small open-air shrines. In such a one surrounded by low walls was unearthed, together with a heap of votive pottery, a unique Canaanite Fetish stone. The chronology of the temple is about the beginning of the late Bronze Age, 1500-1400 B.C. Evidence clearly points to its destruction by fire—a testimony of piteous end of Abimelech's enemies (Judges 9, 49).