NEWS

NEWS

Jewish Telegraphic Agency Latest Cable Dispatches

(A Personal Information Service)

230 FIFTH AVENUE, N. Y. C.

Phone: AShland 4 - 3090

NEW YORK, N. Y.

VOL I No. 18

Thursday, August 22, 1935.

THE WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS

* * *

Highlights of Today's Sessions

David Ben-Gurion accused Great Britain of robbing the Jews of immigration opportunities. Warned that Congress will not favor continuance of present Jewish Agency set-up. Demanded settlement of 1,000,000 Jewish families in Palestine. Declared problem in Palestine is to increase productiveness of soil.

Dr. Chaim Weizmann elected Congress president after opposition by Jewish State Party and Mizrachi. Latter announced non-participation in praesidium, committees and general debate because demands about religion in Palestine not met. Later agreed to participate if Congress promised to meet demands.

Weizmann report made public yesterday declared Palestine stands text as national homeland; described condition of German re-fugees and becoming steadily worse.

Dr. Selig Brodetsky stressed need for increased immigration and denounced Legislative Council idea. Criticized Revisionists.

Dr. Arthur Ruppin inveighed against British restrictions on Jewish land acquisition and warned against land speculation. Leib Jaffe asked increased support of Keren Hayesod. Other speakers: M. M. Ussishkin and Eliezer Kaplan.

In the evening, Dr. Nahum Sokolow at a memorial meeting eulogized six leaders who have died since the last Congress: Bialik, Baron Rothschild, Kremenetzki, Jaconsohn, Levin and Motzkin.

BEN-GURION ASSAILS BRITAIN ON ENTRY CURBS

LUCERNE, August 21. (JTA) -- David Ben-Gurion, veteran Palestine labor leader and influential member of the Zionist Executive, today accused the British Government of naving "committed robbery" against the Jewish people by artificially cutting the immigration quota of Jews into Palestine.

In an address at this morning's session of the 19th biennial World Zionist Congress, he declared that "despite the sympathetic interest of the Palestine high commissioner, the Mandatory Power has robbed us nevertheless in these difficult years of oppression for world Jewry of justified immigration possibilities and of thousands of Jewish laborers who might have been employed on public works."

Later in the day, Dr. Chaim Weizmann, former president of the World Zionist Organization who retired from active leadership at the 1931 Congress, was elected congress president after the first clash of the Congress had broken out.

In the hall of the Congress and Arts Palace crowded with delegates, newspapermen and guests, Rabbi Brod of the Mizrachi faction declared following Dr. Weizmann's nomination that Mizrachi would not participate in the praesidium, in the Congress committees or in the general debate because the outgoing Zionist executive did not keep its agreement with Mizrachi concerning enforcement of religious observance in Palestine.

JEWISH STATE PARTY OPPOSES WEIZMANN

Opposition to Dr. Weizmann was also voiced by Dr. Rosenbloom of the Jewish State Party, a right wing group, which declared that it would vote against Dr. Weizmann because at the 1931 congress he declared that Palestine cannot become a Jewish state.

The opposition was overwhelmed in the election by a large majority bloc of Laborites and Group A (the pro-labor general Zion-ists) which swept Dr. Weizmann into the Congress presidency.

Dr. Weizmann was greeted by a great ovation as he mounted the rostrum to assume the duties of his office. He announced that

a place in the praesidium would be kept open for Mizrachi should it decide to reconsider its action. Rabbi Brod made a second statement declaring that it would participate in the praesidium if its religious demands were met.

SEES PALESTINE SECURE

The day opened with the address of Mr. Ben-Gurion. After inveighing against Great Britain for its policy of restricting Jewish immigration, he touched on the question of Palestine's security. He said there was little cause for complaint on this score except that Jews are not admitted in sufficient numbers to the police and military forces. He emphasized the danger for the Jews lying in the direction of the Arabian desert.

Ben-Gurion discussed relations between the Zionist and non-Zionist members of the Jewish Agency, declared that while the non-Zionists helped the Zionists on many occasions in political crises and united with them whenever the need arose to negotiate with the Mandatory Power, the non-Zionists have not contributed sufficiently for organization and colonization work.

He warned that the present Congress will not favor continuing the present set-up of the Jewish Agency, in which Zionists and non-Zionists are equally represented.

DEMANDS SETTLEMENT OF 1,000,000 FAMILIES

Pointing out that the situation of Jews the world over was the most difficult in history, in certain countries even rivalling their plight in the Middle Ages, Ben-Gurion demanded settlement of 1,000,000 Jewish families in Palestine.

While Jews in the Middle Ages, he declared, were unorganized the political Zionism of today through its political activities has enabled Jews of the countries in which they were oppressed to anticipate a Jewish national home in Palestine.

Ben-Gurion emphasized that of the million families that must be settled in Palestine, at least one-third must be land workers. A large proportion, he said, must be workers and artisans, not professionals and merchants.

In the course of his speech, Ben-Gurion declared that Zionism as Zionist leaders understand the movement today does not mean solving the problem of only part of the Jewish nation but solving the problem of entire Jewry.

Ben-Gurion dwelt at length upon the fate of the Jews of Soviet Russia, voicing regret that they cannot participate in the Palestine upbuilding. This upbuilding work, he stated, is being done without the assistance of the Russian Jews who had been first to promote the political Zionist movement.

The veteran laborite expressed the hope that it would not be long before the Jews of Russia are enabled to join Jews all over the world in the work.

Emphasizing that the most vital problem now confronting the Jewish upbuilding work in Palestine is how to increase the immigration of Jews into the country, he declared that of equal importance are also the acquisition of more land and the settlement of a greater number of Jews in agricultural colonies.

DISPARITY BETWEEN NEEDS AND DEMANDS

Ben-Gurion pointed out that although there is a marked improvement in the readiness of the Palestine government to permit a greater immigration into the country than was evident two years ago, there still is a great disparity between the needs and demands of the Zionist work in Palestine and the number of immigration certificates issued by the government.

"This struggle with the government," he said, "we will undoubtedly have to carry on for a good time to come, for the British government, even though it be most friendly to us, is still first and foremost a British and not a Zionist Government."

Ben-Gurion deplored the fact that so large a proportion of Jews entering the country flock to the cities where wages are higher than in the colonies. Neglect of agricultural settlement in the country, he warned, can result in the ruination of the Zion-ist work.

The main problem in Palestine, he said, is to increase the productiveness of the soil. "To bring a larger area under cultivation and to make it more fruitful, is of greater political value than repeated declarations in Parliament by diplomats about safeguarding the terms of the mandate, for therein lies the solution not only to our own needs but also to the needs of the Arab peasants," he declared.

REPORTS ON AID TO GERMAN JEWS

Palestine's absorption of 25,000 German Jews is proof that Palestine stands the test as a Jewish national home, Dr. Weiz-mann declared in a report of the Jewish Agency's Central Bureau for the Settlement of German Jews.

In the report Dr. Weizmann, who is head of the bureau, voiced confidence that Palestine would stand the test in ever increasing measure if greater support is given by the Jews of the world.

Dr. Weizmann praised highly the effect of German-Jewish immigration on the building of the Jewish national home. He pointed

out, however, that despite all efforts the refugee problem has not yet been solved.

While the plight of the refugees is rapidly becoming worse, he stated, appeals from the League of Nation's high commissioner to the various governments have hardly found an echo. The result of this failure to respond on the part of the governments, he said, has been to overwhelm the Central Bureau with pleas for immigration certificates.

The report reviewed all the measures taken for the settlement in Palestine of German Jews and stated that work has been restricted by limited funds.

BRODETSKY EMPHASISES IMMIGRATION

Emphasis on the need for increased Jewish immigration into Palestine and the acquisition of more land for Jewish agricultural settlement in the country, appeared in the reports of Dr. Selig. Brodetsky, head of the political department of the Zionist Executive, and Eliezer Kaplan, treasurer of the World Zionist Organization.

In a lengthy analysis of the political situation in Zionism, Dr. Brodetsky reviewed the efforts of the Jewish Agency for increased immigration, stating that it is of paramount importance that the struggle for accelerated immigration continue.

In reference to the land problem he urged that the Congress adopt practical plans based on national as well as private capital and the cooperation of the Palestine government to open new tracts of land for Jewish colonization.

Touching upon the situation created in Palestine by dumping, by Japan and other nations, he stressed the need to safeguard the internal market of the country and to secure its external market. The present status of Palestine, which, as a mandated territory, must maintain an open door for all League members while it is denied the right to enter into reciprocal agreements to benefit its trade, he said, must now be corrected by the Mandatory Power and the League of Nations.

"Palestine must not be allowed to drift towards economic ruin," he declared, "by having to bear simultaneously the evils of a colonial and a non-colonial status."

WARNS AGAINST CHANGE IN STATUS

He warned, that it would be dangerous to contemplate changing the political status of Palestine under the Mandate.

Dr. Brodetsky launched an attack on the proposed Legislative Council, expressing the conviction that it would hamper the growth of Palestine. It would also encourage agitation on the part of certain Arab leaders to fix the minority status of the Jews, he said, and this would be entirely inconsistent with the conception of a Jewish national home.

Reiterating the opposition of the Zionist Executive to the project he declared: "We cannot give up our right to immigration, our right to acquire land through honest purchase or our right to a national status."

He stressed the common interests of Britain and the Jews in Palestine and urged that Jewish political activities in the Diaspora be increased in favor of the Zionist upbuilding work in Palestine.

Dr. Brodetsky concluded his address with an attack on the Jewish opponents of Zionism, on disunity within Zionist ranks, and especially on the lack of unity among the Jews in Palestine. He warned of the dangers of dissension, declaring that those who dissociate themselves from Herzl's Zionist organization are doomed to disappear.

ASSAILS REVISIONISTS

He was especially sharp in his attack upon the Revisionists, who recently split away from the World Zionist Organization and are attempting to set up an independent organization for which they are convoking a constituent congress in September.

"This year's sale of Zionist shekolim, which was the largest in Zionist history," he said, "together with the greatness of the present Congress, which is also the largest ever held, is the best answer which true Zionists could give to dissident elements. He urged, however, that from the Congress there emerge a strong united political front.

Kaplan's report dealt with the activities of the Zionist Executive for the past two years, the status of Zionist organizations
in various countries and their activities, and the relations of
the Revisionists with the Zionist Organization.

DR . RUPPIN REPORTS ON COLONIZATION

The progress of Jewish agricultural colonization in Palestine in the 25 years since it was undertaken in the Valley of Jez-reel was outlined at this afternoon's session by Dr. Arthur Ruppin, chairman of the Palestine Executive of the World Zionist Organization.

Two factors were cited by Dr. Ruppin, as militating against progress of the colonization work: the difficulties imposed by the Palestine Government on Jewish acquisition of land and the menace of land speculation.

Although in 1934 more than 62,000 dunams of land (exclusive of the Huleh concession) passed into Jewish hands, Dr. Ruppin reported that because of speculation there is still a shortage of acreage. During 1934, he said, speculators in land were very active, the year witnessing an exchange of 48,000 dunams from Jews to Jews.

Chief sufferers of this condition, Dr. Ruppin pointed out, are the new immigrants desiring to settle on land nearer the cities. Where formerly the speculation was confined to the cities, the evil has now spread to the rural districts, he pointed out.

GERMAN JEWS BROUGHT \$25,000,000

Describing the work of settling the German Jews in the last two years, Dr. Ruppin declared that the 25,000 who have entered Palestine brought with them a total capital of \$25,000,000 in addition to valuable technical knowledge.

The extent of the progress made in the past 25 years was graphically illustrated by Dr. Ruppin when he painted a contrast between the situation of Jewry in Palestine in 1910 and today. In 1910, when the Zionist Organization made its first purchase of land in the Valley of Jezreel, there were only 70,000 Jews in all Palestine, he pointed out. Of this number, it is estimated that two-thirds were dependent upon charity from abroad.

At the outbreak of the war the Jewish population rose to 85,000 but fell by the end of the war to 5,000. This situation affords a sharp contrast, he said, with the situation today when there are 350,000 Jews in Palestine. The country now has 180 agricultural settlements occupying 1,300,000 dunams, with a population of 70,000 of whom 40,000 are engaged in agriculture.

Dr. Ruppin stated his belief that there is still greater room for growth through the development within Palestine of necessary agricultural industries. The amount of agricultural products the country still finds it necessary to import, he emphasized, indicates that there is room at present for at least 2,000 more families in agriculture.

"My principal for the past twenty-five years has been," he said,
"first to develop agriculture to meet our own needs, then to
worry about production for export."

After Dr. Ruppin's address, Menachem Mendel Ussishkin speke on the problems and achievements of the Jewish national home.

Leib Jaffe, speaking on fifteen years of Keren Hayesod work, pointed out that L5,500,000 has been raised by the organization in that period. He stressed the urgency of increased support of the Keren Hayesod to permit extension of its basic activities. He emphasized the need of linking contributors by close bonds.

DR. SOKOLOW EULOGIES DEAD LEADERS

Glowing eulogies of six outstanding Zionist personalities who died since the last Congress two years ago, were delivered to-night by Dr. Nahum Sokolow, president of the World Zionist Organization at the fourth session of the World Zionist Congress which was devoted to memorial services.

Dr. Sokolow paid tribute to Leo Motzkin, late chairman of the Committee of Jewish Delegations and for many years president of the World Zionist Congresses; Chaim Nachman Bialik, the late Hebrew national poet; Dr. Shmarya Levin, Zionist worker, writer and lecturer; Baron Edmond de Rothschild, philanthropist and Zionist benefactor; Dr. Victor Jacobsohn and Johann Kremenetzki.

Of Dr. Motzkin, he said: "He was one who had a message; he believed in it and spread it abroad."

Describing Bialik as "our greatest national poet," he declared that Bialik had become a classic within his lifetime and that his death was a national catastrophe to all Jewry and the Hebrew renaissance movement.

Dr. Sokolow warmly recalled the "geniality which wins all hearts" in speaking of Dr. Levin. "He spoke impressively to innumerable people," Dr. Sokolow said. "He awakened the desire and understanding for Jewish nationality and Zionism in the widest circles."

In his final speech of the memorial service, Dr. Sokolow said of the late Baron Rothschild.

"In him God has given us much and taken much away. For many years the Baron's forehead had been crowned with unfading laurels; all the flowers of art, wisdom, philanthropy and patriotism graced this prince in Israel. But he had only one passion and on ambition -- his radiant love for Eretz Israel and the Jewish faith."

RHINE TOWN BARS JEWS

BERLIN, August 21. (JTA) -- The municipal authorities of Oppenheim-am-Rhein have forbidden Jews to enter the town, it was reported here today. In addition, the municipality barred Jews from owning land or renting town property.

The Oppenheim municipality further decreed that relief grants will be cancelled for "Aryans" found associating with Jews. "Aryans" who are not on relief will be punished by not receiving tax respites.

From Bad Reichenhall it was reported the municipality has voted not to grant contracts to firms which deal with Jews. Civil employees were warned not to consult Jewish physicians.

ARAB KILLED IN ATTACK ON FARMERS

JERUSALEM, August 21. (JTA) -- One Arab was killed today when a group of Arabs attacked Jewish workers ploughing on disputed land in Kfar Tabor near Kfar Hatiyah, in the northern part of Palestine.

Two Jews were arrested.

DR. INMAN SAYS THOUSANDS OF REFUGEES CAN BE SETTLED IN

LONDON, August 21. (JTA) -- The willingness of South America governments and institutions to avail themselves of the scholar-ship of scores of German refugees is hindered by financial restrictions, according to a report prepared by Dr. Samuel Guy Inman of New York and made public today by League of Nations High Commissioner James J. McDonald after both had toured South America to investigate possibilities of settling refugees.

He reported opportunities for scientific, research and technical experts in semi-government and private laboratories and manufacturing plants in the following countries: Paraguay, Colombia, Nicaragua, Guatamela, Chile and Ecuador. In addition, he found Santo Domingo ready to settle 1,000 families on land. Peru, Paraguay, Ecuador will accept as many refugees as are willing to enter as farmers, he said.