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TOSCANINI, HAILED BY PALESTINE, SAYS, 'I FOUND MY CORNER HERE'

TEL AVIV, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- The Holy Land today took to its heart the world famed conductor, Arturo Toscanini, who last night presided over its most important cultural event in recent times -- the opening concert of the Palestine Symphony Orchestra.

Before a capacity audience in the Levant Fair Hall near the shores of the Mediterranean the orchestra of musicians in exile from Germany played Rossini's "Scala di Sieta" overture, Brahms' "Second Symphony," Schubert's "Unfinished Symphony," Mendelssohn's Nocturne from "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and Weber's "Oberon" overture.

Afterward, at a banquet in his honor at which Jewish leaders expressed gratitude to him for coming here, the noted conductor, who will be 70 years old next March, whispered:

"I have passed many countries; here I have found my corner."

A special concert for the benefit of the Histadruth, Jewish labor federation, was scheduled for tonight. The Jewish Agency for Palestine will hold a reception for the orchestra Tuesday. On Wednesday, the orchestra will play in Jerusalem and the second half of the concert is tentatively scheduled to be broadcast to the United States by the National Broadcasting Company. Toscanini will take the orchestra to Cairo on Jan. 7 and Alexandria Jan. 9.

Last night's concert was attended by leaders in every walk of life, with only the Arabs seemingly unrepresented. High Commissioner Sir Arthur Grenfell Wauchope had bought 40 tickets. Others present were Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency, chiefs of the army and air forces, scientists, artists and officials of the municipality.

Before the beginning of the concert, the fire brigade band played outside "God Save the King" and "Hatikvah," the Jewish national an-

them. The maestro received an ovation when he stepped to the podium and after the overture large bouquets were presented to him from the enthusiastic audience.

Half Hour's Applause after Close

A full half hour of applause began after the closing strains of the "Oberon" overture had brought the performance to a close. Among those who thanked Toscanini at the dinner later were Bronislaw Huberman, violinist and founder of the orchestra, and municipal officials.

It was recalled that when Toscanini accepted Mr. Huberman's invitation in New York last February to conduct the orchestra, he made it clear that "it is the duty of everyone to fight and help this sort of cause according to one's means," referring to the "struggle against Nazism and in the upbuilding of Palestine."

Preparations for the premiere had taken on the aspects of a national holiday. Dressmakers and shops reaped a harvest supplying evening wear. Confectioners contributed to the festive air by offering huge cakes with Toscanini's portrait in icing.

Tickets for the performance were at a premium. The final rehearsal was turned into a public concert for the unemployed and the poor, at which Toscanini and Huberman were given ovations.

Performance Stirs Interest in Europe

LONDON, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- British newspapers, in dispatches from Palestine, today praised the brilliant playing of the Palestine Symphony Orchestra in Tel Aviv last night under the baton of Arturo Toscanini.

Tremendous interest in the noted maestro's Palestine concerts has been evinced in many European countries. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency bureaus have received a number of inquiries as to whether the concert in Jerusalem next Wednesday, scheduled to be broadcast to the United States, will also be broadcast in Europe.

CHRISTIANS WOUNDED IN CLASHES WITH PALESTINE MOSLEMS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 27.. (JTA) -- Alfred Rock, Christian member of the Arab Supreme Committee, was attacked and beaten by Moslems in a cafe yesterday.

Several other Arab Christians were wounded in renewed clashes with Moslems in Jerusalem and Jaffa, arising from issuance of anti-Christian proclamations.

In Haifa, the Arab Workers' Club issued a proclamation calling for a halt in destructive activities and pleading for peace between all sections of the population.

JEW ARRESTED ON ARAB WATCHMAN'S CHARGE

JERUSALEM, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- Shalom Rinkowski, former Jewish watchman of a grove at the Jewish settlement of Petach Tikvah, was arrested today after an Arab watchman was found dead in the grove. Another Arab watchman charged that Rinkowski had bribed him to commit the murder.

ADMITS FEISAL CONSENTED TO JEWISH HOME IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- Dr. Achmed Kadri, a member of King Feisal's peace delegation, admitted in a memorandum to the British Royal Commission today that the Iraq ruler had consented to establishment of a Jewish national home in Palestine within the frame of a big Arab empire, but that since the empire was not set up the consent was annulled.

ANGLO-ITALIAN TALKS SEEN CAUSING DROP IN FASCIST ANTI-SEMITISM

ROME, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- The Anglo-Italian negotiations looking toward an accord in the Mediterranean have resulted in a conspicuous decrease in anti-Semitic propaganda in Italian newspapers, it was noted here today.

Zionist circles welcome the forthcoming agreement, since they feared a British-Italian conflict would convert Palestine into a war zone, would spur great concessions to the Arabs at the expense of the Jews and would completely destroy trade relations between Palestine and Italy, already weakened as a result of British-Italian antagonism.

RUNDSCHAU CRITICIZES JEWISH AGENCY FOR VAGUENESS ON PARITY

BERLIN, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- The Juedische Rundschau, organ of the German Zionist Federation, in an editorial in its current issue criticized the Jewish Agency for Palestine for being vague on the question of parity between Jews and Arabs.

Referring to the Falcor Agency's denial of a story issued Nov. 24 by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, which reported the principle of political parity adopted by the Zionist General Council's political sub-committee, the editorial declared the denial failed to clarify the situation.

The Rundschau also described as unclear the committee's decision not to take the initiative in the parity question, instead instructing Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency, if asked by the Royal Commission to reply that the Jews would agree to the parity principle if the Arabs so desire. (According to the Falcor Agency's denial, issued on Dec. 15 and quoting an unnamed "spokesman" as its "authoritative source," the political formula adopted by the committee was "based on the declaration made by the late Nahum Sokolow at the Seventeenth Zionist Congress of which non-domination either by Jews or Arabs was the cardinal principle.")

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"Such a formula," the Rundschau writes, "seems to us very unsatisfactory since it is clear that the Arabs do not desire parity, but demand independence and an Arab national government. A parity program must presently be addressed not to the Arabs, therefore it cannot be on the initiative of the Arabs. The basis of parity must be to show British public opinion that the Jews offer a program which can solve a situation which the British consider unsolvable. This program can convince public opinion that a policy based on the Balfour Declaration and the Palestine Mandate is not impossible of being carried out. Unfortunately, Palcor's denial leaves us unclear as hitherto what is actually the policy for which the Small Actions Committee stands."

\$20,000 COLLECTED FOR J.N.F. IN THE NETHERLANDS IN 1936

THE HAGUE, The Netherlands, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- More than \$20,000 was collected for the Jewish National Fund during 1936, it was announced yesterday at the opening session of a two-day conference of the Dutch Zionist Association.

The conference was told that capitalist emigration from the Netherlands to Palestine in 1936 totaled about 38 per cent of the total capitalist immigration into the Holy Land during the first eleven months of the year. (A total of 2,322 Jews entered Palestine in the first eleven months of the year in the capitalist category, bringing with them the required minimum of \$5,000 each.)

EXAGGERATED FIGURES ON SOUTH AFRICAN JEWS CORRECTED

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- Because of exaggerated statements about Jewish population and immigration made at anti-Semitic meetings throughout the country, the South African Board of Jewish Deputies today issued a statement declaring that the Jewish population of the Union was 95,000, under four-and-a-half per cent of the total -- not 140,000 or seven-and-a-half per cent as claimed -- and that Jewish immigration in the five years up to 1935 averaged 905 persons per year.

SENATOR BORAH PROBING U.S. DIPLOMAT'S AID TO NAZIS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- Senator Borah, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, is investigating activities of diplomatic officials, it was revealed today, including a reported case in which a person attached to the United States Consulate at Berne, Switzerland, gave the Nazis information about holdings of German Jews in Switzerland.

He is making the investigation at the request of an individual whose name he would not divulge. There have been no definite results as yet, it was stated, but if the results warrant he intends to ask a Senate inquiry into the matter.

WISE HAILS "MIRACLE" OF PALESTINE REVIVAL ON JTA CONVENTION HADASSAH

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- Dr. Stephen S. Wise last night told the thirteenth annual convention of Junior Hadassah that there will be "no end of Jewish grievances unless officials in Palestine learn they must deal with the Jews not as an invading army of beggars, but a people returning to its rightful home."

The president of the Zionist Organization said to 1,000 delegates from 40 states that "no miracle of Palestine has been more wondrous than the miracle of Palestine's revival in our day." He also demanded that if the Arabs refuse to testify before the Royal Commission publicly, they should not be heard.

Junior Hadassah Cultural Fellowship keys were presented to 20 members at a banquet tonight and a large number of members received fellowship certificates. Rabbi Edward L. Israel spoke on, "Communism and Zionism -- Moscow or Jerusalem."

The decision to enlarge Meir Shfeyah, Junior Hadassah's children's home in Tel Aviv, to accomodate at least 150 children because of the added necessity for child welfare resulting from recent disorders was announced this morning by Pauline Englander in a report on Palestine activities.

A total of \$47,570 -- an increase of \$2,398 over the previous year -- was raised during 1935-36 for the Palestinian Fund and \$4,784 for the Administration Fund, according to a report this morning by Molly Sondak, fund-raising chairman.

Speaking before Dr. Wise last night, Mrs. Edward Jacobs, New York, president of Senior Hadassah, reviewed 25 years in Hadassah work in the light of changing social conditions. She said that "the interest of women in rebuilding the Jewish national home in Palestine is not motivated by philanthropy, but a desire to create new values, a new home for driven people."

Speaking on the "miracle" of Palestine's rebirth, Dr. Wise said it had been wrought "by little less than divine sacrifice on the part of its settlers and rebuilders." He praised the role of Hadassah and Junior Hadassah in this work.

Dr. Wise declared that Hadassah as a Jewish witness before the Royal Commission in Palestine had spoken "in open session for the world to hear and if the Arabs refuse to testify they ought not to be heard."

"The commission must not invite a few Arab leaders for private conferences," he asserted. "If the Arabs boycott the commission, the latter should boycott them and say the Arabs are afraid to speak what is in their minds."

Declaring Palestine officials must deal with the Jews as a people returning to its rightful home, he said, "I call upon you to win public opinion in America for the Palestine cause and move Britain to be just to Jewish demands."

Miss Sulamith Schwartz, former Junior Hadassah president, now living in Palestine, said the charge that Jews were dispossessing Arabs from the land was "unjustifiable." She added that "only 528 Arabs have been displaced during the course of more than a decade and in every instance they have not only been adequately compensated but given land elsewhere or in the same area."

Greetings were received from Henrietta Szold and Meir Shfeyah.

J.N.F. TO AID HULEH RECLAMATION, COUNCIL DECIDES

NEW YORK, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- The Jewish National Fund will devote a substantial part of its income next year for reclaiming the area near Lake Huleh adjacent to the Palestine-Syrian border, it was decided today by 120 leaders of the fund attending a meeting of its national advisory council at the Hotel Astor.

The J.N.F. allocation from its anticipated \$500,000 income may be supplemented by special fund-raising activities. The resolution on the subject stressed that the special effort is in connection with the 35th anniversary of J.N.F. activities in Palestine and would help to effect better understanding between Arabs and Jews.

Another resolution criticized the Palestine Government for failing to facilitate close settlement of Jews on land. Speakers included Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the American J.N.F.; Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the Zionist Organization of America; Pierre van Paassen, and Maurice Levin, who presided.

When reclaimed and connected with neighboring ground, the project will create the possibility for establishing 2,500 homesteads. The plans provide for drainage of the whole lake and swamp area, converting it into good agricultural soil, and creating a network of irrigation canals.

It was pointed out by speakers that under an agreement reached between Jewish colonization authorities and the Palestine Government, 15,000 of the 57,750 dunams of the immediate zone of operations are to be reclaimed at Jewish expense for Arab cultivators, thereby aiding Arab-Jewish amity and serving as "an example of Arab-Jewish cooperation in the future."

Dr. Goldstein said that the J.N.F. will participate to the extent of 50 per cent in the project, and will cooperate with the PICA (Palestine branch of the Jewish Colonization Association), the Palestine Economic Corp., and a South African company. The project was described as the largest reclamation effort to be undertaken in modern times in Palestine.