

# NEWS

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### WARSAW JEWS TO BOYCOTT GOVERNMENT-NAMED KHEILLAH COUNCIL

WARSAW, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- Dissolution of the Warsaw Jewish communal council, ending the autonomy of the largest Jewish community in Europe, stirred resentment among the Jews today and resulted in a decision to boycott the projected Government-nominated communal administration.

After a two-day conference of all Jewish parties, a resolution was adopted to protest the appointment of a Government commissariat to direct communal affairs and not to send representatives to the "advisory council" which the authorities intend to set up.

The Agudath Israel, extreme orthodox organization, abstained from voting for the resolution. The statement emphasized that the nomination of a commissariat would violate the little Jewish autonomy guaranteed under the community's by-laws and acceptance would be condemned by all Polish Jewry.

Maurice Meissel, director of the Palestine Foundation Fund in Poland, was to be proclaimed tonight as the commissar. A conference of the Jewish National Bloc, on whose slate Meissel had been elected to the community council, decided to expel him from the party.

### JEWISH LEADERS STRESS YISHUB'S UNITY BEFORE ROYAL COMMISSION

JERUSALEM, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- Isaac Ben Zvi, representing the Jewish community, told the Royal Commission of Inquiry today that the Palestine Jews had on several occasions made peace overtures to the Arabs, but that the efforts were unsuccessful.

Together with Rabbi Frank, testifying about Jewish religious courts, and Rabbi Amalieh, representing the Oriental Jews in Palestine, Mr. Ben Zvi stressed the unity of the Jews in the Holy Land. He said that the Kneseth Israel, embracing a large majority of Palestine's Jews, fully associates itself with Zionist aims.

Sir Horace Rumbold, a member of the commission, asked:

"You issued proclamations to the Arabs for peace?"

"Yes, several times," replied the Jewish leader.

Sir Horace asked whether they had been unsuccessful, and Mr. Ben Zvi answered, "Unfortunately."

Rabbi Frank declared that there were no religious differences in the Jewish community, adding that the Bible, the land and the Hebrew language united all. Rabbi Amalieh said that the Oriental Jews, who number a quarter of the Jews in Palestine, associate themselves with Zionist aims.

#### Miss Szold Protests Low Health Budget

Henrietta Szold, founder of Hadassah, organization of American women Zionists, complained that the Palestine Government was allotting too little funds for health activities and social work. Miss Szold, who was born in Baltimore, is now directing the settlement of Jewish children in Palestine.

A similar complaint was voiced by Dr. Israel J. Kligler, director of the Hygiene Department of the Hebrew University and of the Nathan and Lena Straus Hadassah Health Center in Jerusalem. The latter was founded in the name of the late New York philanthropist and his wife.

Joseph Laurie and Eliahu Berligne, of the Jewish National Council of Palestine, declared that the Government was not making sufficient allocations for education.

In reply to these complaints, Sir Laurie Hammond, a member of the commission, argued that public security came first. He pointed out that the recent disorders had resulted in a Government budget of £2,250,000 (about \$11,250,000) as compared with £1,700,000 (about \$8,500,000) in 1929.

#### MUFTI'S RELATIVE ARRESTED FOR ATTACK ON JEWISH WOMAN

JERUSALEM, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- S. Hussein, a relative of the Grand Mufti Haj Amin el Hussein, was under arrest today on a Jewish woman's charge that he shot her when she resisted an attempt at assault.

Hussein brought the woman to Jerusalem on Dec. 25 in serious condition and it was stated at that time that he had picked her up on the road on the way from Jericho after she had been wounded by brigands.

A motorcade of automobiles was held up last night near Tulkarem. The passengers were robbed.

200 PROMINENT RUMANIAN JEWS REPORTED SEEKING BAPTISM

BUCHAREST, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- Two hundred prominent Rumanian Jews have offered to become converted to the Greek Orthodox faith to "identify themselves completely with the Rumanian nation," it was reported today by the newspaper *Curentul*, which is closely connected with the ecclesiastical authorities.

The paper said that in consequence of increasing tendencies among Rumanian Jews to adopt the Greek Orthodox religion, church officials intend to start an intensive campaign for mass conversion of Jews and are ready to appoint special missionaries for this purpose.

According to the account, Charles Spiegler, a Bucharest lawyer, and A. Companitz, industrialist, approached Patriarch Miron Christea and said the 200 Jews, including financiers, industrialists and members of the liberal professions, wished to become baptized.

They were also quoted as having offered to build an imposing Greek Orthodox church for use by converted Jews and as having asked that the Patriarch appoint a baptized Jew as priest. The paper objected to such appointment, urging that the place be occupied by an experienced Greek Orthodox clergyman.

Patriarch Christea expressed satisfaction with the offer of conversion, the report said, but requested that each of the Jews present a petition asking admission to the church.

FRANCO REPORTED REGISTERING JEWS AS "SUSPICIOUS ELEMENTS"

PARIS, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- General Francisco Franco, commander of the Spanish Rebel forces, has ordered registration within 48 hours of all Jews in territory under his control, newspapers here reported today.

Jews will be considered a "suspicious element" and will not be allowed to hold public positions under the Rebel regime, the reports stated.

TOSCANINI CONCERTS HAILED AS REPLY TO NAZI GERMANY

TEL AVIV, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- Arturo Toscanini, following his second triumphal appearance with the newly-formed Palestine Symphony Orchestra of musicians in exile from the Reich, was hailed today as the answer to Nazi Germany.

After he had been given an ovation at a concert for the Histadruth, Jewish general labor federation, last night M. Friedman of the federation declared of the distinguished Italian conductor:

"After two thousand years Judea has again met Rome's citizen of the world."

He declared that Toscanini knew and appreciated Jewish achievements. The speaker also lauded Bronislaw Huberman, violinist and founder of the orchestra, for his work during the past six months in organizing the group. Members of the audience rushed to the stage and carried Huberman off on their shoulders.

BRITISH FIRM TO SUPPLY GAS IN TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- The municipal council of this all-Jewish city of 150,000 population today granted a gas concession to a British firm for 50 years. The firm is to invest \$1,000,000 for installing gas fixtures and \$1,500,000 for constructing a plant.

GRAZOWSKI NAMED HONORARY CITIZEN OF TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- Yehudah Grazowski, well-known lexicographer, was yesterday elected an honorary citizen of Tel Aviv by the municipal council in recognition of his work for Hebrew culture. Grazowski, who will be 75 years old on Feb. 28, has lived in Palestine for 50 years.

FOUNDER OF JEWISH COMMUNITY IN DAIREN, CHINA, DIES

DAIREN, China, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- Virtually the entire Jewish population of this city, comprising several hundred families, turned out today for the funeral of Moshe Reigrodetsky, the first Jew to settle in Dairen, who died after a brief illness. He was 57 years old.

Reigrodetsky founded the Jewish community of this city and established the first synagogue, Jewish club, Jewish library and other institutions. It was a point of pride with him that the city was free of anti-Semitism.

LONDON POLICE TO ACT STRICTLY WITH UNIFORMED FASCISTS

LONDON, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- Police intend to proceed with severity against any Fascist found wearing a uniform after Jan. 1, it was reported today. The new law prohibiting political uniforms goes into effect on that date. It was reported that thousands of Fascists intend to keep their uniforms as souvenirs.

REICH MINISTER OF JUSTICE ASKS RECORDS ON CONVERTS

BERLIN, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- Reich Minister of Justice Franz Guertner today ordered all Jewish communities and synagogues not to destroy records about persons who left the Jewish religion "since such records are valuable to establish racial descentance."

JEWISH ART MUSEUM OPENED IN PARIS

PARIS, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- A museum of Jewish artistic antiquities was inaugurated today by Minister of Education Jean Zay. The museum was founded by the late Jewish Count Nissim de Camondo, who bequeathed it to the State.

SIR ROBERT MOND NAMED MEMBER OF FRENCH ACADEMY

PARIS, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- Sir Robert Ludwig Mond, English scientist and archaeologist, was elected today an associate member of the Academie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres in place of the late King Fuad of Egypt. Sir Robert has been a generous donator to French museums. The academy is one of the five comprising L'Institut de France.



JUNIOR HADASSAH SPENT \$60,000 FOR RELIEF, PARLEY HEARS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- Junior Hadassah spent \$60,511 for Palestine and other funds between July 1, 1935, and June 30, 1936, Miss Anne Kaplan, treasurer, reported today to its eleventh annual convention, leaving an unexpended balance of \$11,096 in the general relief fund.

The four-day convention closed tonight with the showing of the film "This is the Land" and a round of sightseeing. During the day reports were read on organization, regional activity, membership and cooperation with other organizations. About 1,000 delegates from 40 states attended the parley.

At a banquet last night Rabbi Edward Israel, of Baltimore, contrasted Communism and Zionism, saying that "Communism does not respect minorities, unless they are willing to sacrifice their individualist characteristics to adapt themselves to the Communist pattern."

"Moscow insists on dictatorship," he declared. "The essence of the Jewish viewpoint is democracy. One cannot substitute Marx, Lenin and Stalin for the God idea any more than Mussolini or Hitler."

Maurice Samuel recommended for a solution of the Arab-Jewish problem in Palestine parity of numbers, a new labor policy to include Arabs and Jews in the same unions and a renewal of the significance of the British mandate over Palestine.

The convention adopted a \$75,000 budget for Palestinian projects and the Jewish National Fund including an item of \$10,000 to enlarge the children's village of Meier Shfeyah in Tel Aviv to accommodate 150 children.

Mrs. Frieda Ullian, of Boston, urged study of the Arab-Jewish problem.

MENDEL FISHER NAMED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE JEWISH NATIONAL FUND

NEW YORK, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- Appointment of Mendel N. Fisher as executive director of the Jewish National Fund of America was announced today by Dr. Israel Goldstein, president, following the December meeting of the board of directors. The administrative committee had recommended the appointment of Mr. Fisher, who since last year had been the fund's acting director.

The appointment climaxes a career of 15 years in Zionist, Palestine and social welfare work. Mr. Fisher, who is 36, came to New York from St. Louis where he had been executive director for the middle and southwest divisions of the United Palestine Appeal and the United Jewish Appeal. His first post in New York was as national field director of the Zionist Organization of America, which he resigned to become national director of the Palestine land redemption campaign of the Jewish National Fund.

Prior to his St. Louis connection, Mr. Fisher was director of the New England Zionist Region in Boston. Educated in Boston, Mr. Fisher entered journalism, working on the editorial staff of the Boston Adver-

tiser. Afterward, he became director of the Jewish Community Center in San Francisco, where he was at the same time editor of the Jewish World. Mr. Fisher is active in the American Jewish Congress and was a delegate to the World Jewish Congress last Summer.

#### NEW YORK JEWISH COUNCIL URGES \$5,000,000 U.P.A. QUOTA

NEW YORK, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- The thirteenth annual conference of the Greater New York Council of Jewish Organizations adopted a resolution yesterday suggesting that the United Palestine Appeal adopt a \$5,000,000 quota.

More than 1,000 delegates representing some 250 Jewish communal and fraternal organizations, with an aggregate membership of 500,000, endorsed the resolution. Judge Hyman J. Reit presided at the morning session and Charles Ress, president of the council, in the afternoon.

The resolution urged the National Conference on Palestine to be held in Washington January 24, "to adopt a quota of \$5,000,000 as the irreducible minimum representing American Jewry's share in the rebuilding of the Jewish National Home and the solution of the sum required to meet the problem of distressed European Jewry which looks to Palestine for salvation from despair and oppression."

#### A.J.C. CALLS NEW YORK GROUPS TO PARLEY ON POLAND

NEW YORK, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the American Jewish Congress, has summoned New York Jewish organizations to an emergency conference on Jan. 31 "to present the case of the Jews in Poland and devise means of ending a situation which threatens the destruction of 3,500,000 Jews."

#### FRIENDS OF HEBREW UNIVERSITY BRANCH FORMED IN LISBON

LISBON (JTA) -- A branch of the Society of Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem has been formed here. The committee includes Professor Dr. Moses Amzalak, honorary president; Dr. Augusto d'Esaguy, president; Dr. Adolfo Benarus, vice-president. Among the other members are Professor Wohlwill and Professor Kurt Jacobsohn.

#### ORTHODOX BODY SEEKS TO ADVANCE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

NEW YORK, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- Forty religious educators today attended the first annual conference of the National Orthodox Board of Jewish Education at the Yeshiva College building, called by the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America to create a body to advance religious education, coordinate the activities of various synagogues and religious schools and raise the standards of elementary Hebrew training.