

VOL. II. NO. 216.

Thursday, April 22, 1937.

ZIONIST COUNCIL PONDERS REPORTED PARTITION PLANS

JERUSALEM, April 21. (JTA) -- The General Council of the World Zionist Organization weighed today possible effects on the Jewish national homeland movement which might result from the forthcoming report of the British Royal Commission on Palestine.

Any partition of the country could not be imagined without including Haifa and Jerusalem, the soul of Palestine, declared David Ben-Gurion, head of the Jewish Agency for Palestine Executive. Various proposals for dividing Palestine between the Arabs and Jews have provided for internationalizing these two cities and other religious shrines.

Mr. Ben-Gurion pointed out, however, that the discussion was valueless for lack of knowledge of projects being considered by the Royal Commission.

The disturbances in Palestine have not ceased, but only stopped temporarily, he asserted. Warning that the Zionist movement was facing important tests, he said the coming months would bring out the question of the continuance in force of the Balfour Declaration.

Moshe Shertok, head of the political department of the Jewish Agency, who has just returned from London, this morning reported on London aspects of the Arab-Jewish controversy, and also on various possibilities regarding the Royal Commission report,

In opening a general discussion, Menachem Mendel Ussishkin, chairman of the council, condemned all partition schemes as imperiling the Zionist cause.

Ormsby-Gore Defends Palestine Police

LONDON, April 21. (JTA) -- Colonial Secretary William Ormsby-Gore reseto the defense of Palestine police in the House of Commons today, denying charges of impotence and laxity in the face of continuing Arab terrorism.

police force was in a state of complete collapse as result of the terrorism in Haifa which was climaxed last week with the assassination of Halim Basta, senior Arab police officer, whose life had been twice previously threatened.

"Isn't gangsterism too strong for the police?" Col. Wedgwood demanded,

"Not at all," the Colonial Secretary replied, "Gangsterism is wide-spread, but this is a difficult country. The police are under terrible pressure. They have been most loyal, gallant and energetic. Both the British and Jewish police force have been considerably strengthened during the past year. 'I am satisfied the Palestine administration has taken active measures to deal with a difficult situation,"

RABBI BAECK FREED BY GESTAPO; HELD 2 DAYS

BERLIN, April 21. (JTA) -- The German secret police early this morning released Chief Rabbi Leo Baeck, head of the newly-suppressed Binai Birth, international Jewish fraternal order with headquarters in Cincinnati, who had been detained for questioning since early Monday following a series of raids in which some 80 of the order's leaders were seized.

It had been erroneously reported earlier that Dr. Baeck, together with all the others arrested, was released after a day's questioning.

Hull Weighs Request for Intercession

WASHINGTON, April 21. (JTA) -- Secretary Cordell Hull is studying a request by Alfred M. Cohen, of Cincinnati, president of B'nai B'rith, that the State Department take action in behalf of the American order's branches in Germany, which have been prohibited by the Gestapo and their property seized. Mr. Hull has not as yet taken any action, it was stated.

POLISH FASCIST PARTY TO ADMIT CONVERTED JEWS, BAR OTHERS

WARSAW, April 21. (JTA) -- Baptized Jews and Poles of the Mosaic religion will be admitted to membership in Col. Adam Koc's new Government party, the Camp for National Unity, which is modeled on authoritarian lines, it was announced today by ranking leader of the party, Col. Kowalewski.

"National" Jews, who comprise the majority of Foland's 3,500,000 Jew-ish population, cannot be members, the same announcement said. The propaganda chief explained that Jews constitute a nationality. Poles, without distinction as to religion, origin or race, will be admitted to the party, he said.

The party is opposed to any anti-Jewish excesses, Col. Kowalewski declared, according to the Havas News Agency. Col. Koe's party favored an "organic solution of the Jewish problem," the spokesman said. The Jewish faith was not any obstacle to membership in the party, the fact that counts being the nationality and not the race or religion involved. Col. Kowalewski stated.

Creation of the new Government party was announced last Feb. 21, with a program providing the following: Upholding of the 1935 Constitution limiting Parliament's powers and extending those of the President; holding the army and its leaders to be the country's unifying forces; granting privileged position and special protection to the Catholic church; the Polish tradition of religious tolerance to be the foundation of the State's relations with other creeds; outlawry of Communism as "foreign to Polish traditions," since it was rejected on the battlefield in 1920; reservation to the Government of the right to regulate production in the interests of national defense; distribution of land to the peasants and settlement of the overpopulation problem by emigration of peasants to towns for employment in trade and industry.

HIAS-ICA TO ASK LEAGUE AID FOR REFUGEES IN PORTUGAL

PARIS, April 21. (JTA) -- Reports of "unmerciful deportations" of Jewish refugees from Portugal are again being received by the HIAS-ICA, Emigration Association, it was announced today. Because the reports belie official Portuguese denials to the League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees of Such deportations, the HIAS-ICA said it is asking the commissioner to intervene a second time.

Advices from Lisbon indicate, the organization declared, that unless the High Commissioner intervence effectively the position of a number of Jowish refugees in Portugal will be serious, since the police are zealously deporting refugees as "suspected elements."

DENY FASCIST PRESS ANTI-SEMITISM REFLECTS REGIME'S VIEWPOINT

PARIS, April 21. (JTA) -- The Italian Embassy told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent today that the anti-Jewish tone of certain Fascist newspapers in Italy does not represent the sentiments of the Italian Government.

HUNGARY MAY MAKE PEACE WITH NAZI BLOC, OBSERVERS HOLD

BUDAPEST, April 21. (JTA) -- The Hungarian Government, apparently unable to curb a growing movement for unification of the country's 70 little pro-Nazi parties, tonight was believed facing the necessity of making peace with this impending fusion in order to retain its grip at the next elections, the Havas News Agency reported.

Success of the extreme Rightist groups would signify the advent of a 100 per cent pro-Nazi foreign policy here - a development which

would be in contrast with Budapest's recent tendency away from Germany, as evidenced by the Reich!s failure up to now to replace its most recent minister to Hungary, Hans Goorg Von Mackenson.

If the Government calls a truce with the Right extremists, the latter will exact effective freedom in the propaganda realm, commentators predicted.

3 ANTI-SEMITIC PARTIES ENTERED FOR DUTCH ELECTIONS

AMSTERDAM, April 21. (JTA) -- Three anti-Semitic parties today entered lists of candidates for the May 26 elections to the Second Chamber of the Dutch Parliament. Twenty parties in all submitted lists.

LEIB JAFFE SPEECH PERMITTED IN LITHUANIA

KAUNAS, April 21. (JTA) -- Leib Jaffe, director of the Palestine Foundation Fund, today received permission to deliver a speech in Memel and to broadcast over the radio tomorrow despite a ban on foreign speakers imposed last week.

Dr. Carol, a representative of the Women's International Zionist Organization, failed to obtain permission to speak.

BUREAU ESTABLISHED TO COMBAT JOB DISCRIMINATION

NEW YORK, April 21. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress announced today establishment of a special bureau to receive complaints on discrimination against Jews seeking employment. It will be conducted as part of the activities of the Commission on Economic Problems, headed by Rabbi J.X. Cohen.

The bureau, arising from a recent study of job discrimination made by Rabbi Cohen, will survey the extent and causes of economic discrimination in New York and seek through negotiations to bring about a change in attitude among employers. The establishment of the bureau was necessitated, the announcement said, by an increase in discrimination and the failure to deal with the problem in organized and responsible fashion until now.

Rabbi Cohen's survey found many public utilities, banks, insurance companies, employers and employment agencies discriminating against Jews to the point where the Jews have become "marginal workers" -- to be considered for jobs only when the demand for workers exceeds the supply. He named several organizations and firms in his pamphlet.

U.S. ZIONISTS TO PETITION BRITAIN TO SAFEGUARD JEWISH RIGHTS

NEW YORK, April 21. (JTA) -- The annual Shekel roll call of American Zionists is this year being coupled with a petition to Great Britain "to resist the infringement of Jowish rights, whether by violence on the part of Arabs or by a wavering attitude and political concession on the part of the Mandatory Government," it was announced today.

The call to sign this potition has been issued by Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the Zionist Organization of America, and other Zionist leaders.

The Shekel enrollment will conclude May 28 and all those properly registered will be entitled to a ballot in the elections for American representatives to the Twentieth Zionist Congress which election day has been set for Sunday, June 20. Five hundred thousand registrants are being sought. Samuel Markewich is chairman, Leo Wolfson, executive vice-chairman and Samuel M. Schmidt, executive secretary of the United States Central Shekel and Election Board.

DR. FINEBERG TO LECTURE AT THE HAGUE

THE HAGUE, The Netherlands (JTA) -- Dr. Nathan Fineberg, former professor at Geneva University and now a resident of Tel Aviv, Palestine, has been invited by the Academy for People's Rights to deliver several lectures next July on the World Court's decisions respecting League of Nations mandates and minorities.

Dr. Fineberg lectured before the academy in 1932 on "Petitions and International Justice." He is the author of several books.

CZECH CITY BUYS PANORAMA OF JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Leon Blum, noted Jewish artist, has painted a large panorama of Jerusalem at the request of the municipal museum of Bruenn, Czechoslovakia. It measures $6\frac{1}{2}$ by 26 feet.

Blum, formerly of Czechoslovakia, now lives in Palestine. Before the painting was sent to Bruenn, it was exhibited here and won considerable praise from art critics. When the work was completed the Czechoslovakian Consul-General gave Mr. Blum a banquet.

WIRELESS STATION TO BE BUILT IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- A wireless station, probably for military purposes, is to be constructed on Mount Scopus and has been certified as an undertaking of a public nature.