

VOL. V. NO. 143.

Wednesday, May 24, 1939.

COMMONS BACKS WHITE PAPER, 268 TO 179, ENDING 2-DAY DEBATE

LONDON, May 25. (JTA) -- Climaxing a two-day debate, Parliament today approved the Government's White Paper proposing to set up at the end of ten years an independent Palestine state in which the Jews would be a one-third minority.

The vote in the House of Commons was 268 to 179. Previously the House had rejected a Laborite motion for postponement of approval pending a ruling on the Palestine policy by the League of Nations Mandates Commission. The vote on the motion was 285 to 185.

The House of Lords, after a similar Laborite motion had been withdrawn, approved the Government policy without a division of votes.

The new Palestine policy was roughly handled during yesterday's debate. Only one speaker supported Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald's lengthy defense of the policy, which was attacked by Conservative, Labor and Liberal speakers as a surrender to terrorism and a repudiation of pledges to the Jews. Three pro-Arab spokesmen also joined in the attack on the policy, which the Colonial Secretary sought to justify as the only possible course to end the uncertainty in Palestine and settle the question of the Holy Land's future.

With the arguments on all sides well known in advance, the House itself showed little interest in the debate and the attendance was slight after Mr. MacDonald's opening statement. On the opposition side, chief interest was centered in the speeches of ex-Colonial Secretary Leopold S. Amery (Conservative), Jemes de Rothschild (Liberal) and Col. Josiah Wedgwood (Laborite), which strongly assailed the Government policy.

Mr. de Rothschild was especially effective when he bitterly attacked Mr. MacDonald's assertion that the Jewish national home would be safeguarded by treaties after the proposed state was established. He asked what guarantees there were that a Government which would not fulfill the mandate obligations would enforce treaties, adding that minority protection treaties were not worth the paper they were written on. Mr. Amery warned that the exiled ex-Mufti of Jerusalem would dominate the new administration.

Although the member attendance at the debate was not impressive, the galleries were packed with Zionists and sympathizers. Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency, and Sir Ronald Storrs, former Governor of Jerusalem, followed the debate closely from the diplomatic gallery.

4 Jews Wounded in Arab Ambush; Manifesto Urges Terror Revival

JERUSALEM, May 23. (JTA) -- Four Jews were wounded today in an Arab ambush of a truckload of workers between the Jewish colony of Mikve Israel and Sarafand. The wounded are Moshe Guterman, 26, seriously; Hayim Nadel, 32, Hayim Levi, 25, and Jacob Shnitzer, 36, slightly.

Meanwhile, conflicting manifestos were issued by Arabs, one calling for renewal of terrorism and a "purge of traitors," the other advising cooperation with the Government. The former bore the signatures of two notorious band leaders, Abu Ibrahim and Abu Durrah.

It was reported without confirmation that Aref Abdul Razzek, terrorist commander-inchief who fled to Syria last January with British troops on his heels, has again slipped into Palestine and is preparing a new large-scale terrorist campaign.

In the meantime, Jewish colonization is continuing quietly. It was revealed today that six new settlements, comprising 250 families, have been secretly established on 2,000 acres of privately owned land near Gedera. Stockades and watchtowers have been erected to ward off Arab attacks.

Lord Lugard Would Ask U.S. Supreme Court to Rule on Mandate

LONDON, May 25. (JTA) -- Lord Lugard, British member of the Mandates Commission, proposed today that the United States Supreme Court be invited to pass judgment on the precise meaning of the terms of the League of Nations mandate on Palestine. Other tribunals that might be asked to rule on the terms of the mandate, under a proposal outlined by Lord Lugard in the Times, were the International Court of Justice or the Judicial Committee of the British Privy Council.

Lord Lugard's plan, which he said was designed to remove the unfounded allegation that the Arabs had secured an advantage by terrorism or to dispel American belief that the White Paper on Palestine was contrary to the mandate, comprised the following points:

1) The British Government should announce that the consultation on creation of an independent state, scheduled under the White Paper to be held at the end of ten years, be held instead after five years; 2) the United States should be invited to send a representative to the consultation; 3) the British Government should first obtain a statement from the International Court of Justice, or the United States Supreme Court, or the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, on the precise meaning of the terms of the mandate; 4) scope of the consultation would be guided by the interpretation of the mandate; 5) the entire proposal would be conditioned on whether Jewish leaders would cooperate to give the transition scheme a fair trial.

The Manchester Guardian published a letter from the New Zionist Organization, signed by President Vladimir Jabotinsky and the presidents of Revisionist unions in all countries, protesting against the "proposed liquidation of Zionism." The letter declared that if Britain was unable to fulfill the mandate it should hand it back to the League. It warned that the Palestine Jews, with the support of the Jewish people and friends all over the world, would not entrust their lives and property to the mercy of an Arab Government born of gangs. The Jewish masses, the statement declared, could not be restrained from proceeding to Palestine. "The Government," it concluded, "is turning a peaceful, orderly Zionism into a bitter, merciless conflict in which the Jews had nothing to lose by failure and everything to gain by success."

Britain to Adhere to New Policy, Halifax Tells League Council

GENEVA, May 23. (JTA) -- Foreign Secretary Viscount Halifax of Great Britain informed the League of Nations Council today that all League members would receive copies of the White Paper on Palestine. He summarized briefly the difficulties there and mentioned the failure of the London conference on Palestine.

The British Government, he said, had finally decided to adhere to its position, bearing in mind its obligations as a mandatory power and looking forward with confidence to the disappearance of the uncertainties that provoked such agitation between Jews and Arabs.

Foreign Minister Georges Bonnet of France announced that his Government was following "sympathetically" the efforts of the mandatory power in Palestine. Vilhelm Munters of Latvia, Council rapporteur on Palestine, announced that the White Paper would be examined by the Mandates Commission at its June session.

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Geneva representative of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, replying to Lord Halifax's statement, declared the British Government had no right to take any part of Palestine from the sphere of Jewish colonization. he warned that Jews would not recognize the new institutions to be created under terms of the White Paper and would not recognize or obey the laws promulgated to facilitate establishment of an independent state. The Jewish opposition, Dr. Goldmann declared, was not directed against the British people but only against the Government's policy which was also being opposed by a considerable section of the public.

Lord Hankey, former secretary of the British Cabinet, today was appointed British member of the Mandates Commission to succeed Lord Hailey, who has retired.

All Diplomatic Steps To Alter Britain's Policy Taken, Congressman Told

WASHINGTON, May 25. (JTA) -- Representative John M. Vorys (Rep.,Ohio) said today that the State Department had told him all diplomatic steps had been taken, short of involving the United States in commitments in case of war, to urge the British to change their Palestine plan.

Mr. Vorys wrote to the Women's Mizrachi Organization of his district that he had received this information in response to a protest against the British White Paper which he had sent to Secretary of State Cordell Hull. He termed the British policy "a studied destruction of the Palestinian refuge for persecuted people."

Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg (Rep., Mich.), Representatives William B. Barry (Dem.), Sol Bloom (Dem.) and Hamilton Fish (Rep.), all New York, and Col. Frank Knox, publisher of the Chicago Daily News, were among others who issued protests against Britain's Palestine policy.

Senator Vandenberg telegraphed to Dr. Solomon Goldman, chairman of the National Emergency Committee on Palestine: "I emphatically favor every cooperation that America can give to the proposed culmination of the promised Jewish homeland in Palestine."

Representative Barry wrote to Secretary Hull that the "betrayal" policy, restricting immigration of Jews at this time, was "only analagous to the behavior of Hitler. It will

take more than the visit of the King and Queen to blind some of us to the fact that every recent move of the British is in their own self interest and they are only pretending a concern for the preservation of international morality and democratic principles."

Representatives Bloom and Fish issued a joint statement to the Emergency Committee calling upon the State Department to advise the British Government that its contemplated action of "freezing" the Jewish community in Palestine to a permanent minority status in an Arab-dominated state would be a violation of the American-British Convention of 1924.

Col. Knox declared in a message to Dr. Goldman that issuance of the White Paper was "fresh evidence of the cynical disregard for promises which will insure further depletion of Britain's already depleted international prestige."

FELIX MCWHIRTER DENIES ANTI-SEMITIC INTENT IN SEEKING RACIAL DATA ON NOTABLES

WASHINGTON, May 23. (JTA) -- Felix McWhirter, Indianapolis banker and Republican State finance officer, denied today before the House Committee on Un-American Activities that there was any anti-Semitic intent behind his inquiries to James E. Campbell, Owensboro (Ky.) anti-Jewish agitator, regarding the "Jewish connections" of prominent persons. The inquiries were made purely for his own information, the banker said.

He was questioned about the letter to Campbell in which he asked whether the wife of Secretary of State Cordell Hull was a "part or full-blooded Semite" and his queries about the "Semitic connections" of Alfred M. Landon and William Allen White.

"What difference did such information make?" asked Committee Chairman Martin Dies.
"No difference," Mr. McWhirter replied. "I think the hymn of hate has been sung in too many places, and too many people have been on the receiving end. I am interested only in getting facts, not in their dissemination."

Mr. McWhirter said he had received Campbell's confidential reports but considered them "a fantastic dream of someone as to how the Government might be taken over by someone who wanted power." Asked by Mr. Dies what he did with the reports, Mr. McWhirter replied: "I have a six-foot wastebasket," but added that he had known Campbell for nine years and had confidence in him personally. Asked if he was against class and racie! prejudice, he replied: "I think Jews and Gentiles, Catholics and Protestants, New Deal Democrats and Republicans are pretty good." He denied that he had ever engaged in, approved of or cooperated in anti-radical or anti-religious propaganda.

REVEAL NET ENTRY FROM REICH IN 62 YEARS IS ONLY 43,042

NEW YORK, May 23. (JTA) -- Immigration to the United States from Germany has actually decreased since Hitler came to power and there has been a net immigration of only 43,042 in the six-and-a-half years beginning July 1, 1932, according to a memorandum drawn up "to present the true picture to the American public of refugee immigration to this country."

The memorandum, entitled "Refugee Immigration, Facts and Figures," whose figures are based on statistics checked by the Labor Department's Immigration and Naturalization Service, is sponsored by the Committee for Catholic Refugees from Germany, the American Committee for Christian-German Refugees and the National Coordinating Committee for Aid to Refugees and Emigrants Coming from Germany.

A total of 65,404 immigrants came from the Reich (including Austria) during the sixand-a-half year period, the statement points out. In that time, 22,362 aliens returned to Germany, leaving a net immigration of 45,042. Thus, there has been an annual net immigration of 6,622, compared with 30,452 annually during the years 1919 to 1932.

It is estimated that by June 30, 1939, there will be fewer than 75,000 Germans in this country who came here in the seven years since the advent of National Socialism.

DR. MOSHE GLUCKSON, HAARETZ EDITOR, DEAD AT 62; HURT IN AUTO CRASH

JERUSALEM, May 23. (JTA) -- Dr. Moshe Gluckson, editor of the Tel Aviv Hebrew daily Haaretz, died today of injuries sustained in an automobile accident on May 9. He was 62 years old. Dr. Gluckson was born in Russia and came to Palestine in 1919. He edited various Hebrew and Zionist periodicals in Russia. He was known as a student of philosophy and translated a number of philosophic works into Hebrew.

VLADIMIR POLIAKOFF, PUBLISHER, DEAD IN FRANCE AT 74

PARIS, May 23. (JTA) -- Vladimir Poliakoff, Russian-born publisher, died several days ago at the age of 74, it was disclosed today. He became the center of a public controversy in 1937 when he sold the German emigre newspaper Pariser Tageblatt, of which he was publisher. It was charged by the editor, Georg Bernhard, and staff members that he had sold out to Nazi interests. Mr. Poliakoff denied this and supported his denial with a series of libel suits against newspapers which printed the allegation.

TOURIST CAPITALISTS WARNED TO LEAVE PALESTINE WHEN VISAS EXPIRE

JERUSALEM, May 23. (JTA) -- The Palestine Government has warned Jewish capitalists legally in Palestine to leave the country promptly at expiration of their tourist visas. Some 700 persons are affected by the warning, which advises that application for certificates be made at the British consulate nearest their place of origin. The applications, the notice stated, will be considered "in the light of the policy then in force."

LATE PALESTINE NEWS

LONDON, May 23. (JTA) -- With the result of the Palestine debate a foregone conclusion, the only surprise was the Government's unimpressive majority of 39 in Commons. Lord Dufferin and Ava, speaking in the House of Lords to clarify the Government's position as stated in Commons last night by Foreign Undersecretary Butler, left no doubt that the Government would not seek League approval for the policy. He stated bluntly that if the Mandates Commission took the view that the policy was inconsistent with the mandate, then Britain would ask the League Council to amend the mandate to conform to the policy.

British Officer Slain in Arab Clash

JERUSALEM, May 25. (Havas) One British officer was killed, one officer and two soldiers were wounded, and seven Arabs were slain as new violence flared in the Holy Land today. Arab bands attacked the British troops from ambush near Tulkarem. Airplanes took part in the engagement that followed.