

# NEWS IN BRIEF.

## Mr. SHERTOK ON TASK OF PALESTINE COMMISSION.

Jerusalem.

The Yishub was not a football of politics and would not yield the ownership of Palestine, Mr. Moshe Shertok, head of the Political Department of the Jewish Agency in Palestine, declared addressing a mass meeting of Sharon workers in Raanana.

"Many Commissions," he went on, "have visited Palestine, but our existence does not depend on their reports.

"It is not known whether the Partition Commission will start by asking what has been promised to the Jews in Palestine, or what are the needs of Jewry, or what can be granted to the Jews without irritating the Arabs. If the Commission is thinking of the third alternative, the Yishub will reject their proposals."—J.T.A.

## NATIONAL PALESTINE CONFERENCE OF J.N.F.

Jerusalem.

The National Palestine Conference of the Jewish National Fund was opened in Tel-Aviv in the presence of many delegates and guests. Mr. M. Ussishkin, President of the Fund, emphasised with satisfaction the progress made in the past few years in the Keren Kayemeth's income, which was now more than £400,000 per annum. In the last two years, the Keren Kayemeth had redeemed 56,000 dunams, but it would have been possible to acquire ten times that number if the means were available. In spite of the sacrifices made and the continuing disturbances, the achievements were a gratifying consolation. Mr. Ussishkin read greetings from Dr. Weizmann: "The redemption of the land is the foundation of our work." Mr. D. Ben-Gurion, in a detailed letter, declared that the function of the Jewish National Fund at present was "the redemptoin of land as the most important political instrument in the battle for the rights of the extension of our boundaries and for defence." The speakers included Mr. I. Rokach, Mayor of Tel-Aviv, Chief Rabbi Avigdor Amiel and Rabbi Meir Berlin.—(Palcor.)

## Mr. USSISHKIN ADDRESSES PRESS CONFERENCE.

Jerusalem.

Mr. M. M. Ussishkin outlined the present and future plans of the J.N.F. at a Press Conference here. Mr. Ussishkin stressed the importance of an immediate purchase of new land along the Northern frontier of Palestine. The urgency of such a policy, he said, was due to the general political situation. Whether people were for or against partition, the fact remained that the most important task of the Jewish people at the present moment was to acquire and to settle the remotest and most dangerous districts of Palestine and to create a living wall of Jewish settlements which would be stronger than any wire-fence which the Government intended to put up on the Northern frontier.

"This living wall of Jewish settlement," Mr. Ussishkin said, "will be the best guarantee that no new Arab bands will be able to smuggle themselves across to Palestine without a 'Jewish visa.'"

To carry out this action to redeem the Galilee, Mr. Ussishkin pointed out in conclusion, a special fund of half a million pounds was required. A portion of that money has already been collected.—(J.T.A.)

## PALESTINE LAND DEVELOPMENT CO.

Jerusalem.

The Palestine Land Development Company bought 36,000 dunams of land at a cost of £378,000 from the Arabs during 1937-38, and sold to the Jewish National Fund and individuals land for the value of £330,000, it was reported at the annual meeting under the chairmanship of Dr. Arthur Ruppin. A dividend of 6 per cent. on Preference Shares and of 6½ per cent. on Ordinary Shares was decided upon, and the Board of Directors was re-elected.—(Palcor.)

## ERECTION OF PALESTINE NORTHERN FRONTIER BARBED-WIRE FENCE.

Jerusalem.

The erection of the Northern Frontier barbed-wire fence, which is to be electrified at some sections, has been awarded to the Solel Boneh at Haifa, at a cost of more than £100,000. The work will last for three months and will employ several hundreds of workers. Elaborate security measures are being taken for their protection by the enlistment of a special unit of Jewish supernumerary constables.—(Palcor.)

## TOSCANINI LEAVES PALESTINE.

Jerusalem.

Signor Toscanini has left for England after conducting seven concerts of the Palestine Symphony Orchestra. There were 22,000 persons who attended the concerts. Dr. Malcolm Sargent, the British conductor, has arrived to conduct the next series of Symphony Concerts.—(Palcor.)

## ANONYMOUS DONATIONS.

Jerusalem.

An anonymous donor has contributed £6,000 to the Mizrahi Agricultural Yeshiva, to be located in Kfar Haruach in the Sharon.

A distinguished French scientist has made an anonymous donation of £1,000 to the Jewish National Fund.—(Palcor.)

## WIESBADEN CLOSED TO JEWS.

Berlin.

Wisebaden, the popular cure and bathing resort has been all but closed to Jews beginning with May 1st. Jews will be barred from two of the largest bathing pavilions as well as the reading-rooms, tennis courts, hockey rinks, riding grounds and social halls. Other bathing pavilions will be open to them only during stipulated hours.

The Mayor of Bad Schandau, another spa near Dresden, has issued an order prohibiting the admission of Jews. All private houses, hotels and guest houses are forbidden to admit Jews on the ground that none of them employs exclusively "Aryan" female domestic servants over 45 years of age.

Jews are in future not to be admitted in the Nuremberg hospitals, municipal archives and the municipal library by a special order of the Franconian Nazi authorities.

The Nazi authorities have forbidden the Prussian State vineyards to sell wine to "non-Aryan" merchants. The Union of German Wine Auctioneers in Trier has decided to expel any member who has any dealings with Jewish wine merchants.—J.T.A.

## LITHUANIA REFUSES TO PERMIT ENTRY OF AUSTRIAN JEWISH FOOTBALLERS.

Kaunas.

Gen. Caplikas, the Lithuanian Minister of the Interior, has rejected the request of the Lithuanian Maccabi to permit the entry of the Austrian Jewish football players, Reich and Ehrlich, who are members of the dissolved Hakoah sports organisation.—J.T.A.

## VIENNA JEWISH THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY CONFISCATED.

Vienna.

Some 10,000 volumes, including many old and rare examples of Hebraic and Rabbinical literature, were removed by Special Agent men from the Jewish Theological Seminary here, the J.T.A. learns.

The volumes comprise the entire library founded 50 years ago. The whereabouts of the books are not known.—J.T.A.

## IRAQI GOVERNMENT WANTS AUSTRIAN JEWISH DOCTORS.

Baghdad.

Owing to the dearth of doctors in Iraq, the Iraq Government has instructed its Ambassador in Vienna to facilitate the immigration of Austrian Jewish doctors into Iraq.—J.T.A.

## MUSSOLINI RECEIVES JEWISH PHILOLOGIST.

Rome.

Signor Mussolini received in audience the famous Jewish philologist, Prof. David Diringer, who presented him with his latest work on "The Alphabet in the History of Civilisation."

A former famous work of Prof. Diringer is "Ancient Hebrew Palestinian Inscriptions."

Prof. Diringer is a native of Poland. Italian citizenship was conferred on him in recognition of his scientific works. He is at present Professor of Ancient Inscriptions at Florence University.—J.T.A.

## DEATH OF PRESIDENT OF CHASSIDIC RABBIS OF U.S.A.

New York.

After a long illness, the Monastrischer Rebbe, Rabbi Yehoshua Rabinowitz, died here.

Rabbi Rabinowitz was 78 years old. He was President of the Chassidic Rabbis of the United States and Canada.—J.T.A.

## Mr. SAMUEL UNTERMEYER RESIGNS.

New York.

Mr. Samuel Untermyer, the noted American lawyer, has resigned from the presidency of the Anti-Nazi League owing to failing health.

Mr. Untermyer is 80 years old. He has been founder and President of the American Anti-Nazi League and one of the founders and President of the World Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League.—J.T.A.

## REMITTANCES OF HAAVARAH MARKS EXTENDED TO AUSTRIA.

London.

The J.T.A. understands that the remittance of Haavarah marks can from now on be effected also to persons and charitable institutions in former Austria.

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