

Jewish Agency Executive.

The Jewish Agency Executive has been divided into four main departments — Political, Economic, Immigration and Organisation. Geographically it will be divided into three parts with seats in Jerusalem, London and Washington.

Mr. Shertok was appointed Head of the Political Department controlling the Political work in all the three parts of the Executive. Professor Brodetsky, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Mr. Berl Locker, Mrs. Goldie Meyerson and Dr. M. Sneh are members of the Department. Mr. Shertok will also be in charge of the Washington office of the Executive.

Mrs. Goldie Meyerson was appointed Director of the Political Department in Jerusalem with Dr. Sneh as a member.

Mr. E. Kaplan was appointed Chairman of the Economic Department and he will be assisted by Mr. Bernstein and Mr. I. Gruenbaum.

Mr. E. Dobkin is to head the Organisation Department and he will be assisted by Dr. Sneh and Mr. Kolodny. The Department of Immigration will be headed by Mr. Shapiro to be assisted by Mr. Kolodny.

In closing the deliberations of the first meeting of the new Executive at Basle, the Chairman, Mr. D. Ben-Gurion, expressed cordial appreciation of the devoted services rendered by the former members of the Executive who are no longer in the new one, and welcomed the new members. He mentioned also the fact that for the first time two women had been elected members of the Executive. Finally, he conveyed hearty greetings to Dr. Weizmann as the foremost personality of the Zionist Movement and expressed the conviction that he would continue to render services to the Jewish people and readily give his advice and assistance to the Zionist Movement.

Rabbi Silver Claims Complete Victory for American Zionism.

New York.

In the first statement on his arrival from Basle Rabbi Silver said:—

"American Zionism achieved complete victory at the Zionist Congress. The old leadership and its record of retreat and political failure was repudiated. The Congress expressed the firm resolve of the Jewish people to resist all illegal action of the Mandatory Government aiming to liquidate or constrict the Jewish National Home. Policies adopted by the Congress are in complete agreement with the resolutions adopted by the American Zionist Organisation at its last convention."

Dr. Silver emphasised that Mr. Shertok was coming to Washington at his invitation, and not for the purpose of counterbalancing his influence.

Berlin.

Lieutenant-General Lucius Clay, American Deputy Military Governor for Germany, has ordered the release of four displaced Jews serving one year sentences for participating in a disturbance at the Landsberg D.P. camp last year, it was announced here.

The four youths have been placed under the supervision of Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, Adviser on Jewish Affairs to the U.S. Forces in Europe. This leaves only two of the original 19 Jews who were sentenced in connection with the Landsberg incidents still in prison, thirteen others having been released during the summer and autumn.

Jerusalem.

Rabbi Fishman was invited by the High Commissioner for conversations on Wednesday of last week prior to his sudden departure for London.

Mr. Ben Gurion and Dr. Weizmann.

In view of conflicting reports we publish below the account of what transpired at the session of the Zionist General Council in Basle according to the J.T.A.:—

Immediately after the opening of the General Zionist Council session a Mapai majority proposed Dr. Weizmann as President of the Organisation. Dr. Silver then arose and said on behalf of the Confederation of General Zionists that they would not participate in an Executive under Dr. Weizmann. Following this declaration, Mr. Ben-Gurion took the floor. Springing a surprise on everyone, Mr. Ben-Gurion said that without the General Zionist group there could be no coalition and no Executive.

The meeting then adjourned for faction consultations and during the adjournment Mr. Kaplan went over to Mr. Ben-Gurion and rebuked him for making a declaration without consulting his faction. Mr. Ben-Gurion replied that he disregarded this remark since as President of the faction he had the right to make any declaration he found necessary.

Congress Court Reprimands Mr. Meir Grossman and American Revisionists.

Basle.

Pronouncing judgment in the case of breach of Zionist discipline brought by the Congress Attorney against Mr. Meir Grossman and the United Zionist Revisionists of America, the Congress Court of Honour found the defendants guilty and announced "a reprimand" against them on the first count, which concerns the submission of a memorandum to the United Nations. A "serious reprimand" was pronounced on the second count, dealing with an advertisement in the "New York Post" urging aid for the dissident resistance groups in Palestine.

In both cases Mr. Grossman was asked to make public statements before the Court expressing his regret at these actions.

Reading the judgment, the President of the Court, Mr. M. Zamora, said that although the allegation that harm had been done by this action had not been proved, the Court was convinced that the submission of the memorandum itself would cause much harm by demonstrating Zionist disunity and causing confusion. The publication of the advertisement the Court considered an even graver infringement of Zionist discipline, because it was in direct contradiction to the resolution condemning the dissident groups, which was passed by the Zionist Inner Council last October.

It was clear that the appeal contained in the advertisement was meant for resistance groups without discrimination, the Court concluded. The defendants could not dissent from the view expressed by the representative Zionist body after they had returned to the World Zionist Organisation.

Mr. Grossman thanked the Court for the fairness of its judgment and repeated that he was absent from the United States when the incriminatory actions took place. He asked the Court to work out the statement which he was required to make. The Court agreed.

Palestine Orchestra Invited to New York.

Jerusalem.

The Palestine Philharmonic Orchestra has been invited by the New York Philharmonic Orchestra to present a series of concerts in New York and negotiations are now under way.

Death of Mr. Max M. Warburg.

New York.

The death occurred here of the well-known Jewish philanthropist, Mr. Max M. Warburg, after a short illness at the age of 79. He was a brother of the late Mr. Felix M. Warburg, and formerly head of the Hamburg banking firm of M. M. Warburg & Co.

The deceased played a prominent part in Jewish affairs in Germany before and during the Hitler regime. He was responsible for the establishment of the Central Representation of Jews in Germany and, as President of the Hilfsverein der Juden in Deutschland, has rendered great services in facilitating the emigration of Jews from Hitler Germany. Since his journey to Palestine in 1929, he also took an active part in Zionist work and was President of the Keren Hayesod in Germany, which he left in 1939 to take up permanent residence in the United States. Continuing his communal activities, he was specially active in the Joint Distribution Committee and the American Jewish Committee.

Cairo.

The police report that unknown persons attempted to remove the bodies of Eliahu Haim and Eliahu Ben Tsouri, who were executed for the murder of Lord Moyne, from the Jewish cemetery. The police suspect that they were sent from Palestine and recalled a similar attempt made immediately after the burial when ten Zionists were arrested, one of whom was an Egyptian Jew, Sadovsky, who committed suicide in gaol.

Berlin.

Vandals in Hamburg desecrated numerous tombstones in the Jewish cemetery at Hamburg Langenfelde, one of the largest in the city. The police are investigating.

Mr. Bernard Baruch Awarded "American Hebrew" Medal.

New York.

Mr. Bernard Baruch, until recently head of the U.S. delegation to the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission, has been awarded the American Hebrew Medal for 1946 for his contributions during the past year towards promotion of better understanding between Christians and Jews.

Among Mr. Baruch's contributions mentioned by the Awards Committee of 65 judges representing three faiths were his recent speeches on Jewish refugees, displaced persons and the situation in Palestine, his aid and advice to President Roosevelt and President Truman, and his public services in the economic and political fields. The recipient of last year's award was General Eisenhower.

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