

NEWS FROM PALESTINE

(By Special Arrangement with the Palestine Telegraphic Agency)

DISPUTE OVER EDUCATION CUT SETTLED.

Dr. Weizmann has promised that the full amount of the appropriation for Palestine education will be made in the Keren Hayesod Budget. In consequence, the Vaad Hachinuch (Board of Education of the Palestine Zionist Executive) will definitely withdraw its resignation.

The amount appropriated for education in Palestine at the last meeting of the Greater Actions Committee was £58,000. Dr. Lurie, the Director of Education, resigned as a protest against the reduction, and the Vaad Hachinuch notified the Zionist Executive that it would resign unless the amount was increased to £60,000. When Colonel Kisch was in London the Zionist Executive decided that while it could not contemplate increase of the budgetary allotment for education as fixed by the Actions Committee, it requests the Palestine Executive to make all possible efforts to raise the additional £2,000 in Palestine. If the whole or part of the £2,000 required is not raised in Palestine, however, the Executive will make itself responsible for finding the necessary balance of this amount. Dr. Lurie withdrew his resignation on the assurance given him by Colonel Kisch that the additional £2,000 would be provided.

BLASPHEMY PROCEEDINGS REFUSED.

Permission has been refused by the Palestine Courts for the Palestine Arab Executive and the Latin Patriarch of Palestine, Mgr. Barlassina, to proceed with their charge of blasphemy against the Hebrew daily, the *Daar Hayom*, for publishing matter relating to the Christian Saviour, states the *Felustin*, the official organ of the Palestine Arab Executive.

MAKING MATCHES IN PALESTINE.

The first match factory in the Near East is about to be established in Haifa by Dr. Volpert and the brothers Weizmann, of Kowno. A sum of £25,000 has been invested for building and equipping the factory.

Palestine is regarded as the richest country in the world for potash resources, the Dead Sea being estimated to contain about 1,500,000,000 tons of potassium chloride, which may be exploited in this connection.

SIR HERBERT SAMUEL ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT.

Sir Herbert Samuel, British High Commissioner for Palestine, announced in his first formal interview with the representatives of the Press in Palestine that his term of office terminates in June next. The question of his successor, he said, has not yet been considered by the Government. He also announced that the Chief Secretary, Sir Gilbert Clayton, who is the Acting High Commissioner while Sir Herbert Samuel is absent from the country, is retiring in the spring.

SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FROM POLAND.

The Polish Government is sending M. Klosowiak, an inspector of the State Emigration Office to Palestine, for the purpose of controlling on the spot the emigration movement from Poland to Palestine.

£10,000 FOR HEBREW UNIVERSITY.

Mr. Jacob Cohen, of Southport, and formerly of Manchester, who died recently, left £54,555, one-fourth of which is to go as a reversionary legacy on the death of his wife, for a Jewish scholarship at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. An eighth of his fortune is left to be divided equally between six Jewish charities.

ESTABLISHING A SILK FACTORY.

Mr. Delphiner, of Vienna, a prominent Austrian banker and industrialist, who is now in Palestine, is making arrangements for establishing a silk factory in Tel-Aviv. He has invested £30,000 for the purpose.

AN OPERA OF PALESTINE LIFE.

An opera of Palestine life has been composed by Mr. Weinberg, who is well known in Jerusalem as a pianist. The opera, which is named *Hechaluz* deals with the life of the *Chaluzim* in a Galilean labour co-operative settlement. It is the first opera known to have been directly inspired by modern life in Palestine.

ARAB WHO MURDERED JEW.

Said El Sdeik, the leader of the band of robbers which on March 28th attacked and murdered Mr. Tetransky, a Czech-Slovakian journalist, who with his wife was tramping round the world, was hanged on October 28th in Jerusalem, the Appeal Court having dismissed his appeal against the death sentence. Three other members of the gang have been sentenced to fifteen years' penal servitude, and two accessories have been sentenced to one year's hard labour.

ARABS CALLING CONGRESS.

An official statement by the Secretary of the Palestine Arab Executive, Mr. Jamal II Husseini, is published in the *Lissan el Arab* announcing that the Seventh Palestine Economic Congress is about to be convened. Owing to the bad economic conditions in Palestine, the statement says, the lands of the Zionists to buy large tracts of the most fertile lands in Palestine from the rich landowners who live in Beirut and Damascus, and the unfavourable political conditions, there is a danger of very serious occurrences in Palestine. It has, therefore, become urgent to call together the Seventh Palestine Arab Congress to consider the situation.

COOK'S EXCURSIONS.

Messrs. Thomas Cook & Son, Limited, the big tourist agency, are issuing a new booklet of tours in Egypt, the Nile and Palestine for the season 1924-25. A special feature is made of the Jewish colonies in Palestine, of which the booklet says:—

YESHIBA FOR PALESTINE.

The establishment of a modern Yeshiba in Tel-Aviv has been decided at a meeting held at the home of Rabbi Anson. A committee was appointed to take the matter in hand.

"For travellers desirous of including the Jewish colonies in their itineraries and of witnessing the progress made in the building up of a National Home in Palestine, not only by the old colonists, but by the Zionist Executive since the British occupation in 1917, we shall be pleased to arrange for our dragomans to show them all that is to be seen. The inclusion of the colonies will naturally require more time than is allotted to the ordinary itineraries, but it will give us much pleasure to do it. If desired, those of the Jewish faith can be supplied with a Jewish dragoman." A list of the Jewish colonies and institutions is appended.

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