

IN POLAND

Polish Minister of Education on "Ghetto Benches"

Warsaw, February 4th.

"I REGARD the campaign for separate benches for Jewish students at Polish universities and high schools as very regrettable," M. Wojciech Swietawski, Polish Minister of Education, declared in his address to the Sejm.

"Polish public opinion," the Minister continued, "underestimates the harmful consequences of the conflicts which take place at the universities. In addition to the bad moral effects of such a state of affairs, much time has been wasted by our youth, much energy has been lost at a time when it is imperative to apply every effort for energetic and productive work."

"We have to remember," he went on, "that this question depends largely on that emotional state of mind of our youth which makes it impossible to introduce normal conditions at the universities. In addition, the rectors are also divided on this question. Under such circumstances the idea of separate benches was brought up at one of the rectors' meetings. It was proposed that the rectors themselves should arrange the seats so as to prevent conflicts between hostile groups of students. That was why I agreed that the rectors should issue a decree regulating the distribution of seats. It was found impossible to fix seats for every student as the lecture rooms are not big enough."

HABIMAH REFUSES TO PERFORM IN VIENNA

Vienna, February 7th.

THE Habimah company has decided not to give its announced performances in Vienna because of the anti-Jewish excesses of the previous week. It has decided to leave for Zagreb.

Overseas News in Brief

Received by Air Mail

NEW HISTORY OF JEWISH LITERATURE

Rome, February 3rd.

THE Jewish publishing house "Israel" has just issued a new work by the famous Jewish Bible authority, Professor Umberto Cassuto, on the history of Jewish literature in post-Biblical times.

The last chapter of the book is devoted to modern Jewish literature in Eastern Europe and in Italy.



An old-timer at work in a New York garment shop.

GOVERNMENT GRANT TO JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

Kovno, February 3rd.

THE Lithuanian Government has decided to distribute among different philanthropic institutions 690,000 lits (about £23,000). About 12 per cent. is to be given to Jewish orphanages, children's homes, hospitals and the Oze (Jewish Health Organisation).

AWARD TO TOSCANINI

New York, February 2nd.

THE "American Hebrew" has awarded to Signor Arturo Toscanini its annual medal for promoting inter-faith understanding by his work for the Palestine Symphony Orchestra.

Signor Toscanini sent a telegram to the "American Hebrew" stating that he was "extremely touched by the award."

ENDEK PICKETS FULFIL "NATIONAL DUTY"

Warsaw, January 30th.

THE Court in the town of Tczew, near the Polish-Danzig border, sentenced a Jewish woman shopkeeper, Liebe Maczelawa, to two weeks' imprisonment and to a fine of 50 zlotys for insulting an Endek picket stationed outside her shop.

The court justified its decision on the ground that the Endek pickets fulfilled a national duty and must not be insulted.

SHECHITA IN POLAND

Further Restrictions Aimed at

Warsaw, February 1st.

DEPUTY BUDZINSKI, the notorious anti-Semitic agitator, has introduced a bill into the Sejm for the total prohibition of Shechita.

[The present Shechita law in Poland, which was passed by the Sejm and the Senate in March of 1936 and entered into force on January 1, 1937, allows only a limited number of cattle to be slaughtered in accordance with Jewish ritual laws. The kosher meat must be sold only to the Jewish population.—Ed.]

ESCAPE OF ZIONIST MARTYRS

The correspondent of the "Jewish Morning Journal" in Istanbul, reports that eight Zionists who were exiled to Caucasia for Zionist activities managed to escape from Soviet Russia, and seven of them found their way into Turkey. The eighth died on the road.

The arrival of the exiles in Turkey has created a sensation in the local press.

SIR HORACE RUMBOLD STANDS BY PARTITION

Cairo, January 30th.

SIR Horace Rumbold, the former Vice-President of the Palestine Royal Commission who is at present on a brief tour here, said in the course of an interview: "I stand by partition. It is the only solution for Palestine."

Sir Horace declared that he was not interested in the search for other solutions of the Palestine problem.

JEWISH FIRMS EXPROPRIATED

Action by Latvian Government

Riga, February 3rd.

THE Latvian Textile Syndicate, which consists almost entirely of Jewish firms, has been liquidated here and has been taken over by the State Commercial Bank, according to a decision of the Latvian Cabinet.

The Government has also expropriated the largest Jewish textile factory in Latvia, "Kafalo." This action has reduced the Jewish textile manufacturers in Latvia to a state of impotence and the small Jewish factories are facing ruin.

The Latvian Government has also taken over all the breweries in Riga which are owned by Jews.

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