

HAIFA—To-day and To-morrow

On the Threshold of New Progress

WITH the impending completion of two major Middle East road projects—Haifa to Cairo and Haifa to Baghdad—Haifa stands on the threshold of new and striking advance. It is fitting therefore that the latest issue of the "Palestine and Middle East" should be devoted to Haifa in all its aspects. The issue, which is illustrated with photographs and diagrams, has been published in collaboration with the Pro-Haifa Economic Committee and appears with a preface by Dr. M. Soloveitchik, Chairman of the Committee, and a message from Mr. Shabbetai Levi, Mayor of Haifa.

Commenting on Haifa's potentialities as the main hub of Middle East trade and communications, Mr. M. Tishler (Central Secretary of the Pro-Haifa Economic Committee) explains that the Baghdad Road will bring the trade of the Middle East to Haifa in preference to other Mediterranean ports as freights will be halved and transport possible all the year round. Haifa's industrial importance is also growing with the construction of the refinery and the industries likely to rise around it. The city has also developed in the last few years into an impressive urban centre with fine buildings and thoroughfares.

Hadar Hacarmel, the Jewish centre of Haifa, has advanced in the last few years from a small residential suburb to a fully fledged Jewish city with a population accounting for 60 per cent. of the Jewish population of Greater Haifa. Since the outbreak of disturbances, writes Mr. U. Friedland, Hadar Hacarmel has constructed several important public buildings. Impending schemes are for the construction of a Hadassah Hospital (£50,000) and a bridge across the Wadi Rushmiyeh to link Hadar with the spacious land reserves of Neve Shaanan.

Reclaimed From Swamp.

The reclamation and development of the Haifa Bay lands from a wilderness of thorn, bush and swamp to one of Palestine's most important industrial areas has been one of Zionism's peak achievements. New developments according to Mr. K. Ruppin are now planned in the Haifa Bay including a new suburb, Kiriath Yam, etc. The housing relief which Haifa Bay affords should do much to relieve congestion and lower rents in Haifa and Hadar Hacarmel.

Town Planning Principles.

New town planning principles adopted in Haifa Bay and on the Carmel are described by Prof. Alexander Klein. Kiriath Yam in Haifa Bay has been planned as an organic city unit with the maximum of quiet open spaces and air. The Rushmiyeh lands of the PLDC on Mount Carmel have also been specially planned to avoid sharp gradients in residential streets, preserve the view, etc.

Referring to Haifa's industrial significance, Dr. F. Michaelis, in another article in this meaty issue, points out that there were 261 factories in Haifa in 1937 with an aggregate invested capital of nearly £2,000,000 and accounting for 25 per cent. of total Jewish industry.

Haifa is also the headquarters of technical education on which the development of industry to-day depends. Dr. Heimann describes the four technical institutions in Haifa—the Technion (for engineering and architecture), the two trade schools (Haifa Technical High School and the Ludwig Tietz School) and the Haifa Nautical School. The inauguration of this school last year marked a milestone in the revival of the ancient Jewish tradition of seafaring centred in older times, too, in the territory of Zebulun in the neighbourhood of what is to-day Haifa.

PALESTINE AND THE LOW COUNTRIES

Effects of the Invasion

Jerusalem, May 12th.

THE Nazi attack on Belgium and Holland is expected to have considerable effect on Palestine's foreign trade.

Palestine enjoyed a favourable trade balance with Holland and had important markets in Belgium. It is now feared that as a result of the extension of the war, both countries will have to reduce their imports from Palestine.

Last year, exports to Belgium totalled £314,000 against imports from that country of £361,000. Holland last year imported goods to the value of £452,000 from Palestine and this country took from Holland imports to the value of £287,000.

Cultural relations with both countries have been strong, and there are about a hundred Jewish students from Palestine in the technical schools and universities of Belgium and Holland.

PALESTINE GOVERNMENT ERECTING SECURITY BUILDINGS

Fifteen Contracts Awarded

Jerusalem, May 12th.

THE Palestine Government is erecting fifteen security buildings in various parts of the country. According to the "Palestine Post," they will cost some two and a half million pounds. The cost of these constructions, which will be in the nature of fortresses, will be borne by His Majesty's Government.

According to the "Davar," five of the fifteen contracts awarded went to the Palestine Building Syndicate, three to Solel Boneh, Ltd., two to Mr. B. Katinke, a Jerusalem contractor, three to Major H. F. Key's contracting firm, and two to an Arab company.

LABOUR LEADERS RELEASED Imprisoned After Tel-Aviv Demonstrations

Tel-Aviv, May 12th.

THE Tel-Aviv Labour leaders Nemirowsky, Krassner, Sirkin and Reich, who were arrested on March 3 following the Tel-Aviv demonstrations against the Land Transfers Regulations, have been released from Acre.

Sure remedies we're seeking still
For warfare, want and crime,
And tho' they seem beyond our skill
We'll get them all in time.
One remedy at least we know
Which aids us to endure
For coughs and colds sure ease we owe
To Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.

THE NEW COLONIAL UNDER-SECRETARY

Will Be Chief Spokesman in Commons

MR. G. H. HALL, M.P., the new Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, will be the chief spokesman of the Colonial Office in the House of Commons, since the Colonial Secretary, Lord Lloyd, sits in the House of Lords. Mr. Hall will consequently be called on to reply to all questions on Palestine raised in the Commons.

The new Colonial Under-Secretary was Civil Lord of the Admiralty in the Labour Government from 1929 to 1931. He has supported the Labour Party policy on Palestine and voted against the Government in the Palestine debates in May and July, 1939. He also voted against the Government on the question of the Palestine Land transfer restrictions.

This week it was announced that Sir George Gater, Permanent Under-Secretary for the Colonies, has been released in the national emergency to become Joint Secretary to the Ministry of Supply with Sir Arthur Robinson.

Sir George Gater's place at the Colonial Office will be taken by Sir Cosmo Parkinson, Permanent Under-Secretary for Dominion Affairs.

EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT AND PALESTINE ARABS

Jerusalem, May 15th.

IT is understood that the Egyptian Government has bought foodstuffs and clothing to the value of about £20,000, which were sent to Palestine for distribution among poor Arabs, under the supervision of the Egyptian Consul General and the Palestine Government. The Egyptian Government has also sent £5,000 to the Arab Orphanage Committee in Palestine.

The decision to allot a total of £25,000 for relief work in Palestine was taken some time ago, but the form in which the money was to be spent was decided upon only recently.

CONCERN FOR FAMOUS JEWISH CONDUCTOR

Jerusalem, May 12th.

CONCERN is being felt in Palestine about Mr. Isaay Dubrowen, the famous musical conductor, who was in Norway at the time of the German invasion. An immigration certificate for Dubrowen and his family to enter Palestine was sent to Oslo shortly before the Nazi invasion, but it is feared that it arrived too late.

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