

NEWS IN BRIEF.

SIR HAROLD MacMICHAEL TOURS PALESTINE.

Jerusalem.

Sir Harold MacMichael, the new High Commissioner, has been undertaking his first tour of the country. He visited Tiberias, Dagania and the Rutenberg electricity plant at Naharaim. Met by Jewish and Arab notables at Tiberias, the High Commissioner emphasised that the primary necessity was to restore law and order, and declared that security needs must precede all others. His Excellency, on visiting Dagania, expressed his delight at its appearance. It was the first kvutzah he visited. He was welcomed by Mr. J. Baratz.—(Palcor.)

HEBREW UNIVERSITY FESTIVAL.

Jerusalem.

A "Bar-Mitzvah" festival in honour of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem was held in the large Levant Fair hall in Tel-Aviv when thousands attended. Among those who spoke were Professor Martin Buber, who has been appointed to the Faculty of the Hebrew University, and the Rector, Dr. Hugo Bergmann, who reported that the University is trying to get the largest number of Jewish students from Austria to come to the Jerusalem University.—(Palcor.)

JEWISH IMMIGRATION INTO PALESTINE.

Jerusalem.

Jewish immigration into Palestine almost equalled the quota of 8,000 allowed by the Government from August 1st, 1937, to March 31st, 1938, under the "political high level" principle.

The total of Jews entering Palestine permanently was 7,834 for the eight months, Mr. Moshe Shertok, head of the Political Department of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, announced. The 166 certificates left unused were a usual percentage, Mr. Shertok added. Most of them were for capitalists and none for workers.—J.T.A.

TEL-AIVIV PORT.

Jerusalem.

A record number of 74 ships anchored in the Tel-Aviv roadstead during March, when 10,000 tons of imports and 12,067 tons of exports were handled, averaging a record daily total of 919 tons. There were 900,000 cases of citrus fruit shipped from Tel-Aviv port from the beginning of the season until date.—(Palcor.)

APPEAL OF MORDECAI SCHWARTZ DISMISSED.

Jerusalem.

Justices Copland and Greene, by a majority, rendered their verdict in the Jerusalem Court of Appeal dismissing the appeal by Constable Mordecai Schwartz against sentence of death passed against him and declared that they upheld the sentence of the Court of Criminal Assize that he was guilty of premeditated murder. Mr. Justice Frumkin, in a minority judgment, held that murder was unpremeditated. The death sentence was confirmed, but counsel for Schwartz is appealing to the Privy Council in view of the dissension among the appellate judges.—(Palcor.)

NEW G.O.C. ARRIVES IN PALESTINE.

Jerusalem.

Major-Gen. Robert Haddon-Haining, who is to succeed Major-Gen. A. P. Wavell as Commander-in-Chief of the British forces in Palestine, has arrived here.—J.T.A.

TOSCANINI AND HUBERMAN IN PALESTINE.

Jerusalem.

Signor Arturo Toscanini and his wife have arrived in Palestine by air. Mr. Bronislaw Huberman arrived on board the S.S. Mariatte Pasha.

They were welcomed by representatives of the Palestine Symphony Orchestra.—J.T.A.

WATER DISCOVERED NEAR BEERSHEBA.

Jerusalem.

A copious supply of water was discovered at Asir, near Beersheba, by Government officials who were carrying out exploratory boring. A geyser 40 feet high shot up when the boring reached a depth of 130 feet.—J.T.A.

P.L.D.C. COMPLETE SUCCESSFUL LAND TRANSACTION.

Jerusalem.

The Palestine Land Development Company has completed a successful transaction as the result of which 9,000 dunams of land in the Beersheba region came into Jewish possession. The area was acquired on behalf of a group of purchasers headed by Mr. Moshe Smilansky.

The Palestine Land Development Company has been engaged in purchases in this region for many years and, at the request of the group concerned, has already purchased 36,000 dunams around Beersheba. The recent acquisition has brought Jewish landed property in this zone up to 50,000 dunams.—(Palcor.)

DEATH OF VETERAN ZIONIST.

Tel-Aviv.

The death took place here of Mr. Leo Mandelberg, who before the War was President of the Kiev Zionist Organisation and who was one of the organisers of the Jewish Self-Defence in Kishinev during the 1903 pogrom. He was 71 years old.—J.T.A.

NEW PRESIDENT OF URUGUAY CONDEMNS ANTI-SEMITISM.

London.

The "South American Journal" publishes an interview with the new President of Uruguay, General Alfredo Baldomir, who denies the existence of anti-Semitism in the country.

"I do not think any real anti-Semitism exists in Uruguay," he declared. "Uruguay will have to take her share of those Jews whose lives are being made impossible in certain parts of Europe. I object to racial hatred in any form, and it will find no home here under my Government, nor, I think, under any other.—J.T.A.

PALESTINE POTASH LIMITED REPORTS SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS.

London.

Substantial progress of the Palestine Potash Limited during the year 1937 is recorded in the report of the directors which

will be submitted to the eighth general meeting of the members on April 29th.

The total sales of the company's products showed an increase of over 55 per cent. The gross profit on trading amounted to £86,773 as against £59,267, and the nett trading profit £47,831 as against £26,880 in 1936.

The Anglo-Palestine Bank guaranteed the payment of the preference dividend from January 1st, 1935, to June 30th, 1937. The subsequent half-yearly dividend on the preference capital has been paid out of the company's earnings.

The product of refined potash of the company's northern plant, as a result of improvements introduced in the chemical process and greater efficiency, showed an increase, while costs have been reduced.

Part of the company's new plant at the south end of the Dead Sea was put into operation at the beginning of June, 1937. While this has not yet materially contributed to the profits of the year 1937, the beginning in the south in conjunction with the considerable improvements in the north have carried production in 1937 to a level 65 per cent. higher than in 1936. The further extension of the plant is proceeding according to programme.—J.T.A.

HONORARY DEGREE CONFERRED ON JACOB EPSTEIN.

London.

An honorary degree of LL.D. (Doctor of Laws) was conferred upon Jacob Epstein, the famous Jewish sculptor, by the University of Aberdeen.—J.T.A.

ERNEST BLOCH'S "SACRED SERVICE" PRAISED.

London.

A warm tribute to Ernest Bloch's "Sacred Service" as a work of universal appeal but Jewish at heart is paid by Mr. Ernest Neuman, famous musical critic, in the "Sunday Times."

"All in all," Mr. Neuman declares, "the 'Sacred Service' is a remarkable creation, significant not only for the light it throws on Bloch as a musician, but also for the light it throws on a grievously tried people."

"Now that sympathy for the Jews has risen to such heights in this country, a large-scale performance of the Service in London would be not merely a musical event of the first importance but a gesture of human fellowship," he concluded.—J.T.A.

CHURCH COUNCIL ASSEMBLY CONDEMNS ANTI-SEMITISM.

London.

A resolution expressing horror and detestation of the persecution of the Jews in Germany and elsewhere on the Continent and demanding international action to find a home for the Jewish exiles was adopted by the Assembly of the National Free Church Council.

The resolution, which was passed unanimously, placed on record the Assembly's tribute of admiration and gratitude for the great services which the Jews had rendered to the progress of mankind, especially in religion, but also in science, literature and the arts.—J.T.A.

BRUNO WALTER TO CONDUCT IN FLORENCE.

Florence.

An official denial that Herr Bruno Walter, the famous German Jewish conductor, has been prohibited from taking part in the International Music Festival, to take place in Florence during the month of May, was

issued to the Jewish Telegraph Agency here.

The report, which appeared in the London press, that the Italian Foreign Office has refused to grant a visa to Herr Bruno Walter is not correct, the Jewish Telegraph Agency has been informed by the management of the festival. Herr Bruno Walter will conduct Brahms' "Requiem" during the International Festival on May 27th.

Another famous German conductor of Jewish origin, Herr Otto Klemperer, is also to conduct two concerts during the Florence musical festival.

NEW COMMUNITIES' LAW IN GERMANY.

Berlin.

Rabbi Dr. Leo Baeck, President of the Reichsvertretung der Juden in Deutschland, has issued an appeal to German Jewry in connection with the new communities law in which he points out that all the Jewish communities and affiliated organisations have to carry on with their work as before. He requests the members of the Jewish communities to continue their full support of the community and he stresses that legally members still have to pay their dues as they had to pay their community tax under the old regulation.

The appeal in conclusion points out that the final constitution of the Jewish communities will be laid down in supplementary regulations which are to be published by the authorities.—J.T.A.

KING ZOG INSCRIBED IN GOLDEN BOOK.

Thessaloniki.

The Jews of Albania have decided to inscribe King Zog I. in the Golden Book of the Jewish National Fund on the occasion of his forthcoming marriage.—J.T.A.

LOYALTY OF CZECHO-SLOVAK JEWS.

Prague.

At the last meeting of the Board of the Jewish Community of Prague, Dr. Emil Kafka, President of the Community, made a statement in which he pointed out that the Jews had been residing in Prague for over a thousand years and that their destiny had been closely interwoven with the destiny of the Czech people. The Prague Jews and the Jews throughout Czecho-Slovakia were ready to prove their loyalty to the Czecho-Slovakian State and Government, he went on. All of them without distinction were ready to co-operate with the whole Czecho-Slovak people in the work of maintaining internal and external peace and they were ready at any moment to make all the sacrifices which would be required of them.

The Committee of Rabbis of Carpatho-Russ at a meeting in Uzhorod decided to ask all the Jewish communities in Carpatho-Russia to offer special prayers for the welfare of the Czecho-Slovakian State as an expression of the loyalty of the Jews in Carpatho-Russia.—J.T.A.

NEW ROUMANIAN CABINET.

Bucharest.

The elimination of extreme anti-Semitic ministers, such as Dr. Vaida Voevod, from Patriarch Miron Christea's new Cabinet, is noted with reserved approval in Jewish circles here.

The general view held here is that the new Cabinet would refrain from any drastic measures.

The inclusion in the Cabinet of M. Ralea, former editor of the official organ of the National Peasants' Party, "Dreptatea," as Minister of Labour, who is well-known for

his tolerant views, M. Mitita Constantinescu, Governor of the National Bank of Roumania, who is also noted for his liberal views, as Minister of Industry and Commerce, and M. Victor Iamundi, another well-known moderate, as Minister of Justice, supports the belief that the Cabinet will follow a moderate policy, particularly with regard to the Jews.

The fact that M. Armand Calinescu, who has been keeping the extremists in check in the old Cabinet, remains Minister of the Interior, is also welcomed in Jewish circles here.—J.T.A.

YUGO-SLAV JEWISH JOURNALIST HONOURED.

Belgrade.

The German Ambassador in Belgrade has conferred a high German distinction on a Jewish journalist here.

The Ambassador, Von Heehren, gave a banquet in honour of a number of Yugo-Slav journalists and conferred in the name of the German Government high distinctions on several Yugo-Slav journalists. Among the journalists who were thus honoured by the German Government was M. Manojlo Ozerovic, one of the managers of the Agency "Avala," who received the Order of the German Eagle, Second Class.

M. Ozerovic is the son of Avram Ozerovic, late President of the Jewish Community of Belgrade.—J.T.A.

YUGO-SLAV ZIONIST ORGAN CONFISCATED.

Belgrade.

The last issue of the organ of the Yugo-Slav Zionist Federation, "Zidov," was confiscated by the authorities for publishing an article criticising the present conditions in Austria.—J.T.A.

PROFESSOR HEINRICH NEUMANN DENIES RUMOUR.

Paris.

Prof. Heinrich Neumann, the noted Viennese Jewish nose, ear and throat specialist who treated the Duke of Windsor, is quoted by "Paris Soir" as denying that he has ever refused a summons to visit Berlin to treat Herr Hitler.

According to rumours in Vienna, Prof. Neumann's arrest after the Nazis conquered Austria was due to his alleged refusal to treat the Nazi Fuehrer.

The Vienna correspondent quoted the famous specialist as declaring: "Had I been called to Hitler, I would have gone as I would have gone to any patient. To a physician there is no question of race or political opinion; there are but people suffering."

Asked regarding his future intentions, Prof. Neumann stated that he had resigned from the University of Vienna, but will remain in Vienna and continue to treat patients requiring his services. He expressed the hope that he will be left "to work for the relief of those who suffer."—J.T.A.

TO HELP NON-ARYAN COMPOSERS IN GERMANY.

New York.

The American Song-Writers' Protective Association decided to request the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers to utilise the several hundred thousand marks of accrued royalties on American songs now frozen in Germany owing to currency restrictions, for the relief of "non-Aryan" song-writers in Germany and Austria.

The A.S.C.A.P. includes in its membership all recognised composers, writers and publishers of popular music in America and

is responsible for the distribution of the pooled royalties on songs copyrighted by its members.—J.T.A.

AMERICAN STATE DEPARTMENT OBTAINS RELEASE OF PROFESSOR FRANKFURTER.

New York.

According to a report in the "Herald Tribune" the State Department in Washington succeeded in obtaining the release of Court Councillor Salmon Frankfurter, former librarian of Vienna University and uncle of Mr. Felix Frankfurter, the famous American lawyer.

The paper states, however, that the State Department's appeal to the Nazis to facilitate the emigration of Prof. Sigmund Freud has failed.—J.T.A.

TRIBUTE TO PROF. EINSTEIN.

New York.

Prominent Jewish actors took part in the special performance given by the United Palestine Appeal as a tribute to Professor Albert Einstein who was present at the performance.

A message from Professor Einstein was read. The message stressed that Palestine remained the centre of Jewish united efforts.—J.T.A.

HADASSAH'S CONTRIBUTION TO HANUTA.

New York.

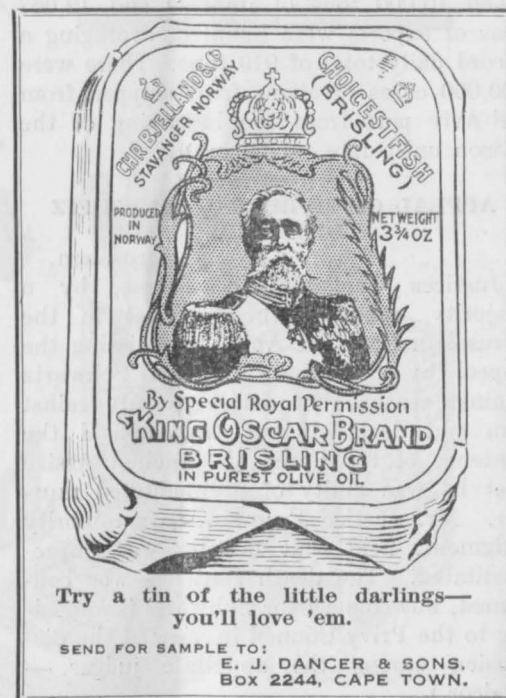
Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organisation of America, has forwarded to the Jewish Agency 5,000 dollars for the new Hanuta settlement near the Syrian border.—J.T.A.

"UNIVERSITY IN EXILE" TO ACCEPT AUSTRIAN REFUGEES.

New York.

The University in Exile will soon expand to make room for the scholars of Austria who are being displaced under Nazi rule. Dr. Alvin Johnson, head of the New School for Social Research, of which the University in Exile is a part, said: "I will go out to beg in the highways and byways if necessary."

About 250 Jews, most of them eminent medical specialists, who were forced to emigrate from Germany as political refugees, had already been placed in the U.S.A., Lt.-Col. J. M. Levey, Acting Chairman of the British Ort, who is on a visit here, declared. A similar number of prominent German Jews had found homes in England, he said.—J.T.A.



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