

## Arabs and Fact-Finding Committee.

Lake Success.

The Arab Higher Committee has officially informed Mr. Trygve Lie, Secretary-General of the United Nations, that it will boycott the United Nations Fact-Finding Committee.

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Jamal Husseini, has given the following reasons for the boycott:—

(1) The United Nations refusal to adopt the "natural course" by inserting a termination of the mandate and a declaration of independence in the agenda of the special United Nations session and in the terms of reference.

(2) Failure to detach Jewish world refugees from the Palestine problem.

(3) Replacing the interests of Palestine inhabitants by the insertion of "world religions and interests," although these were not subjects of contention.

He says that the national rights of Palestine are self-evident and cannot continue to be subject to investigation, but deserve to be recognised on the basic principles of the United Nations Charter.

Mr. Lie has sent the contents of the telegram to the Chairman of the Fact-Finding Committee in Jerusalem.

Jerusalem.

Jamal Husseini is reported as stating: "We want to establish a free government in Palestine with the same democratic principles as exist in the United States and Britain, with all genuine citizens having equal voting rights."

He accused the Fact-Finding Committee of being partial to the Jewish Agency, which favours the partition of the Arab and Jewish States.

### COMMITTEE'S CHAIRMAN ON ARAB ACCUSATIONS.

The Chairman, Mr. Justice Sandstrom, indicated after his arrival that the fact that the Arabs intended boycotting the Committee would not preclude delegates from visiting Arab areas. He told newspapermen: "It would be easier and more correct, if they were right, to come and give their opinions," when asked to comment on Arab accusations against the Committee.

Meanwhile it is learnt from the Committee's press office that no Arab journalists have registered their attendance at the sessions, whilst the Arab Consulates have decided not to send an observer to the public meetings, although it is conceivable that they will change their attitude if they get specific instructions from the Arab States.

### CHANGE OF DECISION POSSIBLE?

Various Arab quarters believe that there is the possibility of an eleventh hour change of decision in the attitude of the Arab Higher Committee towards the boycott. Pressure exercised upon the Higher Committee to alter its attitude comes from two sides: one from the Arab States, especially Egypt, which fears that the Palestine Arab boycott may weaken their position at U.N.O., which they need in their own interests, and which are trying to persuade the Mufti of Jerusalem to budge from his adamant stand.

On the other hand friends of the Arabs among high British officials in the Middle East are endeavouring to convince the Arabs that their non-attendance is liable to strengthen the Jews and harm the Arabs. In order to save the face of the Mufti and his associates the proposal is that the Arab Higher Committee at the last minute should announce that the Arab rulers have asked them to reconsider their decision and they have agreed. Meanwhile Jamal Husseini imposed a censorship on the Arab press forbidding them to publish anything concerning the Fact-Finding Committee without the Arab Higher Committee's special prior approval.

Two Leftist Arab organisations, the National Liberation League and the Arab Trade Union Congress, visited Jamal Husseini on 15th June, informing him that they would appear before the Committee. Jamal Husseini succeeded in persuading them and they decided to join the Arab boycott of the Committee "for the sake of Arab unity." The National Liberation League, which is Communist affiliated, at the end of three days' conference appealed to the Jewish masses to join the Arabs in their fight for the abolition of the mandate and the evacuation of all foreign troops from the Middle East.

It is reported that the Arab Higher Committee has informed the members of the Arab opposition that if they appear before U.N.O. or declare that the Arab Higher Committee does not represent the Palestine Arabs, they will be killed.

Iraq has sent a note to the Committee warning that there will be bloodshed in Palestine if the rights of the Arabs do not receive due recognition.

The Committee has called on the Arabs to co-operate in the inquiry despite their leaders' boycott of it.

## Death of Bronislaw Hubermann.

FAMOUS VIOLINIST AND FOUNDER OF PALESTINE ORCHESTRA.

Zurich.

The death took place at Vevey, on Lake Geneva, of Bronislaw Hubermann, the famous violinist and founder of the Palestine Symphony Orchestra. He was sixty-four years of age.

Bronislaw Hubermann was born in Czestochowa, near Warsaw, Poland, in 1882. He began to study the violin at the age of six with Michaelowitsch, making his first public appearance one year later. He studied further with Lotto, Gingorovitch, Joachim, Heermann and Marsick. In 1893 he made a concert tour of Holland, Belgium, England, France and Germany. Adeline Patti invited him to appear at her farewell concert in Vienna in 1895. As a result he was compelled to give twelve successive concerts in Vienna. At one of these he performed the Brahms Concerto in the presence of the master, receiving from the composer high words of praise. Extensive tours of Europe followed. In 1903 Hubermann was invited by the municipality of Genoa to play on Paganini's Guarnierus violin in one of the cham-



Bronislaw Hubermann.

bers of the Town Hall, a distinction which he shares with only one other violinist. In 1898-1899 Hubermann made his first tour of the United States. Since then he has toured the world many times.

In September, 1933, Hubermann forcefully denounced the Nazi regime in Germany in a letter to Wilhelm Furtwaengler, in which he stated that he would never perform in a country where tyranny and oppression prevailed. Two years after this, Hubermann visited Palestine, where the presence of so many distinguished exiled musicians inspired him to create a symphony orchestra. Through his indefatigable efforts, the Palestine Symphony Orchestra was created, giving its first concert on 26th December, 1936, under Toscanini.

From 1934 to 1936 Hubermann was a teacher of the master class in violin at the Vienna State Academy. He resigned from this position to devote more of his time to propaganda work for the Palestine Symphony Orchestra. Hubermann has written two books, *Aus der Werkstatt des Virtuosen* (Vienna, 1922) and *Mein Weg zu Paneuropa* (1925).

Hubermann visited South Africa in 1940 on a concert tour. Receptions in his honour were given by the branches of the Palestine Symphony Orchestra Society in Johannesburg and Cape Town, where Hubermann made stirring appeals for support of the Orchestra.

## Reuter's Tel Aviv Office Raided.

OFFICE EQUIPMENT REMOVED.

Jerusalem.

Reuter's office in the heart of Tel Aviv was raided by Jewish terrorists on night of 12th June. The terrorists forced the staff to lie on the floor while they removed office equipment.

Mr. Max Liebman, Reuter's teleprinter operator in Tel Aviv, after being clubbed by the terrorists, teleprinted a message describing the attack.

He said he was working in his office when three young men brandishing revolvers entered. They ordered him and a teleprinter mechanic to lie on the floor. While they lay on the floor eight or ten other people, including two girls, arrived.

The terrorists took away two typewriters, one duplicator and a telephone set—articles needed by the underground movement.

Before they left one of them said: "Put a bomb behind the door."

The raid is believed to be in retaliation for the seizure of a printing press by the police last week.

## B.E.M. Award for Jewish Shepherd.

SERVICES AS PARACHUTIST.

Jerusalem.

Leib Bronstein, a shepherd from Kibbutz Yagur has been awarded the British Empire Medal in the King's birthday Honours List for services as a parachutist during the war. He was one of the first to volunteer in 1943 for a special Jewish Allied war mission behind the enemy lines in Rumania. He was dropped by the R.A.F. in North Rumania and broke his leg. He was taken prisoner but even as a prisoner he fulfilled his mission directing the Jewish underground.

The Supreme Allied Commander in the Middle East recommended him for the award he has now received.

Bronstein was arrested during the operations at Yagur on June 29th, 1946, and was detained at Rafa camp for two months.

## World Federation of Trade Unions and Palestine Problem.

Prague.

A resolution endorsing the Palestine policy advocated by the London International Trade Union Conference in 1945 and appealing for prompt United Nations action to ensure a just solution of the Palestine problem, was adopted by a large majority at the General Council of the World Federation of Trade Unions. The hope was expressed that Jewish and Arab workers would find a basis for human rapprochement in conformity with the purpose of the W.F.T.U. to promote solidarity and brotherliness. The Secretary-General was authorised to take preliminary steps for the setting up of a commission to study the Palestine situation in the light of the resolution.

In a moving speech Mr. Zalman Rubashov, on behalf of the Histadruth vividly described the desperate position of displaced Jews whose only hope was Palestine, while an Arab, Elkassim, attacked the resolution, and the Lebanese Communist, Elaris, insisted on the rejection of all Jewish claims to Palestine and suggested that "Zionists in Palestine should be repatriated to their countries of origin."

## Pres. Truman's Message to Brith Abraham Convention

Atlantic City.

Reiterating that the United States must do its part to solve the D.P. problem by admitting some of them to the U.S.A. President Truman sent a message to the Brith Abraham annual Convention expressing his "unwavering determination to do everything in my power to reach a just solution of the Palestine question."

Eight hundred delegates called on the United Nations for unrestricted immigration into Palestine pending a final solution, and appealed to the U.S. Government "not to betray American policy and tradition" in favour of a Jewish commonwealth. They also condemned Britain's "military regime and treacherous policy in Palestine."

## Rabbi Seriously Injured.

Jerusalem.

Rabbi A. Greenberg, of Rishon Le Zion was shot and seriously injured on Thursday night of last week.

While earlier reports stated that he was injured when a military patrol fired at several youths who were posting leaflets, it was later officially reported that Rabbi Greenberg was challenged three times in English. He was seen to be carrying a roll of posters and failed to stop. On being challenged "he in fact increased his speed."

It was subsequently discovered that the posters which he was carrying were not illegal pamphlets.

Jerusalem.

Contributions totalling 365,000 dollars were made last year by the Jewish Distribution Committee to Talmudical colleges and educational institutions in Palestine.