

The Positions and Aspirations of Hungarian Jewry.

Budapest.

Court Councillor Samuel Stern, President of the Budapest Jewish Community and of the Jewish Chancellory of Hungary, presiding at the opening of the sixth semester of the Free Hungarian Jewish University of the Budapest Jewish Community, attended in addition to the students, by the leaders of Hungarian Jewry, including the Jewish members of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, and a number of non-Jewish personalities, headed by Bishop Balthazar, the head of the Calvinist Church in Hungary, spoke at great length of the position and aspirations of Hungarian Jewry.

The fate of Hungarian Jewry had always been linked with that of the Hungarian people, he said. From the days of Jewish emancipation in 1876 till 1919, the Jews had lived in Hungary in complete harmony with their fellow citizens. There had been no distinction between Hungarian and Hungarian because of their faith. Before the Great War, the Jews had played a great part in the development of Hungarian economic life and commerce, in the creation of its heavy industry, and its banking system. They had also played a distinguished part in Hungarian politics, science literature and art. They had occupied high positions in the State and the Municipalities, and in the highest Law Courts. They had given their possessions and their blood in the Great War.

Nevertheless, when the collapse came, he said, anti-Semitism raised its head, and very dark days came for the Jews of Hungary.

In the most difficult and in the darkest days, he went on, the Jews of Hungary had never faltered in their faith and in their trust in the Hungarian people. In the most critical days they had placed the good of the fatherland above their own lot. They had made every effort to use their connections to ease the difficult position of the fatherland and to fight for the victory of the just Hungarian cause.

After the collapse, at the time of the ratification of the Trianon Treaty, they had called upon the Hungarian Jews in the severed territories to stand loyal to Hungary, and they had asked the leaders of European Jewry to protest against the mutilation of Hungary, the land of liberalism and democracy.

Hungarian Jewry had suffered greatly through the economic crisis of the fatherland, and was still suffering, he continued. The natural increase of Budapest Jewry had fallen 30 per cent. compared with other denominations, and the number of pupils who were receiving Jewish religious educations had in one decade decreased from 30,000 to 16,000.

"We feel the pain, we Hungarian Jews," he went on, "that we are still hemmed in by prejudice and bias in the free development of our capacities, of our industry and will to serve the general good of the fatherland. I have in mind the application of the Land Reform Law, and the revision of tobacco and alcohol licences. The Hungarian Jews seek protection and justice against these prejudices in the Hungarian Constitution, which contains fundamental laws that in return for equal duties guaran-

(Continued in Second Column).

Kirov's Assassin a Member of Famous Family.

Riga.

In connection with the trial opened in Moscow of Zinoviev and Kamenev, on the charge of complicity in the murder of Kirev, interest attaches to the revelation that has been made here that Sergej Mandelstamm, who was executed for shooting Kirov, was a member of the famous Jewish Mandelstamm family. His great-grandfather was Leon Mandelstamm, the so-called "learned Jew" attached to the Czarist Ministry of Education, who was a brother of Benjamin Mandelstamm, one of the pioneer leaders of the Haskalah movement, Leon Mandelstamm translated the Pentateuch and the Psalms into Russian and compiled a Hebrew-Russian Russian-Hebrew dictionary.

Professor Max Mandelstamm, the famous oculist and Russian Zionist leader, afterwards one of the leaders of the Ito, was also a member of the family. Another Mandelstamm was a famous lawyer in Russia, and a prominent figure in the Russian Liberal Cadet Party. Margareta Mandelstamm, the well-known violinist in America, is a niece of Sergej Mandelstamm, and Elsa Mandelstamm, the Palestine architect, is his cousin. Professor Rosovsky, the famous Palestine composer, is his uncle.

Sergej Mandelstamm joined the Communist Party after the February Revolution, when he was just over fifteen. During the period of militant Communism, he was the Political Commissioner for the Sixth Army, which operated on the Northern Front against General Miller. He was thirty-three at the time of his execution.—J.T.A.

(Continued from First Column).

tee equal rights and liberties without distinction of religion. We can state with calm assurance that we have always done our duties, and that our Hungarianism and our loyalty to our fatherland are beyond all question.

"We have never conducted denominational politics. If we have ever had any policy at all, it was tolerance, love, readiness for self-sacrifice. It is on this ground that we fight, not with arms, but with the peaceful method of seeking to win understanding for our just cause, and with trust that this fight for understanding and harmonious unity will be carried to a happy consummation, a unity in which all citizens of this country will live together in a better and happier future."—J.T.A.

Senator Max Ausschnitt Joins Greek Catholic Church.

Bucharest.

Senator Max Ausschnitt, the big industrialist, has left the Jewish community and become baptised as a member of the Greek Catholic Church.

"A man has left us," writes the "Oost-juedische Zeitung," "who stands in the front rank in the economic life of the country and in consequence drawn upon himself and upon the Jews of Roumania the disfavour and the enmity of anti-Semitic quarters. The Jewish Senator Max Ausschnitt often intervened in Jewish political life without doing any good to us Jews in any way. The prohibition of the Maccabiade that was to have been held in Czernowitz is to be traced back to his influence, and in trustworthy quarters we are assured that it was due to his influence that in the last Parliamentary elections the Government Party refused to conclude an election pact with either the Jewish Party or the Union of Roumanian Jews. Max Ausschnitt never brought any good to us Jews by his activities as a Jew, but we have carried the onus of the fact that he was a Jew. We suffered, and will continue to suffer because Ausschnitt was a Jew, because race anti-Semitism will refuse to consider his entry into the Christian religious community as denoting a cessation of the fact that he is a Jew."—J.T.A.

Legal Rights of Jewish Artisans.

Riga.

The Ministry of the Interior has approved the new Executive of the General Jewish Artisans' Organisation of Latvia, thus restoring the legal status of the Jewish Artisans' movement in Latvia, which was like many other organisations, inhibited after the recent change of regime.—J.T.A.

New Land Tax Ordinance.

Jerusalem.

The new Land Tax Ordinance, introducing a land tax in Palestine in place of the Turkish Werko and Isher (tithe) was promulgated as an Ordinance.

No change has been made in the taxation rates.—J.T.A.

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