

Fine Progress Of Tel Aviv Port

Jerusalem, December 8th.

ACCORDING to Government figures for the first nine months of this year, the port of Tel-Aviv, created two and a half years ago, has moved into second place in Palestine, surpassing Jaffa as a port for incoming cargo.

Tel-Aviv handled 16 per cent. of the total cargo discharged at Palestine ports during the nine months, as against 9.3 per cent. in the first nine months of 1937. Haifa's share declined from 76 per cent. to 70 per cent., while Jaffa remained stationary at 14 per cent.

Palestine's total imports by sea declined 25 per cent. in weight, from 706,000 tons to 529,000 tons, as compared with the first nine months last year, and nearly 20 per cent in value, from LP.11,800,000 to LP.9,500,000.

Tel-Aviv's export cargoes were nearly doubled as against last year, from 15,342 tons to 29,096 tons. The total Palestine shipments by sea were about 330,000 tons, almost the same as last year.



After the recent torrential rains in Palestine, oranges have ripened and the orange picking season has commenced. The yield of this year's crop is expected to reach the 13 million case mark for shipment abroad. The events in the country, however, have made themselves felt also in this field of activity, and groves must be constantly guarded against attackers. The picture shows ghaffirm guarding the pumping station of an orange grove.

YISHUV AND THE CONFERENCES

Condemnation Of Immigration Policy

Jerusalem, December 14th.

AT a rally of representatives of all organisations and institutions in the Yishuv, held in Jerusalem, Mr. Ben Gurion in the course of a lengthy address, said they knew that a severe struggle was imminent in London; but there was only one thing in their minds, namely, the immigration of hundreds of thousands to Eretz Israel in their time. There was no room for concessions in the sphere of immigration, and they would fight with all the forces at their disposal, as a desperate people whose bridges had been burned.

Following Mr. Ben Gurion's address, Mr. Pinchas Rutenberg spoke. He emphasised that the participation of the Jewish Agency in the London discus-

sions should be conditional on assurances being secured for the maintenance of the Balfour Declaration and the Palestine Mandate, while bargaining on the question of immigration was inconceivable.

Chief Rabbi Dr. Herzog said that from that spot they proclaimed to the world that the closing of the gates of Palestine in the faces of harried Jewish refugees meant turning the Jewish National Home into a fiction.

Mr. Suprasky, Dr. Abraham Katznelson, Dr. Mossinsohn, Rabbi Shapiro, and Messrs. Zisling, Weinstein, and Sirkis also spoke.

Among the resolutions adopted was one requesting the Jewish Agency to reconsider its attitude towards the forthcoming London discussions, in view of the Government's attitude to immigration.

Palestine Anti-British Campaign In Syria

Damascus, December 15th.

SYRIAN Government leaders and pro-Government papers have suddenly started a strenuous anti-British campaign over the Palestine question. The development is the more notable as the Syrian Government has always maintained strict reserve on the question.

Acting Premier Saadallah al Jabri, speaking at Aleppo, declared: "England should be given to understand that we shall carry out our programme in relation to Palestine, to-morrow if not to-day."

German Parents Arrive In Palestine

Jerusalem, December 13th.

A SECOND and third party of 190 parents of German Jewish residents arrived in Tel-Aviv yesterday and to-day. They disembarked amid touching scenes of welcome. Their ages vary from 80 to 90. Some of them were carried on stretchers to waiting cars.

Protest By Christian Arabs

Jerusalem, December 15th.

CHRISTIAN Arabs in Jerusalem met to-day to consider measures to be taken against their being compelled by the terrorists to observe Friday as the Sabbath day.

MUFTI "WORKING FOR FOREIGN POWER"

Support for Nashashibi

Cairo, December 13th.

AN accusation that Haj Amin el Husseini, the exiled Mufti of Jerusalem, was working for a foreign Power is made in an interview with Fakhri Bey Nashashibi, one of the leaders of the Palestine Defence Party, published in the "Egyptian Gazette" here.

Fakhri Bey, who lately has been acting as the spearhead of the Palestine Arab opposition to the Mufti, was to-day elected by a hundred Arab refugees here as their representative to the forthcoming Palestine conference in London.

Auni Bey Abdul Hadi, Palestine Istiqlalist leader and member of the dissolved Arab Higher Committee, who is in exile here, to-day declared he was ready to go to London to participate in the conference if the Mufti wished him to do so.

Sympathy With Nashashibi

Jerusalem, December 15th.

A NUMBER of delegations from Arab villages in the Ramallah area proceeded to Jerusalem yesterday and expressed to Fakhri Bey Nashashibi their solidarity with him.

POPULATION OF PALESTINE

29.6 Per Cent Jews

Jerusalem, December 7th.

THE population of Palestine is estimated to have been 1,418,619 on June 30th, 1938, according to the Government Office of Statistics.

Of the settled population, 828,806, or 61.3 per cent., were Moslems; 399,808, or 29.6 per cent., were Jews; 111,796, or 8.3 per cent., were Christians; and 11,856 were of other religions. The estimate also includes 66,553 nomads.

Opponent of Mufti Murdered

Jerusalem, December 15th.

SHEIKH Mahmud Ansari, a former Curator of the Mosque of Omar, who was an opponent of the Mufti, was shot dead by terrorists in Jerusalem this morning. Four previous attempts were made on his life.

Tiberias Hot Springs Closed

Jerusalem, December 17th.

THE Tiberias Hot Springs Company has announced that it has closed the baths at Tiberias, one of the principal resorts for tourists both from Palestine and abroad, owing to conditions in the country.

£100,000 Collected for Kofar Hayishuv

Jerusalem, December 15th.

IT was announced at a conference in Tel Aviv that the Yishuv has already contributed over £100,000 to the Kofar Hayishuv, and that in addition jewels to the value of £15,600 have been contributed.

PALESTINE ORCHESTRA'S BUDGET

"Lowest In The World"

Statement By Huberman

Jerusalem, December 15th.

ADDRESSING a press conference in Jerusalem, Mr. Bronislaw Huberman, the famous violinist, stated that the annual budget of the Palestine Symphony Orchestra was about £22,000. This, he said, was among the lowest in the world for an orchestra of first-class musicians. He was gratified with the spontaneous response from non-Jews in England and Australia who sent donations.

Mr. Huberman added that if immigration had continued at a reasonable pace the Orchestra might now have been self-supporting.

As soon as conditions permit, the Orchestra will proceed to Dagan and Ain Harod, both of which are to become concert centres like the main cities. It will visit Egypt in February.