

The Palestine Bulletin

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Amazing Document Produced In Court

POLICE INSPECTOR AND GENERAL
SEARCH WARRANT.

(From our legal correspondent)

An amazing document came to light yesterday, in a most unexpected way, when a case was being heard before the Magistrate.

A document was reluctantly produced by a police inspector, when pressed to do so by Counsel for the defence and it proved to be a general search warrant. This document entitles the inspector to conduct wholesale searches at his own discretion and choice in a densely populated quarter of Jerusalem. This search warrant is valid for fourteen days.

A police inspector had a number of other documents in his possession, which looked somewhat similar to that produced. He would not admit that these documents granted him a similar power of search in other quarters of Jerusalem.

The document for which a precedent could not be found in this or perhaps in any other country, reads as follows:

SEARCH WARRANTS AND ARRESTS OF
OFFENDERS 1924
SECTION 14.

I hereby authorize Inspector of Police, Charles Langer, to search premises situated in Zichron Moshe Quarter for the purpose of securing documents to be used for illegal purposes.

Valid for fourteen days.

E. KEITH-ROACH

British Magistrate.

Reference was made in the Commission of Inquiry to Mr. Keith-Roach acting as a religious person! Have we have Mr. Keith-Roach in judicial capacity, simply transferring to a police officer for a fortnight the powers vested in the court to authorize searches.

Violent Scenes Among Refugees Demanding Relief

FREE FIGHTS OUTSIDE THE OFFICES OF
VAAD HAEZRA
TWO POLICEMEN POWERLESS AGAINST
SURGING MOB
GLASS DOORS BROKEN

The wild scenes that have been going on for some time now outside the offices of the Vaad Haezra, reached a climax yesterday when a mob of at least fifty shouting and angry refugees broke through the guards who had been told to keep the crowd from coming up the stairs to the narrow landing outside the Vaad Haezra. The police were called in, but they were almost powerless against the angry people. Police Inspector Sofer arrived after the miniature battle had been raging for some time, and a sort of peace was in the end restored.

Outside the very door of the Vaad, five fights took place. All the refugees complain that the sole reply to their requests for help is "game to-morrow." They say it is always to-morrow and to-morrow. When a crowd of really angry people began to behave so wildly, as if they were mad men, I said to an old gentleman with a long beard, also a refugee, but who was standing away from the others: "Have these people gone mad?"

"No," he answered, "they are not mad. They are perfectly right. Their patience is exhausted."

One of the refugees seemed to have superhuman force. He pushed away three people who tried to prevent him getting to the door of the Vaad as if they were so many empty boxes. The two Jewish policemen behaved with remarkable self-control, under the most provocative conditions. The policeman who tried, not altogether with success, to prevent the crowd coming further up the steps than

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Agricultural Expert Who Was Misinformed

Nazareth Before The War
How The Arab Moneylender Suffers

Under Every Stone An Ancestor

The entire morning session was taken up with the evidence in chief of Mr. Sokim Farrah, an Agricultural Engineer living in Nazareth. As soon as the session began, Mr. Moghannem handed to the Commission lists of the lands sold by the Surssocks to the Zionists and also the prices paid for them. Referring to these lists, Mr. Farrah proceeded to give the details concerning each of the villages sold.

These lands had derived their names from the tribes that had been living there for generations. The witness then related an incident which he said was characteristic of the general sentiment of all Bedouins. As he was farming just south of Mt. Tabor he met a Bedouin of the Fubaih tribe. He told the Bedouin that he intended to farm that land with modern machinery and the Bedouin would have to get out. He had said this just to see what the Bedouin would reply. The answer was, "Can you get me out of this land? Under every stone here I have an ancestor buried."

All the villages mentioned had been registered in the names of the Surssocks. They were sold by the Surssock agents in 1921 to the Zionists. When he last visited these villages in 1925, he found that some of the houses had been left intact, some had been destroyed and some reconstructed. Altogether, there had been about 550 families in these villages and all of them had been driven from the land.

Speaking of Afuleh the witness said that the farmers in the Plain of Esdraelon said of it: "If Esdraelon is a sheep, Afuleh is the fat tail of it."

Witness Wanted To Rent Village

It is the best part of the Plain of Esdraelon. It is the railway junction connecting Haifa and Damascus, also Haifa and Nablus. In 1922, the witness had tried to rent the village from the Surssocks but did not succeed. At that time the land comprised about 3520 acres. There were 90 feddan and about 130 families had lived on the land. Afuleh had been one of the most prosperous villages in that Plain and produced excellent sesame seeds. The fellahs' homes are no longer in existence there. They have been replaced by the cottages of Zionists immigrants.

Do Not Obey The Ordinance

When questioned concerning the nature and rights of ownership in these lands, the witness said that according to the information he had, an ordinance had been issued some time about 1880 which applied to all farm lands. It required that the lands should be registered in the name of the cultivator. This frightened the fellahs because they feared having their names on Government records. Also that they would be called for military service and taxed, all of which they did not want. Some registered and some became frightened. The latter went to Nazareth to seek the advice of leading families there. The Elders of Nazareth advised them not to pay attention to the ordinance and not to register. When the land was sold by the Surssocks the people could not show title either because they had not registered or because the Turkish Government registers had been taken away by the Turks when they left.

At this point, Mr. Moghannem read from an Ordinance of 1918, which admits that the registers of land in the Occupied Enemy Territory had been removed by the Turkish authorities.

Bribing Government Officials

The fellahs having failed to register after a certain term had expired, the Turkish authorities at Damascus, who were ruling the whole of Syria (including Palestine) at the time, ordered the selling of the lands at auction for failure to register. Since the Governor of Syria, Raschid Pasha, was anxious to sell, he induced his friends, the Surssock family and they agreed to buy 18 villages for the nominal value of 18,000 gold pounds. After payment had been made, the people of Nazareth protested be-

cause the sale included part of their pasture lands. After this process the Government gave up the land in question and refunded £2,000 to the Surssocks in order to leave a certain area for pasture and fuel supply in Nazareth. When the transaction took place and title was in the name of Surssock he did not take actual possession. The fellahs were not driven from the land and it was sold to Zionists agents. The fellahs never voluntarily admitted title in Surssock. Most of the time they contested it. Surssock later sent agents to effect control over the property. At first it was only partial supervision but gradually he increased his control, using his influence with Government officials to bribe the leaders.

Referring to the Ghour lands in the Jordan Valley the witness said that when the Government ordered registration of lands, a large share of the Ghour lands were not registered. This was the time under the rule of Abdul Hamid. He had bought lands in the same way as the Surssocks. These lands had been bought by agents of Abdul Hamid as his personal property and registered in his name, as particular owner for a nominal value. However, the Arabs on the land kept working as usual. Later, a representative was appointed to arrange with the Government that these lands should be registered in the names of those actually farming them. Practically all these villages, with the exception of one, entered into an agreement with the Government and an area of 100 to 150 dunams of land was allotted to each family. A Commission was appointed by the Palestine Government in connection with these lands and after long negotiations the Government agreed to register the lands in the names of the farmers provided they paid the nominal value of £ 1 per dunam for land not irrigated and £ 1 1/2 for irrigated land. The Arabs of the Plain of Esdraelon often came to the witness with the grievance that if the Government, who were the titular owners of the Ghour land, acknowledged the right of cultivation by the peasant, why should not the same Government acknowledge their rights in villages whose titular owner was Surssock?

When questioned about the reduction in taxation from 12 1/2 to 10 per cent. the witness explained that the original title was 10 per cent. of the gross yield. In order to help the farmers the Turkish Government decided to collect an extra 2 1/2 per cent, 2 per cent to be used for an agricultural bank and 1/2 per cent. to develop village education. The 2 per cent. was collected and an agricultural bank was established. This 12 1/2 per cent. tax was continued until 1926 and then reduced to the original 10 per cent. The witness was corrected and told that only one per cent was used for the bank. The witness went on to tell how the people of the Plain of Esdraelon had been driven from their homes. The people of Nazareth lived mainly on agriculture. There were also artisans living there who manufactured the implements and tools for the peasants. The harvest was also stored, sold and disposed of in Nazareth. At present these stores are empty. The people of Nazareth are facing bankruptcy because they have lost their only source of livelihood—agriculture. The witness said that he had been asked by the people of Nazareth to tell their plight to the Commission, and to plead their case for them.

Nazareth Never Reaped Benefit from Tourist Trade

When asked how much business in Nazareth was derived from tourists, the witness said that tourists generally rushed through, only stopping for lunch at the German Hotel there, with the exception of two or three servants, all the servants employed by the Hotel are Germans. Another hotel was recently opened by a man from Lebanon whose only help is one Lebanese maid. The actual residents of Nazareth gained practically nothing from these tourists, except perhaps the sale of some bread and

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Third Day Of Macleff Case

'In The Hands Of Murderers'

Yesterday was the third day of the hearing of the case of the alleged murderers of the Motza family. The Court is composed of McDonnell, C. J. and De Freitas, J.

Counsel for the prosecution is Mr. Sherwell. Leading Counsel for the prisoners is Mr. George Saleh.

For the third day running the son of the murdered Macleff's has been giving evidence, and when the Court rose yesterday his evidence had not been concluded.

In reply to questions put by Mr. Saleh, the witness said: "The crowd rushed in and Mohammed gave me a blow with a sharp axe on my hand. You can still see the wound."

The Chief Justice stood up and looked at witness' hand.

Witness: "I had a stick in my hand, and I gave him a blow. He fell down and then he rose."

Mr. Saleh: "This blow was enough to kill him. I charge you with murder."

Mr. Sherwell: "I object."

MacDonnell, C.J.: "Let me put the question to you. Did any of the blows you struck kill Ali Mohammed? You need not answer."

Witness: "I don't wish to reply. I gave him a blow and he ran away. I thought he would follow me. I jumped on to the veranda, and jumped from there. I called to my little sister and brother to follow me."

Mr. Saleh: "Was it safe for your young brother and sister to jump from that height? — It was better for them to do so than to leave them in the hands of murderers."

Witness (in reply to further questions): "When Mohammed Mater pointed his revolver at me, there was only a distance of 20 metres between us. My mother was lying in the garden, near my father and brother. I could not see them from the kitchen, but I saw them when I peeped through the tins in which the plants were. I cannot tell you whether my mother, father and brother were actually dead."

"He Stabbed My Mother."

"Somarine ran to my mother and stabbed her when she was sitting near the wall."

Mr. Saleh: "It is a bit strange that seeing a strong, young man like you about, he should go and stab her? — At that time I was crouching; they could not see me. Two or three shots were fired in the room where my sister, Mina, was."

Mr. Saleh: "Did the people in the Steinberg's house try to defend themselves? — I took no interest in what was going on. I had enough to do inside. When the Red Cross ambulance came, accompanied by an armoured car, shots came from the village, fired at the armoured car. The shots were replied to by those in the car."

Mr. Saleh: "If a policeman comes and swears that shots came from the house of Steinberg, what would you say? — I know nothing about that matter."

Counsel: "I put it to you that you were not in the house at the time of the attack, and you arrived after the seven persons had been killed. You killed Ali Mahmoud when you saw him."

Witness: "That is what you think!"

The witness was then re-examined by Mr. Sherwell.

"What did you mean when you said that you were frightened by what you saw on Friday? — On Friday morning the cars that had passed between Jerusalem and Jaffa were attacked by stones."

In reply to further questions, the witness said that Rabbi Schach who was killed was 84 years of age, and that Rabbi Daniel Gulzan was 60 years. The Rabbi was a judge in Tel-Aviv. Both of them were killed.

Mr. Sherwell: "Were there any young men who belong to a Jewish Association, or Brith Trumpeldor?"

MacDonnell, C.J.: "This is not the Inquiry Commission!"

Mr. Sherwell: "I want to know whether there were members of any organisation who could defend themselves."

Witness: "During the attack I was doing everything possible to save my life."

The Court then adjourned until next Tuesday.

Message Of Peace And Truth

PUBLIC DECLARATION FROM CHIEF RABBI J. CH. SONNENFELD

It is now close on sixty years since the Almighty privileged me to come to the Holy Land "to take pleasure in its stones and to favour the dust thereof." Providence privileged me to be an eye witness to the reconstruction of the ruins of Jerusalem, to the extension of its settlement without the walled city. Houses were built, colonies were founded, Torah, religious and charitable institutions were established, as well as houses for old people. People living on the labour of their hands or on business came to the Holy Land.

During my stay in the Holy Land, especially inspired people were awakened to perform the precepts of Yishuv Eretz-Israel (Revival of Palestine) by agricultural work, also "to eat of its fruit and enjoy its produce," thus creating the opportunity to exercise those precepts connected with the earth. Thus, with the help of the Almighty, colonies were established in Judea and Galilee, wherein I afterwards had the pleasure to walk and give praises and thanks to Him Who set up the "border of the widow."

The Wailing Wall, the place whence the Divine Presence has never moved even in its ruined state, has been a place of refuge for prayer for all the inhabitants of the Holy Land.

Whenever the Jewish soul craved to be near the Divine Presence, whenever a Jewish heart felt a need for prayer or supplication, it was in this holy place that it found relief and from here the prayer ascended to heaven.

This holy place serves also as a beacon-light for the whole world. The scattered of Israel at the farthest ends of the world direct their hearts, whilst at prayer, towards this divine place; and when they are in trouble they apply to their brethren in Jerusalem to offer up a prayer for them at this wall.

There has been no fixed time for such prayer. Whether by day or by night, this holy corner has not been deserted by the Jewish people. I, as one of the frequenters of this place, have never known any fixed hour for it, and many times I found myself at this holy place at a late hour of night alone, quite alone with Him Who "caused His name to rest in this House." During all these tens of years also after the country had come under the mandate of His Britannic Majesty's government, peace and tranquillity prevailed in the land. Its non-Jewish inhabitants looked with favour upon the flourishing of the settlement. Religious hatred, prevailing in some places abroad, had no footing in this holiest of countries. "He Who establishes peace in His Heights" spread His tabernacle of peace over His chosen land and city, and quietness and tranquillity reigned in our streets. Our conscientious neighbours endeared the Jews and the Jews felt sympathy and esteem for the rest of the inhabitants. On no few occasions they were mutually helped by one another as becomes quiet and peaceful neighbours, mutually wishing the progress of their homeland. Also the Arabs themselves knew and know that the Jews mean well towards them and bring blessing to the country at large. All together they hoped for the Great Almighty's Day when "He would bring again His divine presence unto Zion," and the Holy Land would be given back its holiness and glory which it had in the days of old, to be again a light unto nations and kingdoms.

Behold now, woe unto us that such things have come to pass in our days! A spirit of confusion has caused a storm to hover over the Jewish people in the Holy Land. Hatred is destroying order, and false allegations are taking root and cause the shedding of innocent blood and the ruining of holy settlements. The soil of the Holy Land is saturated with blood of pure and innocent souls, and the voice of brothers' blood is crying to us out of the earth.

To our great sorrow there are being circulated false rumours and allegations, invented by lovers of strife, attributing bad meanings to the Jewish inhabitants in order to awaken anger, take revenge and turn our tranquil holy land into a field of murder and a place of punishment. The bitter results of these quarrels cause great injury to the whole population, and should the situation last still longer it is likely to spell havoc and ruin to the whole country and its myriads of inhabitants.

I have now attained the age of eighty and am privileged by the Almighty to witness at my old age the shaking of the foundations of what has taken scores of years to build by the hard toil and sweat of the brow of people who sacrificed their lives, with holy love and strong will, on the altar of establishing a sound and healthy settlement in the Holy Land.

I here appeal to all classes of the population in our holy land, particularly to our non-Jewish neighbours; and out of the depth of my broken and aching heart I beg them to have pity on the Holy Land and stay the evil and destroying hand. Remove hatred from your heart and do not allow yourselves to be misled by people who, whether intentionally or unintentionally, by mistaken apprehensions, endeavour to sow seeds of separation among the various classes of the inhabitants.

Lend no ear to reports and libels which have no foundation.

Jews Mean No Harm

The Jewish inhabitants of the Holy Land mean no harm to any of the rest of the population. They, like all the inhabitants of the country, strive for the progress of the land to the benefit of all its inhabitants. There is in the Holy Land sufficient room for all to live therein peacefully without one interfering with what belongs to the other.

The Jewish People do not, under any consideration, desire to lay hands on that which is not theirs and much less to touch any of the rights of the rest of the inhabitants to the places they have been holding and toward which they have been cherishing respect and holiness. There is, particularly, no foundation whatsoever to the rumour that the Jews wish to acquire the "Har Habaith" (Mosque of Omar site). On the contrary, since, by reason of our sins, we were exiled from our land, our Temple was destroyed and we are without the means of purification set out by our Torah, it is forbidden to any Jewish person to put his foot on the site of the Har Habaith (Mosque of Omar site), until the arrival of the righteous Messiah, who, by the spirit of the Lord, will righteously reign for the welfare of entire humanity and who will give us back the means of purification prescribed for in our Torah.

We only plead that we should be allowed the holiest place left to us the place of the Wailing Wall, so that we may still be able to pour forth our hearts before our Father in Heaven, in time of trouble and at any time when the Jewish soul craves for this holy place, without hindrance and with tranquil mind, as heretofore.

I publish my words for all to hear and I hope that all just people of the nation will recognise the justice of what I say and will use every possible effort to re-establish peace in the Holy Land, removing suspicion and jealousy from the hearts of all the inhabitants. Then the Almighty will favour our work and direct our activities, so that we may be privileged to see the upbuilding and flourishing of the Holy Land for the happiness of the whole world, and will cause the Divine Presence to rest among us, as in years of old.

Hoping for speedy salvation,

J. Ch. Sonnenfeld.

From Here And There

HINDU'S TALK OF HOLY WAR

BOMBAY. — "War is inevitable in the near future if the right of Untouchables (Hindu outcasts) to worship in the temples is not acknowledged," declares Dr. Ambedkar, leader of the outcasts in Bombay.

He is confident that 100,000 people will respond to the calls for a "satyagraha" (passive resistance) campaign that will shortly be made in certain areas. The plans include hunger-strike demonstrations on temple steps.

BLACK SEA BED SINKING

A Moscow scientific expedition, sent to explore the subsidence of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov, reports (says a Reuter message) that the fact is confirmed that the bottom of the Black Sea is gradually sinking. Those engaged on the Expedition conclude that this process began centuries ago.

DISCOVERIES IN NAPLES

An ancient tomb containing a skeleton, seven exquisite terra cotta vases, and other articles probably of the pre-Christian era, has been found during farm work near Caserta, about 20 miles from Naples.

POPE DISCUSSES MOUNTAINEERING

The Pope received in audience 300 Alpine guides with whom he conversed about his mountaineering experiences.

TELEVISION AT HOME

WASHINGTON, Television in the home and the theatre is promised soon by Dr. Vladimir Zworykin, Research Engineer for the Westinghouse Electric Company, who has invented a "crystal globe" which receives moving pictures transmitted by wireless and flashes them upon a screen. The Zworykin Cathode-Ray tube takes the place of the existing glow valve, scanning disk, and motor, and may be easily attached to any receiving set.

It is a huge, cone-shaped tube, with a flat end, upon which the transmitted moving picture appears. Dr. Zworykin admitted that the invention lacks perfection, but he declared that it would be only a few months before it would be put into practical use, and that visual broadcast synchronised with sound would become commonplace.

MORE DEPARTURES FROM MALTA

By the departure of the battle-ships *Batham* and *Queen Elizabeth* from Malta for England, the Mediterranean Battle Fleet is reduced to six vessels of their type.

BRITAIN'S TOURISTS

Foreign visitors on holiday in Great Britain in the first nine months of the year totalled 209,909, an increase of 12,322 compared with last year.

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Notice

IN RE THE HABIB BARAKAT BANKRUPTCY

Whereas it has been decided to sell all the goods belonging to the said Habib Barakat Bankruptcy consisting of different dry goods like silk, wool, and stuff, now to be found in the shop of M. Habib Barakat in the Christian Quarter, by wholesale.

Therefore, notice is hereby given to all who wish to buy the said goods, to apply to the undersigned in his Office, opposite the Municipality, not later than Thursday 5. 12. 1929, at 6 p. m. and make his bid in writing.

Sgd.: TEWFIC ADES, Advocate.
Syndic of the Habib Barakat Bankruptcy.

Jerusalem, 27. 11. 29.

VISITORS TO PALESTINE

are cordially invited to call for information regarding the Zionist Movement at the

Zionist Information Bureau

The services of the Bureau are free. Maps and booklets descriptive of the Zionist Movement, free of charge.

The office is situated in the CLOCK TOWER Building, Opposite the Post Office, Jerusalem.
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