

דעת לכתוב דעות ודעות אחר  
 נחלקל ביום 1000  
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PALESTINE POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS. 138

P.T. 6/A.

ادارة البريد والتلغراف فلسطين  
 משרד הדואר והתלגראף פלשתי

Office Dated Stamp  
 חותם המשרד

TELEGRAM  
 התלגראף מכרז

This Form must accompany any enquiry respecting this Telegram

בזמ אرسال هذه الصفحة مع كل طلب بخصوص هذا التلغراف  
 דוגמה זו צריכה לשמש לאיקה דרישה ומנועת למכרז עצמו

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Received at Gravenhage Date 11 Received at 7 20/2  
 נתקבל ב 9 הזמן 40 התאריך

To Zionicon for Sokolow Jerusalem

Board nationalfund just resolved  
 to sanction ~~the~~ purchase land  
 emek jesreel four in favour  
 delieme against stop delieme

To ~~Against stop delieme~~ declines execution  
 Resolution on account of instruction  
 received by executive to exercise veto  
 stop delieme requires to know whether  
 instructions received by executive

To are cancelled by weizmann  
Sokolow ussischkin

Board Keren

# 21

## ACQUISITION OF LAND IN THE JEZREEL VALLEY, 1920-1921

Telegram from Nehemia de Lieme, head of the Keren Kayemet Leisrael (The Hague) to Nahum Sokolow (Jerusalem), 12 April 1921.

After the San Remo Conference (April 1920), which placed Eretz-Israel under a British Mandate, and with the introduction of civilian government in the country (July 1920), land purchases — which had been suspended under military rule — were once again possible. Large tracts in the Jezreel Valley, which, had the war not broken out, would have been purchased in 1914, were again offered for sale to Yehoshua Chankin in the spring of 1920. After J.C.A. (Jewish Colonization Association) turned down the offer, the matter was referred to the representatives of the Keren Kayemet in Eretz-Israel. The latter (Ettinger, Ruppin and Ussischkin) without prior sanction from the Board of Directors authorized Chankin to purchase the lands (the Mahlul-Nahalal and Nuris-'En Harod tracts). Nehemia de Lieme opposed the purchase on formal and financial grounds and as a matter of principle. He preferred the acquisition of urban land, especially in Jerusalem, as well as of tracts in the northern Negev.

The Board of Directors of the Keren Kayemet, meeting in The Hague on 10—12 April 1921, decided to approve the purchase — though it reprimanded its representatives in Eretz-Israel for exceeding their authority. Only De Lieme persisted in his opposition, basing himself on instructions received (according to him) from the Zionist Executive. He resigned when Weizmann and Sokolow declined to support him. The first purchase of relatively large and continuous tracts of land was thus effected, facilitating the settlement of the veterans of the Second Aliya and the firstcomers of the Third Aliya.

(From the files of the Keren Kayemet Office in Eretz-Israel)