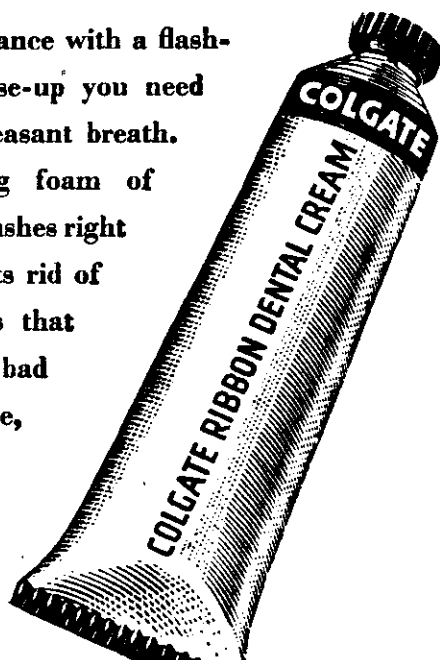


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dark
and
handsome*



but a washout as a beau

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"THEY'VE planned and they've achieved more than any other colonists in the history of the world." The new Jewish garden town, Beth Hakerim

PALESTINE REPORT

(continued from previous page)

"Do you feel that it's either justifiable or practical then to make the granting of the 100,000 certificates conditional on the disarmament of the Jews and Arabs in Palestine?"

"Well, it's certainly not in accordance with the unanimous findings of our Committee. Since two American members of the Committee have made a public statement about this it's now no secret, and the proposal to make disarmament a free condition of the 100,000 was in fact discussed by us at length and it was rejected, firstly because you can't do it; and second, and much more important, because the attempt to impose this condition would, in our view, almost certainly lead to a war between the British Army and the Jew. By the way, don't misunderstand me about one thing. Every decent Jew I met in Palestine regrets the Hagannah, the atmosphere of conspiracy, the wild propaganda in the schools, the growing intolerance of the youth. Democracy in Palestine used to be one of the finest and the freest in the world. To-day it has all the tension of a resistance movement fighting for its life, and it's lost most of its freedom in the process."

Concession to Arabs

"What about the Arabs? Have they an illegal army?"

"No. After three years, and by employing some four and a-half divisions, we liquidated the Arab illegal army in 1939, and we then proceeded to concede to the Arabs more than their wildest dreams, which the Jews interpret as a lesson that violence pays in Palestine. So the Arabs have no need of an illegal army or of violence at the moment, because they have got what they want."

"That hardly coincides with their statements about the Palestine Report."

"Well, the report hasn't been adopted by the Government yet. If it is, the Palestine Arab leaders will try to organ-

ise guerrilla warfare, and they'll hope for assistance from the other Arab states. No military expert on the spot with whom I talked thought that large-scale Arab resistance was an immediate possibility. Indeed just to show you the difference between opinion in London and that on the spot some people out there who really ought to know hold the view that if the British withdrew the Jews would occupy the whole of Palestine in a few weeks, would easily defeat the Arabs, and it would take many years for the Arabs to organise an army which could defeat the Jews. So I don't think immediate Arab armed resistance to this report as against isolated acts of violence is very likely."

"How greatly in your opinion does the international aspect of this, as it affects the Big Three level operate? Is the fear of Russia an important factor in our policy in Palestine?"

"I don't know about the Big Three level. But I do know something about how the British residents feel in the Middle East on this subject of Russia. I hate to say so, but some people out there seem to be mesmerized by Russia now just as they were mesmerized by Hitler 10 years ago. They spend their time asking, 'What will Russia do?' and doing nothing themselves. Actually of course there's no evidence whatsoever that Russia would interfere in any way in Palestine affairs. But the facts have got to be faced. The Arab states have the choice between an Eastern and a Western alliance, and they will choose the alliance which brings them the biggest concrete benefit. If we can make it worth their while to be friends with us, they'll be friends, whatever we do in Palestine. By worth their while I mean by lending them money, by helping them develop their country, by co-operation in cultural and education matters, and, above all, by irrigation schemes. If we can propose nothing of that sort to the Arab states, and if we simply treat them as strategic puppets, they will regard us as a selfish great power and they'll treat us accordingly."