

DREYFUS CASE IN LONDON

Jews Celebrate Atonement Day by Holding Demonstrations.

CHIEF RABBI ADLER SPEAKS

Says Last Saturday's Verdict Was a Disaster to France—The Paris Exposition Not Boycotted.

Special to The New York Times.

LONDON, Sept. 14.—English indignation against France was strengthened to-day on account of the observance by all Jews of the Day of Atonement.

The day was celebrated here, especially in the East End, with Dreyfus demonstrations. A procession with a banner inscribed "Dreyfus, the Martyr. All the Civilized World Demands His Instant Release," marched through Spitalfields.

The Great Synagogue in London presented a striking spectacle. It was crowded from 6 o'clock in the morning until 6 at night, and thousands were unable to enter.

Dr. Adler, the chief rabbi, delivered a sermon referring to the Dreyfus case. He said what was morally wrong could not be politically right. Right, justice, honor, and mercy belonged to the immutable law. Falsehood and injustice might prosper for a time, but certain retribution would follow those who forsook the path of right and justice. It had been so with the colossal empires of antiquity, and with Spain in our day.

Dr. Adler declared that Saturday was not, as had been said, the bitterest day in the history of modern Judaism on account of the Dreyfus verdict. It was a memorable penitential Sabbath, ever to be remembered with the keenest disappointment, in which all felt the deepest pity for the prolonged agony of Dreyfus and his wife, but it was not a day of unalloyed bitterness for Jews. To France it was a day more disastrous than Waterloo, more humiliating than Sedan. France, which first allowed to the Jews the rights of citizenship, had defiled the golden vessels of God's temple, and branded an innocent man as an odious traitor to the country he loved so well. Even in France every one had not been hypnotized by the unholy blend of clericalism and militarism.

"Let the majesty of the law be vindicated," he concluded, "and let them not seek a pardon, which should be rejected with scorn, for where no crime was committed, how can a pardon be granted?"

Yet this is the very course taken by the law in England, though this point was overlooked by Dr. Adler. The Dreyfus case still remains in the forefront of discussion. The opinion preponderates that the prisoner will be pardoned. On all sides one hears the question: How is it possible to pardon an innocent man? One answer to this is that he has been convicted. Another is that the custom is not confined to France. Many persons have been convicted and sentenced to penal servitude for life in England, and when one of them is discovered to be innocent the conviction is not annulled, the only reparation made to the convict being a free pardon. If such can be the case in free England, many persons say, why not in France?

Col. Jekyll, Secretary of the Royal Commission for the Paris Exposition, says that not more than a dozen firms have withdrawn their applications for space. Large numbers have been unable to obtain space, and the pending applications are far more numerous than the withdrawals. Over 2,000 exhibitors will be represented. Col. Jekyll says only an extraordinary development of the boycott would justify a special meeting of the commission. This has not occurred.

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