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SIR E. BENNET'S LETTER

Sir Ernest Bennett wrote to "The Times" last Friday to state, in refutation of resentment by "Zionist sympathisers" during the Palestine debate to Mr. MacDonald's remark that the Jewish Agency had "conducted and encouraged" illicit immigration, there was ample support for the Secretary of State's remark in the severe rebukes administered by Lord Peel and other members of the Royal Commission to Mr. Shertok (Head of Political Department, Jewish Agency) and Dr. Senator (Head of Immigration Department).

Here is one extract (wrote Sir Ernest) from the Proceedings (November 30, 1936):— 2 AUG 1939
Lord Peel —

You, as a very important official of the Jewish Agency, are justifying to us, the Royal Commission, that the Jews in Palestine are prepared not to assist the police in carrying out the law?

If it were any ordinary agency I should not say anything about it, but the Jewish Agency has been placed under the Mandate in a specially responsible position with many great duties— with certain privileges, carrying with them great duties. Now was the Jewish Agency, for instance, in a position to know the people who came in illegally? Did it find out? Did it take any steps to find out?

Mr. Shertok —

It took no steps to find out.