

VOTING FOR RABBI SNARLED IN ISRAEL

Chief Cleric and Religious
Minister Are Deadlocked
Over Rules for Election

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TEL AVIV, Israel, Jan. 15—Politics have stymied the election of a new Israeli Chief Rabbinate.

The tenure of Chief Rabbi Itzhak Nissim and members of the Supreme Rabbinical Council expires Feb. 27 and there is no longer any chance of holding new elections before that date.

Legal authorities are studying whether this must mean the paralysis of the rabbinate, which is the exclusive juridical authority in cases of marriage and divorce.

Toledano Is Retained

The deadlock is over election rules. The opponents are Rabbi Nissim and Rabbi Yaakov Toledano, Minister for Religious Affairs. Behind them, however, are the National Religious party, which has been closely identified with the rabbinate, and Premier David Ben-Gurion, who has been fighting to break the influence of the religious parties and to separate religion from politics.

Rabbi Toledano is an instrument of the Premier. He is not attached to any party and was taken into the Government by Mr. Ben-Gurion after the Religious party defected last year. The National Religious party, as since returned to the coalition, but the Premier has insisted on retaining Rabbi Toledano Minister for Religious Af-

Rabbi Toledano is one of the two chief rabbis of Tel Aviv. He was an unsuccessful candidate for Chief Rabbi of Israel in 1955. He blamed the National Religious party for his defeat by Rabbi Nissim.

Both are rabbis of the Sephardic (Oriental) community. Rabbi Isaac H. Herzog had been elected Ashkenazi (Occidental) Chief Rabbi in 1955. He died July 25, 1959.

The most widely discussed candidates to succeed Rabbi Herzog are Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik of Brookline, Mass., and Rabbi Iser J. Unterman of Tel Aviv, both of whom are associated with the National Religious party, and Rabbi Shlomo Goren, chief chaplain of the Israeli defense forces.

New regulations drafted by the Ministry for Religious Affairs provided that candidates must be Israeli citizens. This would exclude Rabbi Soloveit-

an attempt to rig the election in favor of Rabbi Goren, who is said to have the support of the Premier.

In the face of heavy pressure, Rabbi Toledano withdrew the objection to non-Israelis, but he stands firm on the age requirement. He argued that inasmuch as the Chief Rabbi must also serve as head of the religious courts and that the law requires judges to retire at 75, a man in his seventies could not complete the five-year tenure.

The Rabbinical Council rejected the clause and is not cooperating in the arrangements for the election.

Under the election rules, the Rabbinate and the ministry each appoint four members to a committee that selects forty-two rabbis for an electoral college. The college also includes twenty-eight laymen chosen by local religious councils to represent synagogues.

Because of its opposition to the proposed nomination rules, the Supreme Rabbinical Council has declined to appoint anyone to the election committee. Rabbi Toledano asserts that he has authority to go it alone in that case. However, a Chief Rabbinate that is in effect chosen by the Government would not have much standing in Orthodox circles.

Uganda Riot Toll Reaches 10

KAMPALA, Uganda, Jan. 23 (Reuters)—Soldiers and policemen patrolled eastern Uganda today in the wake of week-long rioting, which resulted in at least ten deaths and a total of 677 arrests. The rioting was in