

Notes on persons, associations and enterprises

Abaza, Muhammad Fikri: (1897–1979) Egyptian writer, lawyer, politician and editor of the weekly magazine *al-Musawwar* between 1926 and 1961. During the 1919 Revolution, he published articles in *al-Ahram* against the British protectorate. He joined the National Party and was elected to the Chamber of Deputies in 1926. He refused to adopt a position as minister on several occasions, as long as British troops occupied Egypt.

ʿ**Abd al-Nur, Amin:** Notable from Beirut, who was granted the Ottoman concession for the exploitation of the Tiberias Baths in 1912.

Abu Shahla, Habib: (1902–1957) The first Minister of Tourism and *villégiature* in Lebanon, 1937–38.

Achouʿ, Emile: Lebanese banker from Beirut, who supported a Lebanese state independent from Syria. Achouʿ was a member of the *Commission du tourisme et de la villégiature* (1929) and member of the *Comité d’Etudes économiques* in 1930.

Agronsky, Gershon: (1893–1959) Journalist and editor of the *Palestine Post*, born in Ukraine and resident of the US from 1906 onwards. Agronsky enlisted in the Jewish Legion in 1918 and remained in Palestine after the demobilisation.

From 1921–1924 he worked in New York as editor of the *Jewish Telegraphic Agency*. Agronsky served as head of the Press Bureau of Zionist Organization from 1920–1921 and 1924–1947. In 1932 he founded the *Palestine Post*.

As director of information of the Zionist Executive in Jerusalem in an honorary capacity, he met local and foreign press representatives and distinguished visitors. He represented the Zionist Executive on the committee in charge of the *Zionist Information Bureau* and on the Joint Press Committee.

Al-Ahdab, Khayr al-Din: (1894–1941) Lebanese journalist and politician from Tripoli, editor of the Arab nationalist newspaper *al-Ahl al-Jadid*. Initially he adopted pan-Arabist positions, but shifted to more moderate positions in the 1930s. From 1934 he was a deputy in the Chamber; in 1937 he was appointed prime minister and established the first Ministry of Tourism in Lebanon. Al-Ahdab was member of the *Commission du tourisme et de la villégiature* (1929).

al-Atasi, Hashim: (1875–1960) Syrian nationalist leader from a landowning family in Homs. He had served in the Ottoman bureaucracy and rejected the French Mandate. In 1936 he negotiated the Franco-Syrian Treaty and was elected President of the Republic at the end of the year.

Alouf, Michel: Conservator of the ruins of Baalbek from January 1931 onwards, member of the *Service des Antiquités* and of the *Institut Français d'Archéologie*. Author the guidebook *Histoire de Baalbek par un de ses habitants*.

Agent of the *Société de Villégiature au Mont Liban* (VML) for Damascus in 1925 and agent of the SET in Baalbek. His sons owned the Hotel Palmyra in Baalbek.

Antonius, George: (1892–1942) Author and intellectual, born in Alexandria to a family of Lebanese origin, died in Jerusalem. Antonius served in several British administrations in Egypt and Palestine. He became famous for his work *The Arab Awakening: A History of the Arab National Movement*. Beirut: Khayats, 1938.

Having earned a degree in engineering from King's College, London, in 1913, Antonius was an official in the Public Works Department in Alexandria until the outbreak of World War I. After the end of the war, he worked for the British administration in Palestine in several departments until 1930, when Antonius resigned from the mandate government. In New York, he served as a member of the Institute of Current World Affairs, inspired and funded by Charles Crane. In 1931 he became unofficial adviser for local affairs to the British High Commissioner in Palestine.

Around the same time, he started to work on *The Arab Awakening*, completed in 1938. In 1939, Antonius was appointed secretary of the Palestinian delegation to the London Round Table conference.

Arab National Office for Public Enlightenment: Founded in September 1934 in Damascus. A major driving force behind the office was the Syrian nationalist deputy Fakhri al-Barudi. Among other tasks, it aimed at disseminating information and publications for tourists, addressing mainly visitors from France or England.

Arslan, Fu'ad: Druze emir from Choueifat, a member of the committee preparing the Lebanese constitution.

He strongly supported investments in the tourism business, e.g. subsidies for transport companies in November 1922 and support for the tourism industry in December 1924. He suggested promoting winter tourism and advocated a coherent policy of exhibiting antiquities in the early 1920s.

Ayyub, Alphonse: Director of the Lebanese *Services économiques* from February 1922 onwards.

ʿAzzam, ʿAbd al-Rahman: (1893–1976) Egyptian politician, born in the province of Giza. He studied medicine in London, but left London to serve in the Ottoman army during the Balkan war as well as in Libya against the Italian invasion.

Member of Parliament for the Wafd Party until 1932; from the mid-1930s he broke with the Wafd Party and supported King Faruq. He lobbied for pan-Arab cooperation.

In May 1945, ʿAzzam became the first Secretary General of the Arab League. After Nasser took power, ʿAzzam left Egypt and did not return until 1972.

Baehler, Charles: (1868–1937/9) A Swiss-born trained accountant, who arrived in Cairo in 1889. He started to work for the *Shepherd's Hotel* and soon became its manager. As chairman of the *Egyptian Hotels Co. Ltd.* and co-founder of the *Upper Egyptian Hotels Co.*, he became one of the most powerful hotel owners in Egypt.

Barsky, George: Jewish hotelier and millionaire.

He leased the *Allenby Hotel* (later *Fast Hotel*) in the early 1920s and the *Palace Hotel* in early 1930.

Al-Barudi, Fakhri: (1889–1966) Syrian politician born in Damascus, Ottoman military education. After the war a close ally of King Faysal, he became one of the most prominent members of the Syrian National Bloc.

Member of Parliament in 1928, 1932, 1936 and 1943. In 1929, he sponsored the ‘Umayyad scouts’. He co-founded the *Arab National Office for Public Enlightenment/Bureau national arabe de recherches et d’informations* in 1934, which lobbied for the development of tourism to Syria.

Bériel, Philippe: French colonial officer from Lyon. He worked for the *Services Economiques* of the colonial administration in Tunisia, before being sent to Beirut where he served as advisor on economic affairs to the High Commissioner.

As president of the *Club Alpin Français, Section du Levant*, Bériel promoted the establishment of skiing tourism in Lebanon.

Berthelot, Philippe: (1866–1934) General Secretary at the Foreign Office in Paris since 1920; retired in 1933. He contributed significantly to the *politique de la coopération* the French administration adopted in the late 1920s.

Bishara, Tawfiq Andraous: Deputy in the Egyptian Chamber, from the constituency of Luxor.

Bowman, Humphrey: (1879–1965) British colonial administrator.

Educated at Eton and Oxford, he served as advisor to the Egyptian Ministry of Education between 1903 and 1925, and inspector for the Sudanese Education Department before WW I. After the war, he was temporary director of education in Iraq 1918–20 and director of education in Palestine 1920–1936.

Bloch, Werner: Head of the *Zionist Information Bureau for Tourists* in the late 1930s.

Brodetsky, Selig: (1888–1954) Mathematician and Zionist leader. Born in Olwiopol (Russia) and professor of Applied Mathematics at the University of Leeds 1924–1948. Member of the executive of the *Zionist Organization* and of the Jewish Agency for Palestine from 1928.

Bureau syrien et libanais d’information et de tourisme: The office, based in Paris and directed by Dr Georges Samné, had been founded jointly by the High Commission in Beirut, the *Société des Grands Hôtels du Levant*, the *Messageries Maritimes*, several banks, transport companies and other industrial companies, as well as individuals. It was associated with the *Office des Etats du Levant* in Paris.

Canaan, Tawfiq: (1882–1964) Palestinian physician and ethnographer of rural Palestine.

He claimed historical continuities between pre-Islamic society in Palestine and the contemporary Arab life in the countryside. In the guidebook of the *Tourist Development Association of Palestine*, he published an article on ‘Mohammedan Saints and Sanctuaries in Palestine’.

Chaikin, Benjamin: (1885–1945) Architect born in London, resident in Palestine since 1920. Among other buildings he designed the *Nathan Strauss Health Centres* in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv as well as the Municipal Building in Haifa. Together with Emil Vogt, he planned the *King David Hotel* in Jerusalem.

Chiha, Michel: (1891–1954) A successful banker from a merchant family in Beirut. Appointed deputy in 1925, he is considered a major contributor to the Lebanese Constitution. In 1934, he founded the Newspaper *Le Jour*.

Chiha had good relations with Muslims and Christians in Beirut and across Lebanon, but also with the French authorities. Early on, he ideated Lebanon as a territorial state. An economic liberalist, Chiha aimed at establishing Lebanon as a centre for trade and commerce and advocated a Mediterranean orientation for the country. He supported the development of tourism.

Chimy, Muhammad Beghat: Representative of the Egyptian State Railways. Member of the administrative committee of the *Tourist Development Association of Egypt*.

Chouha Frères: Postcard editors from Aleppo.

Comité du tourisme: Established in 1923, the *Comité du tourisme* aimed to improve the conditions for tourists in Syria and Lebanon. Funded by both mandate states, it created incentives for the construction of a modern grand hotel in Beirut as well as several summer villas in the mountains.

It was under patronage of the High Commission in Beirut and consisted of “high-ranking personalities from the Syrian political and economic spheres”, according to the French officials. The *Comité du tourisme* covered the entire area of the French Mandate and seems to have been the predecessor of the *Commission du tourisme des Etats sous Mandat* (or it had been renamed). It published in particular the brochure *Syria and Lebanon: Holidays off the beaten track*. It was not related to the *Commission du tourisme et de la villégiature* established by the Lebanese Government in 1929.

Commission (consultative) du tourisme et de la villégiature: The *Commission du tourisme*, established on 24 December 1929, was institutionally linked to the Under-Secretary of State of Economic Affairs and presided over by Under-Secretary of State Gabriel Menassa. From April 1930 onwards, its president was the Minister of Finances.

Among its members were: Emile Achou⁵, Khayr al-Din al-Ahdab, Amin Gemayel, Constantin Joannidès, Antoine Kettaneh, Norman Nairn, Jacques Tabet, Gebran Tuéni, Georges Vayssié, ⁵Abdallah Zehil, and others.

The *Commission du tourisme* aimed to support the hotel industry, encourage the development of policies favourable to tourism development as well as the publication of visual material and brochures to attract tourists.

It was probably the predecessor of the *Société d'encouragement au tourisme* founded in 1935.

Corm, Charles: (1894–1963) Francophone writer and intellectual, born in Beirut. His most famous work *La montagne inspirée* (*The Sacred Mountain*) is considered a major artistic contribution to Lebanese nation-building.

Corm founded and directed the *Revue Phénicienne*, he idealised the alleged Phoenician roots of Lebanon and idealised Mount Lebanon as a core region of Greater Lebanon. This idea did not necessarily exclude Syria from the outset: he ran the pro-French organisation *Association Nationale de la Jeunesse Syrienne* (ANJS), proclaiming a federal Greater Syria under French guidance.

As a businessman, he made a fortune as the sole agent for *Ford* motorcars in the French Mandate in the 1920s.

D'Andurain, Pierre: French owner of the *Hotel Zenobia* in Palmyra.

Debbas, Charles: (1885–1935) Lebanese president from September 1926 until January 1934. Formerly member of the Arab Syrian Congress (convened in Paris in June 1913, advocating a decentralisation of the Ottoman Empire).

Doss, Tawfiq: Egyptian politician, member of the Liberal Constitutionalist Party. Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Communications and president of the committee to prepare the International Congress of Tourism in Cairo 1933.

Eddé, Emile: (1886–1949) Lebanese politician and French-educated lawyer, born in Beirut. Eddé was an ardent Lebanese nationalist and a supporter of the French mandate in Lebanon. He advocated the idea of Lebanon as a Mediterranean country. His anti-Arab policies rendered him extremely unpopular among Lebanese Muslims and Greek Orthodox. In 1936 he became Lebanese president, despite a weak majority in parliament. French support stabilised his presidency.

Eliachar, Eliahu: (1899–1981) Born in Jerusalem, he received his education at the *Université Saint-Joseph* in Beirut. Between 1922 and 1934 he was in government service for the British mandate as an officer in charge of the Trade Section of the Dept. of Customs, Excise and Trade. He was editor of the *Commercial Bulletin* of the Government and initiated the first census of industries in Palestine in 1928.

Egyptian Hotels Ltd.: A large hotel corporation, its chief shareholder was Charles Baehler. In 1925, the company took over the properties of the *Grand Hotels D'Egypte* and dominated the Egyptian sector of grand hotels.

Elizabetha Haven of Rest: Sanatorium in Tiberias, founded by Salomon Feingold and Miss Margaret Palmer, inaugurated in January 1929.

Fakhuri, Samuel: Notable from Beirut. He was granted a concession to exploit the Tiberias baths in 1912.

Feingold, Solomon: Owner of the *Elizabetha Haven of Rest* in Tiberias.

Gebeili, Nicolas and Elie: Owners of the *Grand Hôtel D'Aley* in Lebanon.

Gesundheit, Jacob: Director of the *Hamei Tiberia Company*.

Ghanem, Shukri: (1869–1921) Francophone Lebanese poet living in Paris, editor of the Paris-based paper *Correspondance d'Orient*. Ghanem had been a member of the Arab Syrian Congress (which convened in Paris in June 1913, demanding a decentralisation of the Ottoman Empire). He headed the *Comité Central Syrien*, supported and financed by France, which lobbied for a Greater Syria under French guidance. Like other Phoenicianists, he initially supported a non-Arab Greater Syria, later shifting towards a Lebanese nationalist position.

Ghattasse, Chéhadé: Syrian entrepreneur

Al-Ghazzi, Kamil: (1853–1933) Historian and chronicler from Aleppo. He was a founding member of the *Société Archéologique d'Alep* and editor of its bilingual review.

Gibran, Gibran Khalil: (1882–1931) Lebanese poet, who emigrated with his family to the US in 1895. Gibran was considered a preeminent representative of Lebanese poetry, mountain romanticism, and Phoenicianist nationalism.

Gobril, Rizkallah: Lebanese entrepreneur and owner of a travel agency in Beirut: *Messageries automobiles – Itinéraires Rizkallah*. He advocated Lebanese separatism. In 1928/29 he published a guide on Syria and Lebanon: *Visitez le Levant*.

Grandguillot, G.: French Commercial attaché for the Near East and director of the tourist office of France in Egypt.

Grossmann, Richard: (1873–1916) Swiss-German member of the Protestant Templar Colony in Haifa. In 1896, he founded the *Hotel Tiberias*.

Grossmann, Fritz: (1908–1938) Son of Richard Grossmann, born in November 1908 in Tiberias. He became owner and manager of the *Hotel Tiberias* after the death of his father.

Haardt, Georges-Marie: (1884–1932) A Belgian-French businessman and director of the *Citroën* company. Haardt organised the so-called “*Croisière noire*” as well as the “*Croisière jaune*”, expeditions by car across Africa and Asia.

Harb, Tal'at: (1867–1941) Egyptian businessman and economist. He founded *Banque Misr* in April 1920 as a purely Egyptian bank as well as numerous affiliated companies, among them *Misr Air* and *Misr Studios*, Egypt's first large cinema company, inaugurated in 1934.

Harrison, Helena: (c. 1895–1986) British botanist. In 1925, Harrison travelled to Egypt and Palestine, where she visited her brother Austen St Barbe Harrison, an architect and town planner in the Public Works Department, Palestine.

Haydar, Subhi: Lebanese politician from an influential landowning family of the Beqaa, one of the major Shiite leaders in the area around Baalbek. He served as minister in the late 1920s; in the mid-1930s he was director of education and arts.

Herrmann, Hugo: (1887–1940) Journalist, editor and Zionist activist. Born in Mährisch-Triebau (Moravská Třebově), from 1909 to 1912 he was secretary of the *Zionist Organization*

of Bohemia. From 1913 until the outbreak of WW I, he was editor in chief of the *Jüdische Rundschau*, the newspaper of the German Zionist Organization. For several years, he directed the *Palestine Foundation Fund* in Bohemia. From 1925 onwards, he wrote several books and brochures on Palestine and directed the *Palestine Picture and Photo-block Agency* in Brunn/Brno which provided newspapers with photographs of Palestine and the Zionist work. In 1934 he emigrated to Jerusalem. In the same year, he established a new map of Palestine published for the *Palestine Foundation Fund*.

Hotel Baron: The only first-class hotel in Aleppo in 1931.

Hôtel Saint-Georges: Modernist hotel in Beirut, directed by the *Société des Grands Hôtels du Levant*. The building was designed by the architects Antoine Tabet, Jacques Poirrier, André Lotte and Georges Bordes. The hotel was inaugurated in 1932.

Al-Husayni, Isma'il: (d. 1945) Landowning notable from Palestine. He was the head of the Jerusalem branch of the Husayni family, and landowner in inner Palestine. He was a conservative pro-Ottoman loyalist who shunned away from nationalism. Interested in archaeology, he founded the first Palestinian museum in Ottoman times and he was involved in the organisation of the reception of Kaiser Wilhelm II in Jerusalem. He cooperated with Jewish business partners and sought an understanding with the Zionist movement in the mandate period. The officials of the British mandate administration respected him and cooperated with him. Al-Husayni himself had a pro-British posture and disliked the idea of Greater Syria. He was a board member of the *Kallia Company* on the Dead Sea.

Iskandar, Naguib: Deputy in the Egyptian Chamber, from Shubra in the Cairo governorate. He favoured a strengthening of European tourism to Egypt as it enhanced the national prestige of Egypt.

Jamal, A.: Manager of the *Jamal Brothers* travel agency, Jerusalem and one of the Directors of the *Tourist Development Association of Palestine*.

Jouvenel, Henry de: (1876–1935) French journalist and politician, the first civilian French High Commissioner in Beirut (1925/26). Under his aegis, a drafting committee was formed in order to draft a constitution for Lebanon.

Joannidès, Constantin: (*1884) Agent of the *Messageries Maritimes* in Alexandria and from 1928 onwards in Beirut. He was a French national, yet spoke Greek and Turkish as well. In 1929/30 he became a member of the *Commission du tourisme e de la villégiature*.

Karim, Ibrahim Fahmi: Egyptian deputy, Minister of Public Works, Minister of Communications.

Keith-Roach, Edward: (1885–1954) British civil servant in Palestine. Keith-Roach held various government positions in Palestine between 1919 and 1943: deputy district commissioner in Jerusalem District, 1926–31; district commissioner in Haifa 1931–37 and Jerusalem 1937–1943. He co-authored the *Handbook of Palestine*, 1922 and 1930.

Kettaneh, Antoine: Lebanese entrepreneur in the transportation business. Kettaneh was the owner of the automobile transport company *Kettaneh Frères*, which offered transportation services on the route between Beirut and Baghdad. He might have been the founder/owner of the Hotel Zenobia in Palmyra, which was named Hotel Kettaneh before. He was member of the Lebanese *Commission du tourisme et de la villégiature*.

Khadder, George Assad: (*1902) Born in Jerusalem, he studied at the American University of Beirut. Khadder was secretary of the Arab Chamber of Commerce, Jerusalem and secretary of the *Tourist Development Association of Palestine*.

Khaouam, Joseph and Elias: The Khaouam brothers owned several famous hotels in Homs, Hama, Damascus, Beirut and Baalbek.

Khoori, Alexander: Also Iskandar Khouri, Alexandre Cury, Alec R. Cury. Travel guide and author, born in Palestine. According to him, he was formerly attached to the Egyptian Department of Antiquities. He published numerous guidebooks for travellers on Luxor, Alexandria, Cairo, Jerusalem and Baghdad and was the author of the language guide *Arabic without a Teacher*. His guidebooks were translated into French by Henri Munier, the librarian of the *Egyptian Museum* in Cairo.

Al-Khoury, Fouad: Lebanese architect. In the *Revue phénicienne*, he published an article on the hotel industry in Lebanon, 1919.

King David Hotel: Hotel in Jerusalem, initiated by the Mosseri Family, founders of the *Palestine Hotels Company*. Planned by the Swiss architect Emil Vogt. The construction works began in July 1929, the inauguration was celebrated in January 1931. The manager at the time was Joseph A. Seiler from Switzerland.

Le Gras, Charles: French traveller, author of *Le Lac méditerranéen, Pèlerinage à Jérusalem et Troisième en Méditerranée orientale du 5 avril au (9 mai 1927), Notes de voyage*.

Levy, Harry: Manager of the *Kallia Hotel*.

Levy, Moss: (1892–1967) British Zionist businessman, who settled in Jerusalem in 1920. Experienced in tourism.

Löwenstein, Dr Fritz: (1892–1964) Born in Berlin. Secretary of the *Zionist Organization*, Germany, editor of the *jüdische Rundschau* 1915–1923. In 1923, he emigrated to Palestine, where he became director of the Jewish Agency Information Bureau until 1931. Author of the guidebook *Das jüdische Palästina* (1927) and *Guide to New Palestine*. Director of the *Zionist Information Bureau for Tourists* since 1929.

Maestracci, Noël: French colonial officer in North Africa and the French mandate. He published the guide *Contemporary Syria: Everything you need to know about the territories under French Mandate*, as well as *Le Maroc contemporain*.

Maklout, Ibrahim: Lebanese editor. Together with his brother Emile he founded the Lebanese-Phoenicianist journal *La Revue du Liban et de l'Orient Méditerranéen* in Paris in 1928, which circulated in France and in Lebanon. Maklout published numerous articles on Phoenician archaeology, history and civilisation and in 1933, the brothers founded an organisation for Lebanese emigrants in Paris: *Nova Phenicia*. They organised an event on the occasion of Lamartine's centenary. In 1937/38, Maklout edited the brochure *Le Liban – Pays d'art et de tourisme* for the SET.

When the brothers moved back to Beirut in 1939, they changed the name of their review to *La Revue du Liban et de l'Orient Arabe*.

Martel, Damien de: (1878–1940) French diplomat and High Commissioner of France in Lebanon and Syria between 1933 and 1939. During his office, he launched a vast economic programme and Palmyra was classified as a “historical monument”.

Masclé, Joseph: (1877–1956) Military chaplain in Suwayda in the Djebel Druze. Author of the tour guide *Le Djebel Druze* (1936).

Matson, G. Eric: (1888–1977) Photographer. Born in Sweden, he emigrated with his family to Palestine in 1896. In 1934 he took over the *American Colony Photo Department* (founded in 1898) together with his wife Edith, and the department was renamed the *Matson Photo Service*. In 1946 they fled to the United States.

Matson, G. Olaf: Guidebook author and brother of Eric Matson. He was the author of the *American Colony Guidebook to Palestine*.

Mena House: A hotel near the Great Pyramids in Egypt, founded by a wealthy British couple in the 1880s. In 1904 the owners sold it to the hotel company of George Nungovich, which was taken over by Charles Baehler's *Egyptian Hotels Ltd.* in 1925.

Menassa, Gabriel: He became Lebanese Under Secretary of State of Economic Affairs in November 1929, responsible for tourism, *villégiature* and emigration. Menassa belonged to the circle of New Phoenicians around Michel Chiha, advocating liberal economic policies. Carla Eddé considered him in this position a “hidden minister”. Menassa drafted a plan for a “reconstruction of the Lebanese economy and a reform of the state”. He presided over the *Commission du tourisme et de la villégiature*.

Mosseri family: Jewish family originating from Cairo and Alexandria, founders of the *King David Hotel*. They owned a bank that held *Egyptian Hotels Ltd.* In 1921 they founded the *Palestine Hotels Company*, registered in Jerusalem in 1929.

Naccache, Albert: Lebanese civil engineer from an influential Maronite family, owner of the *Société de Kadisha*, which ran an electrical power plant in the Qadisha valley. Trained in engineering at Lausanne, he worked in Leningrad and for the Turkish Government. During the mandate, he became director of the services of public works in 1920.

In the *Revue phénicienne*, he published an article on *Notre avenir économique* (Our economic future), arguing in favour of a Greater Lebanon and lobbying for investments in the estivage

business. Despite claims for independence from European capital, he later cooperated with Zionist investors.

Al-Nahas, Mustafa: (1879–1965) Egyptian judge and leader of the Wafd Party, cabinet minister, and five-time premier. He was the successor of Saʿd Zaghlul as leader of the Wafd Party. Communications minister in 1924. Vice-president of the Chamber and president the following year. Prime minister in 1928, 1930, 1936–1937, 1942–1944, 1950–1952. Al-Nahas headed the delegation in the negotiations with Britain that led to the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty in 1936. His alliance with the British in World War II damaged his reputation as a nationalist leader.

Nahas, Antoine: Modernist architect; among his major projects was the Lebanese National Museum.

Nassif, Sulayman: Entrepreneur who was granted the concession for the exploitation of the Tiberias Baths together with Amin Rizq by the British mandatory. After the concession was transferred to the Zionist *Hamei Tiberia*, he continued to exploit the baths of al-Hamma.

Nimr, Faris: (1856–1951) Lebanese editor and intellectual. From a Greek Orthodox family in Wadi al-Taym, he studied at the Syrian Protestant College (later American University of Beirut). As editor of *al-Muqtataf*, he was one of the pioneers of Arabic journalism. With the co-founder of *al-Muqtataf*, Yaʿqub Sarruf, he moved with the journal to Cairo in 1884 (following a quarrel over Darwin's theory). In 1889 they founded a daily newspaper, *al-Muqattam*. The editorials of the paper advocated individualism and a liberal economic system. Faris Nimr was a member of the committee to prepare the International Congress of Tourism in Cairo.

Nungovich, George: (d. 1908) A Greek-Cypriot hotel impresario in Egypt, whose hotels rivalled Baehler's grand hotels. His hotel company (*Nungovich Hotels Company*, later *Grand Hotels d'Egypte*) was founded in 1899, and taken over by Baehler's *Egyptian Hotels Ltd.* in 1925.

Office économique et touristique des Etats de Syrie, du Grand-Liban et des Alaouites: Established under High Commissioner Henry de Jouvenel on May 17, 1926. Its main office was in Cairo. By distributing information and advertisements on tourism to the French mandate, the *Office économique* hoped to attract tourists and *estiveurs*. The commercial attaché at the French Legation in Cairo had the administrative and financial control, but the costs for running the office were shared between the mandate states.

Office du tourisme et de la villégiature au Grand Liban: It was created on 17 March 1925 under the patronage of the Lebanese Government. The director of the *Services Economiques* presided over the office. It controlled the conditions of hygiene in hotels, organised advertisement campaigns and rented out cars to tourists. In February 1930, the office signed an agreement of collaboration with the *Société de Villégiature au Mont Liban* (VML).

Palace Hotel: In 1928, the *Supreme Muslim Council* decided to have the *Palace Hotel* constructed, a grand hotel for Jerusalem. It was leased to George Barsky in February 1929, thus before its inauguration in December 1929.

Palestine and Egypt Lloyd Ltd.: Travel agency, successor of the *Palestine Express* travel agency in 1928.

Palestine Express Travel Agency: Travel agency created in the early 1920s by the Jewish Agency and the *Jewish National Fund* under the auspices of the *Anglo-Palestine Bank*.

Hotel Palmyra: Grand hotel in Baalbek. It was established in 1880, rebuilt and newly furnished in 1924. Previously owned by P. Mimikaki, during the interwar period the Alouf brothers managed the hotel, the sons of Michel Alouf.

Perera, Guy U.: An industrialist and agent of the shipping company *Triestino Lloyd*. Perera was a member of the *Touring Club of Egypt*. In 1933/34 he became a member of the administrative committee of the *Tourist Development Association of Egypt*. He edited the illustrated brochure *A trip to Egypt/Un voyage en Egypte* with A. Otto.

Philippar, Georges: (1877/1883–1959) French manager. Since 1918 he was general director of the shipping company *Messageries Maritimes*; from 1925–1948 its president. He had a pronounced interest in tourism, published travelogues (e.g. *En Méditerranée* and *Voyage en Egypte*) and served as member of the French *Conseil Supérieur du Tourisme*. Around 1920 he became board member of the *Compagnie française du tourisme*. Philippar was well connected in French colonial circles, for example serving as Vice-President of the *Institut colonial français* and since December 1934 as board member of the illustrated magazine *Le Monde colonial illustré*. In 1929, he published a brochure on *Le tourisme en Syrie*.

Piérard, Louis: Belgian journalist and deputy of the Belgian Socialist Party. He travelled to the French Mandate of Syria in February 1927.

Qatinqa, Barukh: (1887–1945) Born in Russia, Jewish civil engineer and building contractor, who emigrated to Palestine in 1908. During World War I, he served as chief engineer of the *Hedjaz railway* for the Ottoman army. As a contractor, he was involved in the construction of several buildings, among them the YMCA building in Jerusalem and the *Palace Hotel*.

Radwan, ʿAli Ibrahim: Egyptian deputy from el-Tallein in the Mudiriyya of Sharqiyeh in the Eastern Delta. In the Chamber, he advocated a reduction for railway tickets towards the summer stations.

Rechter, Zeev: (1899–1960) Architect. Rechter was born in Russia, studied architecture and engineering in Italy and France, and went to Palestine in 1919. He had a considerable influence on housing construction in Israel and in particular in Tel Aviv, and is considered one of the leading modernist architects of Israel. He was the architect of the *Kallia Hotel*.

Rizq, Amin: Lebanese entrepreneur from Broummana/Lebanon who was granted the concession for the exploitation of the Tiberias Baths together with Sulayman Nassif.

Rockefeller, John D.: (1839–1937) American oil magnate and philanthropist. His *Rockefeller Foundation* donated money to allow for the construction of the *Palestine Archaeological Museum*.

Roe, Donovan: British naval officer. During his service in the 1930s, he undertook touristic excursions in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Rosenblatt, Bernard A.: (1886–1969) Lawyer from New York. Born in Grodok (Poland/Russia), he lived in the United States since 1891. In 1915 he organised the *American Zionist Commonwealth*, a land development and settlement company. Rosenblatt was vice president and a member of the executive committee of the *Zionist Organization of America* from 1920 to 1946, and a member of the Zionist Executive of Palestine between 1923 and 1927. He actively supported business enterprises in Palestine during the mandate period. President of the *Jewish National Fund* and *Keren Hayesod of America*.

Rowan-Hamilton, Norah: (d. 1945) Born Norah Logan Phillips, she married the British Lieutenant Archibald James Rowan Hamilton (1877–1915) in 1908. Rowan-Hamilton published several travelogues: *Through Wonderful India and Beyond* (1915), *Under the Red Star* (1930) and *Both sides of the Jordan: A Woman's Adventures in the Near East* (1928). She travelled with a delegation of the *British Archaeological Society* to the Arab East.

Sabri, Husayn: (*1897) Businessman, president and director of numerous companies. Born in Cairo, he worked and lived in Alexandria, where he was for example vice-president of the shipping company *The Khedivial Mail Line*, administrator of the *Cairo Electric Railways & Industrial Co.* Sabry also served as governor of Alexandria.

Sacher, Miriam: (1892–1973) British Zionist. She was one of the early founders of WIZO (*Women's International Zionist Organisation*) and played a leading role in the Federation of Women Zionists of Great Britain and Ireland.

Her husband, Harry Sacher (1881–1971), was a Zionist lawyer and politician from London, and member of the Executive of the *Zionist Organization* between 1927–1931. Miriam Sacher was board member of the *Kallia company*.

Sadiq, Ahmad: Governor of the Municipality of Alexandria, member of the *Tourist Development Association of Egypt* and director of the *Office du Tourisme de l'Etat Egyptien* from 1935 onwards.

Salama, Edwin: Lawyer and administrator of societies. Salama was an agent of the *American Express* agency and one of the directors of the *Tourist Development Association of Palestine*.

Salameh, Dimitri: Manager of *Thomas Cook & Son* in Palestine, one of the directors of the *Tourist Development Association of Palestine*.

Samné, Georges: Born in Egypt into a Greek Catholic family from Damascus. Samné lived in France since the turn of the century. He supported a non-Arab Greater Syria, and opposed the idea of an independent Lebanon.

In May 1918, he authored a memorandum to the Quai d'Orsay, in which he made a case for French aid and intervention in Greater Syria after the war. Despite his pro-French inclinations, he considered the Ottoman system better than French rule in Algeria and the British system in Egypt.

Samné was co-founder and Director of the *Bureau syrien et libanais d'informations et de tourisme* (Information and Tourist Office for Syria and Lebanon) and director of the review *Correspondance d'Orient*.

Samuel, Herbert: (1870–1963) British High Commissioner of Palestine 1920–1925 and president of the *Tourist Development Association of Palestine*.

Sarrafian Brothers: Abraham (c. 1875–1926), Boghos (1876–1934) and Samuel (1884–1941) Sarrafian. Photographers and postcard editors of Armenian origin. Originally from Diyarbakir, they settled in Beirut in 1897 as a consequence of the massacres in 1895. The Sarrafian Brothers were the biggest postcard editors in the Arab East.

Al-Sawda, Yusuf: Born in Bikfaya, educated at the *Université Saint-Joseph* in Beirut. In 1908 he emigrated to Alexandria, where he worked for the *Tribunaux mixtes* and served as secretary of the *Alliance Libanaise*.

Author of *Fi Sabil Lubnan* on the Phoenician origins of the Lebanese; strong advocate of the Phoenician identity of the Lebanese.

Al-Sayyid, Husayn Ahmad: Egyptian overseer of the works in the expedition of Lord Carnarvon and Howard Carter.

Seiler, Joseph A.: (1896–1948) Scion of one of the most famous hotel dynasties in Switzerland, the Seiler family who established tourism in Zermatt and were among the pioneers of tourism in Switzerland. Joseph A. Seiler was manager of the *King David Hotel* in Jerusalem until 1937.

Shepherd, Samuel: (1816–1866) Director of the *Shepherd's Hotel*. Shepherd arrived in Egypt in the 1840s, took over the hotel from its British owner in 1846. In 1860, he sold the hotel (to Philip Zech, a Bavarian hotelier) and left Egypt. In the 1890s the building was torn down and replaced by a new structure designed by the architect George Somers Clarke Jr. It was inaugurated in 1893. Charles Baehler was employed by the heirs of Philip Zech, until Baehler bought out the shares in 1905 and became its owner. The *Shepherd's* attracted in particular British travellers in Egypt until its destruction in 1952.

Sidqi, Isma'il: (1875–1950) Lawyer, cabinet minister, twice premier. Born in Alexandria to a wealthy bourgeois family.

Sidqi was a member of the Wafd in 1918 and interned in Malta with Sa'd Zaghlul. Later, he broke with the Wafd and helped to establish the *Constitutional Liberal Party* in 1922. As interior minister in 1924–25 he worked closely with King Fu'ad. Sidqi founded the *Sha'b Party* (People's Party) to support his campaign for prime minister under the 1930 constitution. When he took power in 1930, he headed a pro-palace government, dissolved the parliament and ruled by decree. The new constitution he introduced enlarged the powers of the king. Sidqi served on the Egyptian delegation that negotiated the 1936 Anglo-Egyptian Treaty.

Throughout his career, one of his major concerns was the development of the Egyptian industry. In 1917, he created a *Committee for Commerce and Industry* to foster the Egyptian industry. President of the *Egyptian Federation of Industries* in 1930.

Sidqi, Mahmud: Governor of Cairo.

Smith, Edwin W.: Former Protestant missionary in South Africa with profound ethnographic interests. He travelled to Palestine in late 1929.

Société Archéologique d'Alep: Founded in January 1930, directed by Kamil al-Ghazzi. Its members published the *Revue archéologique* from May 1931 onwards.

Société d'encouragement au tourisme au Liban (SET): Lebanese interest group based in Beirut. It was founded in 1935 and issued numerous publications to assist tourists in planning their stay, such as hotel guides or information brochures on sights in Lebanon. The SET seems to have been the successor organisation of the *Commission du tourisme et de la villégiature* (1929). It was founded in 1935, and declared of public interest in 1936. It was not an official government institution, but it received subsidies from the Lebanese state and regularly cooperated with political bodies.

Société des Grands Hôtels du Levant: Enterprise that constructed hotels in Beirut, Damascus, Aleppo, the most famous of which is the *Hôtel Saint-Georges* in Beirut. The *Société des Grands Hôtels* promoted the foundation of the *Bureau syrien et libanais d'information et de tourisme*.

Société de Villégiature au Mont Liban (VML): The VML offered the services of a travel agency from 1913. It was not operational during the war and resumed its activities only in the summer of 1922.

Its main office was in Cairo, but it had branches in Beirut, Haifa, Qantara, Alexandria, Port-Said, Jerusalem, Jaffa, Damascus, Paris and Marseille and agents in numerous Lebanese mountain villages. The VML published guidebooks on the region of *Bilad al-Sham* and Egypt, with a focus on Lebanon. Its agents offered organised tours and reliable guides to visitors. Moreover, its agents offered villas, pensions and rooms for rent in the major *estivage* centres, sold tickets for transportation or organised package tours. For summer guests in the major destinations, they offered postal services and delivered newspapers from neighbouring Arab countries or the private mail of summer guests.

The dense network of agents all over Lebanon and in Syria addressed mainly a regional clientele, in particular from Egypt. Among the letters of recommendation, American travellers, and dignitaries in particular from Cairo recommended the VML's services.

Steele-Maitland, Mary: Wife of Sir Arthur Ramsay Steele-Maitland (1876–1935), a conservative politician who served as under-secretary for the colonies during World War I and as Minister of Labour in 1924–25. He remained MP until his death in March 1935. In winter 1931/32, the couple travelled to the Eastern Mediterranean.

Strekalovsky, Nicholas: Jewish painter and illustrator, who had immigrated to Palestine from Eastern Europe. He designed the cover illustration of the Lebanese *estivage* guide *al-Istiyaffi Lubnan* (1926) and posters for the Egyptian *Misr Airlines* in the 1930s.

Tabet, Antoine: (1907–1964) French-educated modernist architect of the *Hôtel Saint-Georges*, 1930, and of *Almaza Beer Factory*, 1934.

Tabet, Ayoub: Lebanese politician, a nationalist from Bhamdoun and the right hand of Emile Eddé.

He had been a member of the Arab Syrian Congress (convened in Paris in June 1913, demanding a decentralisation of the Ottoman Empire). He spent the war years in New York, where he lobbied for a non-Arab unified Greater Syria in the League for the Liberation of Syria and Lebanon, over which he presided. Other members were Amin al-Rihani, Gibran Khalil Gibran and Mikhail Nu'aym.

During the Mandate, Tabet was a member of the *Conseil Représentatif*, minister, and director of the Lebanese *Services Economiques*. At the end of the mandate, Catroux established him as president and premier.

Tabet supported the strengthening of *estivage*, which he considered a contribution to the improvement of the economic situation of Lebanon. Moreover, from his point of view, Baalbek, the Lebanese historical heritage and the National Museum had to be promoted among international visitors as they fostered the prestige of Lebanon.

Tabet, Jacques: (1885–1956) Influential francophile Phoenicianist, former publisher of *La Syrie*. He supported the idea of a Greater Syria, considered as the successor state of ancient Phoenicia. Tabet co-founded the *Amis du Musée*, an association for fund-raising and lobbying for a large Lebanese National Museum. Later, he became the first treasurer and director of the Lebanese National Museum. Tabet was a member of the *Commission du tourisme et de la villégiature 1929/30*.

Taqla, Gabriel: (1891–1943) Egyptian journalist. His family had roots in the village Kfar Shima near Beirut. Taqla was the owner of the newspaper *al-Ahram* (founded in 1875 by his father and uncle) and a member of the committee to prepare the International Congress of Tourism in Cairo.

Touring Club de Syrie et du Liban: Founded in 1919, its head office was located in the offices of the journal *La Syrie* in Beirut. Its president Georges Vayssié was both president of the *Touring Club* and editor of *La Syrie*. It gave advice on tourism in the Mandate, and assisted travellers in getting the necessary official permissions. Moreover, the *Touring Club* distributed maps and guidebooks. Affiliated with the *International Automobile Association* and international touring clubs, it counselled the Lebanese Government in developing tourism. Two representatives of the *Touring Club* were members of the *Office du tourisme et de la villégiature au Grand Liban*, 1925.

Among its 471 members were Emile Achou⁵, 'Abdallah Beyhum, Constantin Joannidès, Pharaon, Sursock, Tabet and Habib Trad.

Tourist Development Association of Egypt: The TDA was founded in 1912, though regular activities were discernible only in the 1930s. It was involved in the organisation of the International Congress of Tourism in Cairo, published guidebooks and brochures. The TDA was under the patronage of the Egyptian king and presided over by the general manager of the Egyptian State Railways, Telegraphs and Telephones. Egyptian dignitaries were among the members as well as numerous representatives from European travel companies and leisure organisations.

Tourist Development Association of Palestine: The creation of the TDA was promoted notably by the tour operator *Palestine Lloyd Ltd.* and High Commissioner Herbert Samuel served as president of the association. Upon official registration of the *Tourist Development Association of Palestine* in 1932, its founders stated that its purpose consisted in making Palestine and Trans-Jordan known abroad in order to attract a greater number of tourists and visitors.

The TDA gathered both Arab Palestinian and Zionist members and included representatives of the big companies involved in tourism to Palestine.

Tuéni, Gebran: (1890–1947) Lebanese editor and minister from Beirut. Tuéni was a journalist in Egypt and returned to Beirut in 1923. He was co-founder of the newspaper *al-Ahrar* in 1924 and founded the Lebanese daily *al-Nahar* in 1933.

In 1931, Tuéni became Minister of Education. He was a member of the *Commission du tourisme et de la villégiature* 1929/30.

Tulloch, Thomas G.: British engineer, who was granted the concession for the extraction of minerals from the Dead Sea together with Moise A. Novomeyski. He was one of the directors of the *Palestine Potash Company* and manager of the *Kallia Resort* on the Dead Sea.

Upper Egypt Hotels Ltd.: The hotel corporation owned among other hotels the *Winter Palace Hotel* and the *Luxor Hotel*, both in Luxor, as well as the *Cataract Hotel* in Aswan. *Thomas Cook & Son* held shares in it; the consortium was headed by Charles Baehler.

Vacaresco, Hélène: (1866–1947) Romanian diplomat and writer.

Born in Bukarest, she lived mainly in France, and wrote in French, e.g. *Nuits d'Orient*, 1889. From 1919–1940 she served as a Romanian delegate to the League of Nations. She was co-founder and deputy of the *Institut international de coopération intellectuelle* (1924), the predecessor of UNESCO.

Vacca, Virginia: Italian Arabist and journalist, she reported notably on Syrian economic development.

Vallotton-Warnery, Henry: Member of the Swiss National Council from Geneva and a member of the *Swiss Touring Club*. He undertook a journey to Syria in 1926.

Vayssié, Georges: Vayssié was an editor and journalist and very active in tourism development. He was general director of the *Havas* press agency in the French Mandates and owner of the paper *La Syrie*.

Vayssié had been involved in the founding of the *Automobile Club of Egypt*; he was a member of the *Touring Club* in Lebanon and served as a member of the *Comité du Tourisme* established by the High Commission in 1923 as well as of the *Commission consultative du tourisme et de la villégiature* 1929/30.

Vilnay, Zev: (1900–1988) Born in Kishinev he emigrated to Palestine with his parents. He authored *Steimatzky's guide to Palestine*.

Williams, George H.: (1893–1975) British businessman, entrepreneur in textiles and amateur photographer, who travelled to the Arab East in 1925.

Witasse, Pierre de: (1878–1956) French representative at the French Legation in Cairo. President of the French *Comité des correspondants du tourisme*.

Yusuf, Muhammad Amin: Egyptian deputy and inspector general of the Department of Commerce and Industry. He was member on the administrative committee of the *Tourist Development Association of Egypt*.

Zaccour, Michel: (*1896) Editor of the Lebanese paper *al-Ma'rid*. Lebanese deputy, Minister of the Interior in 1937.

Zehil, 'Abdallah: General Agent of the *Compagnie française de navigation à vapeur Cyprien Fabre* (*Fabre Line*). Zehil was the author of the guidebook *Petit guide historique* (1929) and a member of the *Commission du tourisme et de la villégiature* (1929).

Zionist Information Bureau for Tourists: The ZIB was established by the Jewish Agency, *Keren Hayesod*, as well as the *Jewish National Fund* (JNF, *Keren Kayemet Le-Yisrael*) in the early 1920s in order to establish organised tourism to Palestine. According to a letter to the editor by Mr Grunhut, its manager, it was founded in 1923 (Cohen-Hattab and Shoval dated its foundation to 1925).

An additional branch was established in Tel Aviv in 1935. The ZIB published guidebooks such as the ones written by Fritz Löwenstein, *Das jüdische Palästina*, and the *Guide to New Palestine*. Its directors were Grunhut, Fritz Löwenstein, and, from 1938, Werner Bloch.

