

commanded his greeting to be —
communicated to them.

I have the honour to be,
with the greatest respect,

Sir,

Your Excellency's

most obedient,

humble servant,

E.C. Blech.

44 Jer.

1907.

Jerusalem,

June 25, 1907.

No.

TURKEY

91

45 Jer.

Q

Received by post

(Subject.)

Consul Blech

No. 20.

Last Paper.

Lady Margaret Stuart's property.

I transmit copies of further correspondence
with Mrs. Spoer in connection with
demolition of shops in municipal
garden opposite.

(Print.)

(Minutes.)

G.E. has already advised him as to the course
he should pursue in regard to Mrs. Spoer's letter.

(How disposed of.)

not

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

Next Paper.

W. B. & L. (140)—38951—5000-10-6
40005—15,000-7-0

No. 20.

Jerusalem,

June 25, 1907.

Sir,

In continuation of my despatch

No. 17 of the 15th instant with reference tothe shops in the municipal garden, I have
the honour to state that it would seem

that Mrs. Spoer's allegation that the

shop left standing was being extended,

was based on the fact that the Municipality

took the opportunity of having workmen

on the spot to remove from the place where,

I understand, it had long been standing,

His Excellency

The Right Honourable,

Sir N. R. O'Connor, G.C.B., G.C.M.G.,

re,

re,

re,

Constantinople.

without objection, a wooden hut, —
practically worn-out, and used by the
gardener as a tool-house and wood-shed;
to save one wall they had placed it
as a lean-to against the remaining
one of the two shops. It is obviously
inaccurate to describe this as the —
Extension of the shop, or the re-erection
of the shop demolished. But the shed
has now been removed at my request,
and I trust that this will satisfy
Mrs. Spoer, though I shall hardly
consider myself justified in opposing
its re-erection in some other part of the
garden.

I have the honour to inclose copies
of further correspondence with Mrs.

Spoer

Spoer. I should not trouble your — it.
Excellency with these unimportant matters
if I did not think it desirable to draw
attention to the tone adopted by Mrs.
Spoer, and the nature of the —
statements made by her. Your
Excellency will observe that in her
letter of June 17 Mrs. Spoer appears
to deprecate the demolition of the shop
pulled down, and refuses to allow
this Consulate any credit in the matter.
Her letter of June 24 does indeed contain
an expression of thanks for the removal
of the hut, but I am not quite clear
whether she denies the previous —
Existence of the hut, or merely wishes
to — or

to assert that it did not stand upon
"the spot in question." I did not in
my letter to her of June 18 indicate
the spot where the hut had previously
stood.

I trust that this correspondence
will now cease, but I need not state that I
shall take a suitable opportunity after the
Mutessarif's return to induce His —
Excellency to pull down the shop left
standing as well as the iron shop; as for the
other two, I fear that in face of Memdouch
Pasha's statement communicated in Your
Excellency's despatch of August 12, 1905, it is
hopeless to try to get them removed.

I have the honour to be,
with the greatest respect,
Sir,
Your Excellency's most obedient,
humble servant,
E. Blech.

Box 104, Austrian Post.

June 17, 1907.

re property of the lady M. C. Stuart.

To H. B. M. Consul.

Dear Sir,

I am obliged by your prompt
reply. You have perhaps not observed that the
shop taken down from the north side of the
octagonal building is being re-erected on the
west. In any case the removal of this
building, put up long before the row of
shops, was an act of grace, or, more
probably, to widen the road for public
convenience as it has never been protested
against, nor such removal promised. In
any case the putting up of an annexe, even
of wood, upon property which the municipality
has been paid to preserve open in perpetuity,
is a new trespass.

Two shops remain, with an iron
shed, of the row of 9 or 11 according to
whether we count buildings or shops put
up in 1902. Either such building was a
violation of contract or not, — what
applied to shops adjoining right and
left, applies to these; why if seven or

or nine were destroyed two should remain
out of a row, and those not the earliest
built, is past comprehension!

In any case I am assured that
in the interests of English prestige, the
matter is safe in your hands.

I remain, etc.

(S^d) M. Spoor

Jerusalem.

June 18. 1907.

Madam,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your
letter of the 17th inst.

I confess that it had not occurred to
me that the transposition of the gardener's flimsy
wooden hut, from the spot where it had stood as
I understand for some years, until almost
entirely worn out, without any objection being
raised to its presence, could be regarded as the
re-erection of the substantial stone shop
demolished recently, or that exception could be
taken to the natural desire of the municipality
to save the cost of replacing the worn-out
planks by simply fixing the shed as a lean-to
against one of the walls of the remaining
one of the two shops, with which it had no
other communication. However, in order to
avoid all possible misconception, I have
requested that the shed may be removed.
This has now been done, but I am not
sure that it would be desirable or politic
to oppose the re-erection, in any other part
of the garden, of a hut which as already
stated has long existed, and which may
reasonably be regarded as necessary.

I am, etc. (Signed): E. C. Blech.

M. Spoor.

Copy

Box 104, Austrian P. O.,

Jerusalem.

To H. B. M. Consul.

June 24.

Dear Sir,

I am obliged by your letter of
June 18.

After careful enquiry we fail to
find any evidence of the previous existence
of a gardener's hut upon the spot in
question, nor have we ourselves seen any
such structure during the past six years.

On the other hand we have written evidence,
in the form of letters addressed to Lady
M. C. Stuart, and to Dr. Spoer, of the Mayor's
attitude in regard to the Municipality's trespass.

Moreover, we have lived long enough
in Jerusalem to have seen the hanging of
a picture, or the spreading of a carpet lead
to the annexation of a church, and are
well aware, from experience, of the extreme
importance of all questions of precedent,
even in the matter of a flimsy wooden hut.
We are the more obliged to you for
yours

your prompt action in the matter.

Your obt. servt.,

(Signed): A. N. Spoer.