

Sunday, October 13, 1946

JTA*Daily News Bulletin*

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

JEWISH AGENCY GETS NINE-POINT PROPOSAL FROM BRITAIN OUTLINING BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS

JERUSALEM, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- A nine-point British proposal for Jewish Agency participation in the London conference on Palestine is reported today to have been forwarded to the Jewish Agency through the Palestine Government. It suggests the following:

1. The detained leaders of the Jewish Agency will be released, provided they undertake not to engage in the type of activities for which they were arrested.
2. These leaders are not, however, to participate in the London conference as representatives of the Jewish Agency.
3. The Jewish Agency should guarantee that the underground Jewish groups will not disturb the peace.
4. The Jewish Agency should take steps to end "illegal" immigration.
5. The immigration quota is to continue on the basis of 1,500 visas monthly, with the Jewish immigrants who are detained in Cyprus to be brought to Palestine to await release under the quota.
6. Military and police searches will cease and no arrests will be made if the Jewish Agency accepts the above conditions.
7. The period of quiet which it is hoped will follow the above steps should be used for preliminary negotiations prior to the resumption of the London conference.
8. Only the Morrison-Grady plan - the "federalization plan" - shall be a basis for negotiations and no other proposal. Jewish immigration is to continue into the Jewish part of Palestine under the above plan and in accordance with its absorptive capacity. Later an opportunity will be given to discuss the political status of the Jewish part of the country.
9. Jews who are at present in Palestine, as well as those who will enter the autonomous Jewish section of the country, will be entitled - in due time - to independence in the form of a Jewish state.

Agency Standing by Demand for Unconditional Release of Leaders

A Jewish Agency spokesman, commenting on the informal talks which are now being held between British representatives and leaders of the Agency, stated that the Jews are at present advancing three major demands:

1. Unconditional release of the detained Jewish leaders held at the Latrun camp;
2. Cessation of searches, especially in the agricultural settlements which have obviously nothing to do with terrorism;
3. The release of all the Jewish immigrants interned in Cyprus, as a gesture of good will.

"The ball is now in the hands of the British Government," the spokesman said. He expressed the hope that the situation will be clarified next week.

Commenting on reports in the Egyptian press that the establishment of the 12 new Jewish settlements in the Negev was aimed at preventing the building of a British military base there, the Jewish Agency spokesman denied that the Jews had any such intention, and stressed that they recognize Britain's legitimate interests in Palestine.

TRUMAN'S REPLY TO ATTLEE ON PALESTINE RECEIVED IN LONDON; WILL BE DISCUSSED BY CABINET

LONDON, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- A Foreign Office spokesman confirmed today that Prime Minister Attlee has received a reply from President Truman to the British Premier's sharp note of last Friday in which he protested the issuance by the President of his statement on Palestine. The President's communication will be discussed by the Cabinet.

It was reported in Washington yesterday that Mr. Truman had reiterated his proposals for a solution of the Palestine problem and queried Mr. Attlee as to whether his government planned to follow the recommendations.

Replies by the government to a series of written questions on Palestine submitted by members of Parliament during the Parliamentary recess are expected to be made during the next week or two. A suggestion by former Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Samuel S. Verman, Labor, that a full dress debate on Palestine be held within the next two weeks was rejected yesterday by Deputy Prime Minister Herbert Morrison, who agreed, however, to consider such a request "through the usual channels.

Among the questions on file is one by Ian Mikardo, Labor, as to why "Jewish internees in Cyprus who express pro-Russian views are placed in separate camps." This is the first disclosure that some of the Cyprus deportees are being segregated.

DR. SNEH REFUSED U.S. VISA; AMERICAN ZIONIST GROUPS APPEAL TO STATE DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Dr. Moshe Sneh, a member of the Jewish Agency executive who the British charge is one of the leaders of the Hagana, has been refused a visa to the United States by the American consulate in Paris, it was learned here today. He was invited by the Zionist Organization of America to address the ZOA convention which opens at the end of this month in Atlantic City.

Replying to an inquiry by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Elliot B. Coulter, assistant chief of the Visa Division, said that Sneh was refused a visa on the basis of his activities in Palestine. However, Coulter and other sources in the State Department stressed that the entire matter was still under consideration and that a decision could be expected soon.

Meanwhile, the American Zionist Emergency Council, the Zionist Organization of America and the office of the Jewish Agency in New York today lodged protests with the State Department against the action of the consulate, pointing out that this is the first time that a member of the executive of the Jewish Agency has been denied a visitors' visa.

BEN GURION CRITICIZED BY HECKLERS AT PARIS MEETING FOR "NON-AGGRESSIVE" POLICY

PARIS, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- A meeting of the Jewish Socialist Party here last night, addressed by David Ben Gurion, was interrupted several times by hecklers who denounced the chairman of the Jewish Agency executive for not pursuing an aggressive enough policy. Scuffles occurred when supporters of Ben Gurion attempted to silence the objectors.

In a two-hour address, Ben Gurion charged that Britain was attempting to cause friction between Jews and Arabs in Palestine and to "misrepresent" the acts of self-defense by the Jewish resistance movement. He scored British policy as one of "aggression."

"As long as England respected the mandate, we did not ask for independence," he said, "but now that she has violated the mandate, our only reply is to demand a Jewish state."

JEW IN PALESTINE CAMP GO ON HUNGER STRIKE TO PROTEST FAILURE TO SPEED RELEASE

JERUSALEM, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- More than 150 Jews who have been detained at the Latrun camp for many weeks without any trial or hearing today went on a hunger strike in protest against the alleged failure of Jewish organizations to speed their release. Their hunger strike coincides with a report that a British expert is expected here shortly to advise the Palestine Government on the erection of a special prison for Jews near the Latrun camp.

The Irgun Zvai Leumi last night launched a violent attack on leaders of the Jewish Agency now negotiating in London with the British Government. "The days of anyone claiming to speak on behalf of the Yishuv are numbered," the Irgun said. The denunciation, contained in leaflets scattered by pamphlet bombs that exploded in the center of the city, alleged that the Agency leaders had made concessions in the London talks.

Pamphlet bombs of the Stern Group exploded in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv today, injuring seven persons, one seriously. They contained the usual slogans and warned that "the roads will be mined and fire opened on the enemy." They admitted the mining of roads last Tuesday, which resulted in the death of two British officers and the wounding of three others.

Posters placed on the walls here reported that two Arab land brokers who sold land to Jews had been "executed" by an organization calling itself the "Arab Higher Fighters." The posters warned that any Arab selling land to Jews would be dealt with summarily for harming the Arab cause.

EGYPTIAN PREMIER RECEIVES EX-MUFTI OF JERUSALEM; EGYPT SILENT ON TRUMAN STATEMENT

CAIRO, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Premier Sidky Pasha today received the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem for 40 minutes, reportedly in connection with his political activity in Egypt. The ex-Mufti told reporters that the visit was strictly personal and refused to make a statement.

The Egyptian Premier informed the press that his government has not taken any action on the Truman statement concerning Palestine. He said that he has had no time to examine the question. A Wafdist newspaper criticized the government for its failure to make an official protest to the U.S.

The Palestine Arab Higher Committee intends to ask the member states of the Arab League to contribute \$400,000 for the organization of Palestine Arab youth under the auspices of a special "Committee for the Defense of Palestine," it was learned today. A delegation of Palestine Arabs is expected to arrive here shortly to confer with Arab League representatives on this matter.

WEIL, PRESIDENT OF JEWISH WELFARE BOARD, AWARDED MEDAL OF MERIT BY PRESIDENT TRUMAN

NEW YORK, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- The Medal of Merit, the nation's highest civilian decoration awarded by the President of the United States to those who served with distinction in the war effort nationally and over a long period of time, was presented to Frank L. Weil, president of the National Jewish Welfare Board, today at a luncheon of the board of directors of USO. The presentation was made by Brigadier General Russell B. Reynolds and Rear Admiral Felix L. Johnson.

Mr. Weil, who is a vice-president of USO and a member of its policy and executive committee, was one of seven persons who received the Medal of Merit in recognition "of their outstanding contributions to the war effort through their work with the United Service Organizations."

REVERSAL OF RUSSIAN POLICY TOWARD RETURN OF FORMER JEWISH PROPERTY IN AUSTRIA SEEN

VIENNA, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- A possible reversal of Russian policy on the restoration of Jewish-owned property in Austria seized by the Nazis after the Anschluss of 1938 was forecast here following the order of Col. Gen. L.V. Kurassov, Soviet commander in Austria, to the Austrian Government to list all property in the Russian zone seized by the Nazis and administered by the Austrian finance ministry. Gen. Kurassov's order appears to have been issued on instructions from Moscow.

Following the issuance of the order Russian officers indicated that properties confiscated from the Jews and whose titles were not transferred by the Nazis will be returned to their former Jewish owners upon application directly to the Soviet authorities. In cases where the title has been transferred investigations will be made, it is believed. No indication was given as to the disposition of property of Jews who died heirless.

This policy would be a reversal of the previous confiscation of all German property, regardless of former origin, which the Russians have been claiming under the provisions of the Potsdam agreement.

Thus far the Austrian Government has compiled a list of 2,890 pieces of real estate and homes which fall into the category established by Gen. Kurassov. An additional 300 properties will probably be added to the list before it is completed. The vast majority of these seem to be former Jewish property. It is estimated that in all zones of Vienna some 6,000 such properties were administered by the Austrians.

ONE-TIME ANTI-SEMITIC SLOVAK LEAGUE CALLS FOR END TO RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

BRATISLAVA, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- The Slovak League, formerly an anti-Semitic, nationalistic organization, today adopted a resolution denouncing racial discrimination and demanding that the Jews be permitted to participate in the reconstruction of Slovakia. The resolution, which was passed at a congress of the league held in Kosice, also called on the Jews to support the "Slovak nation" and to speak only Slovakian.

In a statement broadcast by the Prague radio, Jewish leaders in Slovakia have called on the Czechoslovakian Government to abolish all anti-Semitic laws left over from the Nazi regime. The statement stressed the loyalty displayed by Slovak Jews during the Nazi occupation and the prominent part played by the Jews in the Slovak uprising against the Germans.

COURT FREES HUNGARIAN ZIONISTS CHARGED WITH ORGANIZING ILLEGAL EMIGRATION

BUDAPEST, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Several prominent Zionists arrested last March when police raided a train carrying Jews fleeing Hungary have been cleared by a Budapest court. At the time of the raid, the police alleged that among the refugees they had apprehended several Nazis who were fleeing the country to escape punishment.

The court acknowledged that the aim of the arrested Zionists was to facilitate the emigration to Palestine of persons who no longer wished to remain in Hungary and that they had not been aware that Nazis were aboard the emigration train.

The Hungarian Zionist Federation announced today that elections for delegates to the World Zionist Congress will be held on Sunday and Monday, Oct. 13 and 14. Pre-election campaign meetings have already begun. The largest to date was held this week at the Academy of Music, with General Zionist speakers demanding establishment of a Jewish state.

TRUMAN CONFERS WITH RABBI BERNSTEIN ON SITUATION OF DISPLACED JEWS IN EUROPE

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Rabbi Philip Bernstein of Rochester, N.Y., Adviser on Jewish Affairs to the American military command in Germany and Austria, conferred with President Truman today shortly before returning to Frankfurt, and said that the President expressed a strong, continuing, unflagging interest in solving the problem of displaced Jews.

Declaring that the President wished a first-hand report on the condition of displaced Jews in the United States zones, Rabbi Bernstein said that Mr. Truman indicated concern and determination to implement his position on Palestine.

Of the approximately 225,000 displaced Jews in the U.S., British and French zones and in Italy, Rabbi Bernstein declared, over ninety percent want to go to Palestine, and the President is determined to help in solving the problem of their resettlement. "His message will be of some encouragement to the refugees," he said, "but they are becoming increasingly discouraged at the failure to carry out promises."

The original concept of 100,000 displaced Jews to be moved to Palestine is no longer tenable, Rabbi Bernstein pointed out, with a total of 173,000 in the U.S. zones--142,300 in Germany and 31,000 in Austria. "The movement of Jewish displaced persons into the United States, even within the existing quotas, has been unnecessarily slow," he stated. He urged that the flow be increased quickly."

EINSTEIN FOUNDATION TO PROCEED WITH PLAN TO SET UP UNIVERSITY; LAZRUS NAMED PRESIDENT

NEW YORK, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- The Albert Einstein Foundation, through its board of directors, announced today the election of S. Ralph Lazrus as president, to succeed Dr. Israel Goldstein, who resigned Sept. 16th. The Foundation plans to establish a Jewish-sponsored, secular, non-quota university in Waltham, Massachusetts, to be open to students and faculty on the sole basis of scholastic merit.

Mr. Lazrus has been associated with the foundation since its inception, as chairman of the Founder's Campaign Committee, and a member of the board of directors. In accepting the presidency of the Foundation, he said: "Our one goal is to complete the organization of the university project at the earliest possible date. During the formative stages of the the Foundation, great strides were made in this direction under the able presidency of Dr. Goldstein. It remains now to finish the job which was so well begun. Dr. Einstein is continuing his active interest and support, and we have every assurance of success."

A resident of Lawrence, N.Y., Mr. Lazrus has been long associated with philanthropic affairs. Besides the Einstein Foundation, his present civic and philanthropic affiliations include: Woodmere Academy, Woodmere, L.I., as vice-president; United Palestine Appeal, as vice-president; Five Towns Community Chest, as chairman of the board; Jewish Statistical Bureau, as chairman of the board; United Jewish Appeal, as national chairman of the jewelry division, and as a director; Jewish Telegraphic Agency, as treasurer; and American Institute of International Information, as treasurer.

TWO JEWISH INDUSTRIALISTS LEAVE CZECHOSLOVAKIA DUE TO ANTI-SEMITIC ACTS IN FACTORIES

PRAGUE, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Two Jewish industrialists have left Czechoslovakia because of constant disturbances in their factories due to their Jewish origin, the Ministry of Trade reported today. The two Jews - managers of porcelain factories - were criticized for their departure by the newspaper, Ceske Slovo.

SILVER, WISE ASK TRUMAN FOR ACTION TO FULFILL SPIRIT OF PALESTINE STATEMENT

NEW YORK, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- President Truman has been urged by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Stephen S. Wise, joint chairmen of the American Zionist Emergency Council, to use his influence and authority in seeing that effective measures are taken immediately to carry out the spirit of his recent statement requesting Jewish immigration into Palestine.

In a joint statement, the Zionist leaders called on the United States to "exert sustained and vigorous effort to secure swift favorable action to the end that heartening promises shall be realized in deeds."

While expressing appreciation of the President's announcement, the statement stressed that "public expressions, however sincere and well-meeting, do not suffice." Dr. Silver and Dr. Wise declared, "Nothing can satisfy the public conscience save the early movement of displaced and homeless Jews into Palestine, the prompt cessation of British assaults on Jewish refugees and a halt to the brutal repression practiced in Palestine."

Noting that the President's statement "should strengthen the hands of all men of good will striving to achieve justice for the most martyred people on earth," the statement points out, however, that the 13-month period since his first request to Britain for Jewish immigration into Palestine was "marked by failure to advance one step in the desired direction, all action being frustrated by a series of evasive and dilatory tactics devised by the British Government, to which unfortunately our government was repeatedly induced to give assent."

Stressing that none of the 100,000 refugees, whose entry into Palestine Mr. Truman requested more than a year ago, have gained admittance, the Zionist leaders claimed that "there has been a failure on the international diplomatic plane" to carry out policies repeatedly voiced by the Presidents and the U.S. Congress, leaving the U.S. open to charges that statements favorable to Jewish DP's and a Jewish National Home "were not seriously meant."

Silver Hails Establishment of Negev Settlements in Cable to Jewish Agency

CLEVELAND, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- A cable hailing the simultaneous establishment of 12 settlements in the Negev area of Palestine has been sent to the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, president of the Zionist Organization of America. The text of the message read as follows:

"American Jewry thrilled by news of simultaneous establishment twelve settlements in Negev. It is magnificent tribute to the indefeasible spirit of the Yishuv and greatly heartens all of us here who are working with you for the upbuilding and redemption of Eretz Israel."

NEW JERSEY BECOMES FIFTH STATE TO OUTLAW KU KLUX KLAN; NOTES LINK WITH NAZI BUND

TRENTON, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- New Jersey today became the fifth state to ban the activities of the Ku Klux Klan when it outlawed the terroristic organization by order of the Supreme Court. The other states are Kentucky, California, Georgia and New York.

The action was based on a report by Attorney-General Walter D. Van Riper that the Klan is unlawful, arouses racial and religious prejudices, and held a joint meeting with the German-American Bund in 1940.