

Tuesday, October 28, 1947

JTA

Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY
106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

PARTITION SUB-COMMITTEE GOES INTO CLOSED SESSION TO STUDY BOUNDARIES AND TRANSITION

LATE SUCCESS, Oct. 27. (JTA) -- The United Nations sub-committee on partition, anxious to reach an understanding on the major issues involving partition, today decided to hold informal closed sessions to discuss, primarily, the question of when the mandate should be terminated, who should be the transitional authority and the duration of the transition period. The first such informal session was held this afternoon.

It was devoted almost exclusively to an exposition by Moshe Shertok, Jewish Agency political chief, on the boundaries of the Jewish state.

Using a blackboard, Shertok outlined the parts of Palestine in which the Jews are particularly interested and explained why it is imperative that Western Galilee and other sections of the country be included in the proposed Jewish state. Shertok spoke at the suggestion of the Canadian delegate that the informal session start with a discussion of the boundaries.

The decision to hold closed sessions was taken with the consent of the American and Soviet delegations, which -- although favoring partition -- do not see eye to eye on certain aspects concerning implementation of a partition decision. The chief differences center around the length of the transition period and the United Nations authority during the transition period.

It is felt that these differences will be reconciled at the informal sessions, thus paving the way for quick decisions at the open meetings of the sub-committee which will follow. The sub-committee is expected to have its report ready within three or four days, to coincide with the conclusion of deliberations by the other sub-committee, which is coordinating the Arab proposals.

U.S. Has Not Reached Decision on Deadline For Termination of Mandate

Herschel Johnson, speaking for the American delegation, emphasized that the United States has not reached any decision as yet with regard to the length of the transition period and the time limit for termination of the mandate, nor on the question of the U.N. administration of Palestine during the transition period. He urged partition in order to speed up the work of the sub-committee, the body be divided into two working groups:

One group to work on recommendations dealing with the boundaries between the proposed Jewish and Arab state, on economic union between the two states, on public assets -- movable and immovable -- and admission of the two states to U.N. membership.

The second working group to prepare recommendations on partition and independence, on the city of Jerusalem, on the transitional period and constitution, including questions of administrative authority, immigration, formulation of constitutions

and implementation. The same group could also make recommendations on religious and minority rights, a declaration concerning the Holy Places, citizenship, international conventions and financial obligations.

Questions concerning refugees and displaced persons and the legal basis and authority for the proposed partition, which the Arabs are challenging, could be dealt with by the whole sub-committee following the conclusion of the work of the two working groups, the American delegate said.

Semyon Tsarapkin, the Soviet delegate, opposed sub-dividing the body. Johnson then indicated he would drop his proposal providing all major issues concerning partition were discussed at closed sessions. Finally, the delegates agreed that informal talks be held in camera on major issues, but that the results of the talks be announced at open sessions.

The American delegation is understood to be marking time in the hope that Britain will agree to remain in Palestine to implement any decision which the U.N. may take on partition. It was predicted today that the U.S., while intent on securing approval for partition, will seek to modify the UNSCOP partition proposal so as to make it acceptable to the British Government for implementation.

Members of the U.S. delegation today indicated to the JTA that they are hopeful that the partition proposal, when modified in certain details, will receive the necessary two-thirds vote at the Assembly. They expressed optimism over the possibility of reaching an agreement with the Soviet delegation on the major aspects of the partition plan.

Meanwhile, the Agudas Israel is expected to apply to the U.N. for a separate hearing, following the refusal of the Jewish Agency to agree that an Agudah representative be included in the official Agency delegation here. The split developed last night at a meeting between Agency leaders and representatives of the American Jewish Conference, American Jewish Committee, World Jewish Conference, Jewish Labor Committee and the Agudah. The Agency stand was supported by Judge Joseph M. Proskauer, President of the American Jewish Committee, who stressed the prime importance of impressing the U.N. with the fact that the Agency spoke for all groups.

VISALESS PALESTINE SAILINGS FROM FRENCH PORTS CANCELLED FOLLOWING NEW GOVT. POLICY

PARIS, Oct. 27. (JTA) -- Clandestine sailings of Jewish refugees for Palestine will be confined to southeast European and Italian ports before long and no sailings will take place from the French coast, well-informed circles reported today.

This decision was taken after organizers of the visaless sailings had learned that British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin had asked the French Foreign Office to take energetic measures to prevent a repetition of the Exodus affair. According to reliable information, the French authorities seem to have changed their previous policy and are taking stern measures to prevent Palestine sailings.

U.S. HAS MORAL OBLIGATION TO AID IN DP SETTLEMENT, CHAIRMAN OF DEMOCRATIC PARTY SAYS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27. (JTA) -- The United States has a great moral obligation to aid in the resettlement of displaced persons in safe parts of the world and to pass legislation to admit some of them to this country, Sen. J. Howard McGrath, of Rhode Island, new national chairman of the Democratic Party, told a press conference today. Sen. McGrath, a member of a special Senate committee to investigate immigration and DP matters, returned Friday from Europe where he visited 15 DP camps near Frankfurt and Stuttgart.

JOINT COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED IN ATTEMPT TO HALT CLASHES BETWEEN IRGUN AND HAGANAH

JERUSALEM, Oct. 27. (JTA) -- Alarmed by the mounting clashes between the Hagana and the Irgun, community leaders today established a committee charged with seeking the source of the present flare-up and with enforcing discipline and peace.

The Committee, which began work this morning, consists of representatives of all parties, neutral and prominent individuals. As a result of its preliminary deliberations, hope was expressed tonight that a modus vivendi could be worked out which would halt the clashes within the next few days.

Meanwhile, it was disclosed that mobilization of youths between the ages of 18 and 25 has already started. They will be sent to guard isolated settlements near the Syrian and Lebanese frontiers and in the Negev.

An accidental bomb explosion in Petach Tikvah today virtually demolished a house and wounded two men, one of whom succeeded in fleeing. The other, Moshe Farkash, 25, was arrested and taken to a government hospital.

Rightists Ask Greater Role in Administrative Machinery For Jewish State

A conference of right-wing political groupings which opened at Ramath Gan last night under the leadership of Mayor Israel Rokach and other conservative leaders concluded today after adopting resolutions demanding that conservative elements be given a role in the framework being set up in preparation for statehood. The resolution was passed over the opposition of extremist elements, which demanded the conference maintain non-cooperation with the Yishuv until the right-wingers were given adequate representation.

Mor Yaari, a leader of the left-wing Hashomer Hatzair, which has been a firm advocate of partition, told a conference of the party yesterday that "since friends of the Arabs are sitting on the partition sub-committee (of the U.N. Ad Hoc Committee) and enemies on the Arab sub-committee, it would be illogical and unwise to oppose our friends and support our enemies." He added, however, that "when the Jewish state is established, we will strive for closest cooperation with the Arab state until a binational state is created."

Informed quarters here state that many British troops have already left Palestine and that only about 50,000, which would be half of the number stationed here in the last few years, remain. No confirmation of the report could be obtained from official quarters. However, it was announced that Citrus House, which has been the Tel Aviv headquarters of the British military forces, has been evacuated and returned to its owners.

Henry Wallace is reported to have conferred this morning with Menahem Beigin, Irgun leader. Later in the day he was received at the Tel Aviv municipality and visited the Weizmann and Sieff Institutes. During a visit to Jewish settlements yesterday, he ploughed a field in Afikim.

A shipment of 60,000 crates of grapefruit, the first to be sent to England this fall, left Haifa this week-end. Estimates of the size of the crop which will be exported to England this season range up to 10,000,000 cases of oranges and grapefruits.

REFUGEE AGREE TO ACCEPT NEW QUARTERS IF NECESSARY REPAIRS ARE MADE

LUBECK, Germany, Oct. 27. (JTA) -- A special commission sent by the Exodus refugees to investigate camps in Emden and Wilhelmshaven which the British offered for new quarters has returned and declared the camps satisfactory, except that certain repairs have to be made.

The local British authorities have indicated that they will correct deficiencies noted by the commission, which included refugee leaders and Jewish doctors. The British were scheduled to meet with camp leaders today to work out a schedule for the transfer of the visaless Jews from the Poppendorf and Am Stau camps, probably some this week.

According to the commission, both the new camps are former German naval installations which have more recently been used for the housing of Polish and Baltic DP's. The Emden camp has three-story concrete barracks with a capacity for 2,400 persons. The Wilhelmshaven center consists of one-story concrete buildings and has a capacity for 2,000. The latter camp has spacious grounds while the former has only a central square for recreational purposes.

Both camps were completely stripped by their former inmates when they were transferred. While conditions at the new camps are better than those here, the refugees will still be far from comfortable. In most cases more than one family group will have to live in a single room. It is planned to send two teams of 30 refugees to the camps as an advance party to supervise the installation of needed supplies and furnishings and to help the Jews move in.

One final point which the refugees still have not ironed out with the British authorities. They receive the regular DP food ration of 1,550 calories but have not yet been granted additional supplies such as cigarettes and toilet articles usually given to them.

10,000 DISPLACED JEWISH CHILDREN ATTENDING GERMAN CAMP SCHOOL SYSTEM, LEVINTHAL REPORTS

PARIS, Oct. 27. (JTA) -- There are more than 10,000 Jewish children attending school in the DP camps of Germany, Judge Louis E. Levinthal, advisor on Jewish affairs to the U.S. Army in Europe, declared today at a meeting of the United Jewish Educational and Cultural Organization, which is currently holding its first international convention here.

Although he reported that some 800 teachers were employed within the camp educational system, Judge Levinthal declared that one of the greatest handicaps encountered in the system was a shortage of qualified instructors as well as an insufficient quantity of texts. He called on the organization to aid the DP educational program in these respects. The system is supported and staffed by instructors from the Joint Distribution Committee, the Jewish Agency and the Jewish Central Committee of Germany, he said.

David Brill, chairman of the Vienna Jewish Community, reported that of the 10,000 Jews in Vienna only 300 were children of school age. He did not offer any statistics on the remaining 1,000 Jews residing outside of the capital. He said the children in Vienna were not receiving a regular education chiefly because of lack of qualified instructors.

Norman Bentwich, former attorney general of Palestine, and vice-chairman of the Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad, outlined a program for American and British Jewish communities to aid in the reconstruction of teachers seminaries, libraries and other cultural institutions in former occupied territory.

FRENCH PROPOSE CUT IN I.R.O. BUDGET FOR AID TO INDIVIDUAL REFUGEE IMMIGRANTS

GENEVA, Oct. 27. (JTA) -- The French delegate to the Preparatory Commission for the International Refugee Organization, which is meeting here now, today proposed that the fund set aside for aiding individual refugee migration be cut from \$6,000,000 to \$1,000,000. Representatives of Jewish relief organizations, on whom the major portion of the burden would fall if the French proposal is accepted, expressed doubts that they could assume the tremendous burden without the raising of additional huge sums of money.

The French delegate, Leon de Rosen, criticized the unbalanced budget presented by I.R.O. administrative officials and apologized to the voluntary relief agencies for shifting additional responsibilities upon them. Pierre Jacobsen, assistant executive secretary of the commission, declared that \$1,000,000 was insufficient for completing the resettlement scheme.

ONLY 5,000 OF BOHEMIA-MORAVIA'S 126,000 PRE-WAR JEWS REMAIN, FIRST POSTWAR MEETING HEARS

PRAGUE, Oct. 27. (JTA) -- Only 5,000 of the 126,000 Jews who resided in Bohemia and Moravia before the war are presently living in the two provinces, it was disclosed at the opening of the first post-war Congress of Jewish Communities. Together with the 7,000 Jews who have moved here from the Carpathian Ukraine, the total Jewish population is 12,000.

In the major address at the first session, which was attended by 132 delegates, Ernst Frischer, chairman of the Council of Jewish Communities, reviewed the situation of the Jewish community since the liberation, touching on political, economic and social questions. He stated that the government had scrupulously enforced full political and economic rights for Jews and had acted fairly in the question of granting citizenship to former Sub-Carpathian Jews and those of German nationality. However, individual Jews are encountering considerable difficulty in the matter of restitution.

The return to Jews of houses taken from them during the German occupation has been accomplished without too much difficulty, but restitution of industrial holdings is lagging badly, Frischer said. He warned that a catastrophic situation would develop within a month unless the government reversed its decision to include heirless Jewish property in the Currency Stabilization Fund. Another hardship is the maintenance of the German ruling that persons who fail to practice their professions for six months are deprived of their license. The rigid interpretation which has been given this regulation has resulted in persons who were unable to practice during the occupation because they were Jews being refused new licenses.

The community chairman reported that close and effective relations have been established with Jewish organizations abroad. He laid particular stress on the aid extended Czech Jews since the end of the war by the Joint Distribution Committee.

The opening session was attended by representatives of the Foreign, Education and Information Ministries and by the mayor of Prague. Spokesmen for the government and for the Catholic Church recalled the role of the Jews during the occupation and pledged a continued fight to stamp out anti-Semitism.

ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT MAKES GRANT FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS; RESTITUTION BILL DRAFTED

BUCHAREST, Oct. 27. (JTA) -- The Rumanian Government has agreed to grant a subsidy of 32,000,000 leis during the fiscal year ending April, 1948, for Jewish schools, hospitals and other institutions.

Minister of Justice Lucretiu Patrascanu today received a Jewish delegation, which discussed the final draft of a pending bill covering the disposition of property which was confiscated from Jews during the Antonescu regime.

10/28/47

100TH "UNITY" SUBWAY CARD POSTED IN NEW YORK AT CEREMONY ATTENDED BY CIVIC LEADERS

NEW YORK, Oct. 27. (JTA) -- The 100th "unity" subway card to be posted in trains of New York City's subway system was placed in a train at the City Hall station today at a ceremony attended by city officials and civic leaders. The cards, which are prepared by the Institute for American Democracy, contain pictorial appeals for religious and racial tolerance. Among those present were Protestant, Negro and Jewish leaders, including Justice Meir Steinbrink, national chairman of the Anti-Defamation League.

NEW WRITERS RECEIVE LOUIS LAMED AWARD FOR BEST WORKS IN HEBREW AND YIDDISH

NEW YORK, Oct. 27. (JTA) -- Kadia Molodowsky, S. Miller, S. Halkin and Prof. Abraham Shalom Yehuda have been named recipients of the annual Louis Lamed awards for the best books in Yiddish and Hebrew during 1946. The prizes are \$400 each.

Molodowsky received the award for a book of poetry entitled "Only King David Remained;" Halkin for a volume of poems, "Tree of Life;" Miller for the novel "Generation of the Flood," and Prof. Yehuda for a book of essays entitled "Hebrew and Arab." The works of Molodowsky and Miller were published in Yiddish, while the other two appeared in Hebrew.

MRS. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN ELECTED PRESIDENT OF PIONEER WOMEN; 10TH CONVENTION CLOSES

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 27. (JTA) -- Mrs. Israel Goldstein of New York was elected president of the Pioneer Women's Organization of America last night at the final business session. The organization's tenth national convention closed this afternoon.

Elected as the first delegate from the organization to its Palestinian affiliate, the Working Women's Council, was Miss Dvora Rothbard. The delegates also adopted a resolution calling on President Truman to reinstitute price controls and pledged to cooperate in his campaign to save food for overseas relief needs.

85 JEWISH REFUGEE IMMIGRANTS ARRIVE IN NEW YORK; MET BY USNA, HIAS REPRESENTATIVES

NEW YORK, Oct. 27. (JTA) -- Some 85 Jewish refugees arrived here today on the Erie Pyle among 266 quota immigrants of all faiths who are entering the country under President Truman's program to facilitate immigration of refugees from Germany. They were aided in emigrating by the JDC and HIAS.

The United Service for New Americans, which extended its corporate visa to 37 of the refugees, sent its representatives to the pier to meet the Jews. Other organizations, including HIAS, were also represented at the docks. The passengers boarded the vessel in Bremerhaven.

DR. RICARDO DUBROVSKY ELECTED PRESIDENT OF DAIA; SUCCEEDS DR. MOISES GOLDMANN

BUENOS AIRES, Oct. 27. (JTA) -- Dr. Ricardo Dubrovsky has been elected president of the DAIA, central body of Argentine Jewry, succeeding Dr. Moises Goldmann, who refused to stand for re-election because of the failure of opposition groups in the DAIA to reconcile their differences.

Dr. Dubrovsky, who is not an adherent of any faction, was elected chiefly by Zionist votes. He was previously vice-president of the DAIA and has been president of the B'nai B'rith and vice-president of the OSE. The vote was 43 for Dubrovsky, 40 abstentions and 5 for Goldmann, despite his refusal to run.