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ISRAEL PREPARES FOR OPENING OF ASSEMBLY ON MONDAY; FIRST SESSION WILL ELECT PRESIDENT

TEL AVIV, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- All technical and organizational arrangements for the ceremonious opening of Israel's Constituent Assembly next Monday afternoon in Jerusalem are nearing completion, it was reported here today. The arrangements are being made by the praesidium and secretariat of the State Council.

Invitations to the first session, which will last from Monday to Friday, have been sent to all members of the Assembly, representatives of foreign states, members of the first and present World Zionist Congress, the justices of the Israeli Supreme Court and many other prominent figures in Israeli life. Provisional President Chaim Weizmann will open the session with an address, at the conclusion of which he will request the newly-elected members of the body to rise and take their oath of office, which he will administer.

Zorach Wahrhaftig, chairman of the State Council's Ways and Means Committee, today told a press conference that the parliament will be named Knesseth--the Hebrew word for assembly--and that the first task to which the body will turn its attention is the election of a President of the state of Israel. On the second day, the members of the Knesseth will elect a chairman, three vice-chairmen and an honorary secretary of the body.

Within three days after the election of a President, the chief of state will extend an invitation to a member of the Knesseth to form a government. The Cabinet will consist of an unlimited number of ministers, depending upon the requirements of the government. Ministers need not be members of the Knesseth. The President may dissolve the Knesseth only once during his term of office, and then only if for three months he has been unsuccessful in getting a government formed.

The President will remain in office for the term of the Knesseth and three months thereafter. He may be removed only if two-thirds of the Assembly charge him with treason, a criminal offense or bribery. If he is so charged a constitutional court consisting of three legislators and four members of the Supreme Court, including the presiding justice, will hear the case and will pass sentence.

BRITAIN PREPARES FOR TALKS WITH ISRAEL ON FINANCIAL PROBLEMS; TRADE PACT CONSIDERED

LONDON, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- The British Board of Trade and the Treasury today went to work on the outstanding financial problems between Britain and Israel, it was learned here. Also under discussion are the possibilities of a trade agreement between the two nations.

Although matters have not yet reached a stage where direct talks between the parties are possible, it was hinted today that such talks need not wait until the arrival of Alexander Helm, new British representative, in Tel Aviv. No date has been set for Helm's departure from Budapest, where he is now serving as Minister, for Tel Aviv, it was learned authoritatively today. (In Tel Aviv it was reported that no decision has yet been reached on the naming of an Israeli envoy to Britain.)

RECONCILIATION COMMISSIONERS AND SHERTOK OPEN PRELIMINARY TALKS ON PALESTINE SOLUTION

TEL AVIV, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Preliminary discussions between the members of the U.N. Palestine Conciliation Commission and Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Shertok began here last night at the residence of the Foreign Minister.

On the agenda at the meeting, which lasted several hours, were such questions as the fate of Jerusalem, the plight of the Arab refugees and the boundaries of Israel. Commenting on the purpose of the meeting, Shertok said that it was being held to "acquaint ourselves with the problems facing the members of the Commission."

The Transjordan-controlled Ramallah radio last night stated that at the recent meeting of Arab diplomats in Cairo it was decided that each of the Arab League states would reply separately to acting U.N. mediator Ralph J. Bunche's invitation to join the armistice discussions on Rhodes.

The Greater Rabbinical Council, supreme religious authority in Israel, today expressed "deep gratification" at the many announcements of recognition of Israel by various nations. The Council's statement also appealed to the Moslem world to "take the hand" extended by Israel.

TRANSJORDAN ACCEPTS U.N. INVITATION TO ATTEND ARMISTICE TALKS WITH ISRAEL AT RHODES

LONDON, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Transjordan has accepted the invitation of U.N. mediator Dr. Ralph Bunche to attend the armistice talks with Israel on Rhodes, Reuters reported today. The British news agency said that an official announcement to this effect has been issued at Rhodes.

Reports from Cairo said that six Arab nations, in addition to Egypt, have decided to enter armistice talks with Israel. They will accept Dr. Bunche's invitation to negotiate at Rhodes, but first will await the results of the current Egyptian-Israeli talks, a leader of the Arab League is reported to have stated.

ISRAEL SEEKS RESULTS OF TALKS WITH EGYPT BEFORE NEGOTIATING WITH OTHER ARAB STATES

TEL AVIV, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- The Government of Israel will not enter into formal armistice negotiations with other Arab states until the talks with Egypt at Rhodes have reached some conclusion, it was reliably learned here today.

Admitting for the first time the possibility that the Rhodes conference may not be successfully concluded, an official spokesman said that in either event--success or failure of the armistice negotiations--the Israeli Government would not be inclined to begin formal armistice talks with either Arab states until the talks with Egypt had ended.

Complete breakdown of the talks with Egypt would not, however, preclude the inception of formal negotiations with other Arab countries, it was emphasized. Direct contacts have been maintained by Israeli officials with both Lebanon and Transjordan, but they are dormant at present.

ITALY ANNOUNCES OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL; ITALY'S HOSPITALITY TO DP'S LAUDED

ROME, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- The Italian Government today officially announced de facto recognition of Israel. Israeli Consul-General Arie Oren simultaneously issued a statement lauding the Italian people for saving Jews from extermination under the Mussolini regime and for the hospitality accorded by Italy to thousands of Jewish refugees after the war.

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TRIAL OF 86 MOROCCANS WHO PARTICIPATED IN POGROMS OPENS IN CASABLANCA

PARIS, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- The trial of 86 persons who participated in last year's pogroms at Oujda and Djerrada in Morocco--in which 35 persons were killed--opened yesterday in Casablanca, it was reported here today.

ONE JEW SENTENCED TO DEATH, ONE TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR AIDING GESTAPO IN PARIS

PARIS, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Oscar Reich, a Jew, was today convicted of having aided the Nazis in hunting down fellow Jews in Paris during the German occupation and was sentenced to death by a French court. Josef Weiszl, a second Jewish defendant convicted of the same charge, was sentenced to life imprisonment. A third defendant, also a Jew, Joseph Crasny, was acquitted.

The prosecution maintained that after the three defendants were arrested by the Germans in Paris, they undertook to aid the Nazis in the Drancy camp. Reich, who was appointed chief of the camp police, beat and blackmailed other Jewish prisoners, Weiszl, who at one time was also head of the camp police, maltreated the Jewish detainees and later organized deportations to the East. Crasny, a chauffeur for the Germans, was charged with participating in several raids in search of Jews.

JES CONTINUE TO FLEE FROM EASTERN COUNTRIES TO AUSTRIA; COMPLICATE RESETTLEMENT

VIENNA, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- A new influx of Jewish refugees from Eastern Europe, most of whom declare that they have fled to escape arrest for anti-Communist activity, is now seriously complicating the DP resettlement problem here. Within the last three months more than 3,000 Jewish refugees have arrived in Austria from Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Rumania.

Were it not for these new arrivals, the evacuation of Jewish DP's would now be nearly completed. Today 200 persons were sent from western Austrian camps on their way to new homes abroad. But an equal number have arrived here since Feb. 1. On the average, 600 to 800 are being admitted each month into the camps while the remainder are living in hotels or with Austrian relatives.

Jewish authorities here have long hoped that the resettlement problem would be largely solved by early summer, leaving behind four to five thousand refugees awaiting transportation to some place other than Israel. These hopes seem doomed to disappointment since only about 20 percent of the newcomers indicate a desire to emigrate to Israel, and most of them do not yet know where they want to go. What is to be done with these people who refuse to go to Israel, and for whom visas are not available in other countries, is a question nobody here can answer.

65,000 JEWISH DP'S REMAIN IN U.S. ZONE OF GERMANY; 40,000 WISH TO GO TO ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Dr. Haim Yachil, Israeli representative in the U.S. zone of Germany who is now here, told newsmen today that it has been decided to establish two Israeli consulates in Germany--one in Munich, to serve the U.S., British and French zones; and one in Berlin. Only the Israeli missions will handle problems concerning the return of property belonging to Israeli citizens, Dr. Yachil, who was formerly known as Hoffman, declared.

He revealed that there are still some 65,000 Jews in the U.S. zone of Germany, 40,000 of whom wish to go to Israel, and some 15,000 who desire to migrate to the U.S. and Latin America. In the British zone there are some 10,000 persons, half of whom wish to migrate to the Jewish state, while there are 1,700 in the Soviet zone, 1,000

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in the French area and 8,000 in Berlin. From 1946 to the establishment of Israel, last May, some 35,000 persons made their way to the Jewish state, while 30,000 have arrived since the middle of May.

Turning to the sociological aspects of Jewish life in Germany, Dr. Yachil declared that anti-Semitism is as virulent in Germany today as it was under Hitler. There are hundreds of mixed marriages, he said, but no assimilationism. The health of the DP's is good, and only 2,500 are invalids or suffer from chronic diseases. The children are all attending schools where they learn the Hebrew language, which their elders are also mastering.

Asserting that it is hoped that the entire Jewish problem in Germany will be solved early this summer, he praised the work of the Joint Distribution Committee. He pointed out that the most difficult problem the relief agency faces is care of about 1,000 tuberculosis patients. The J.D.C., he reported, is negotiating with the International Refugee Organization to send these patients to Israel and to maintain them there in sanatoriums.

ORT PRESENTS CITATION TO U.S. ARMY FOR SERVICES IN REHABILITATING JEWS IN EUROPE

NEW YORK, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- The American ORT Federation today presented the United States Army with a citation for "distinguished services" in the rehabilitation of thousands of Jewish victims of Nazism in Europe.

The citation, which thanks "every member of the armed forces," was presented at a ceremony at the International ORT Exhibit here to Col. Frank J. Pearson, Deputy Chief of Staff of the First Army, who accepted it in behalf of the Army. Following the ceremony, which was witnessed by 500 persons, the citation was sent to General Omar Bradley, Army Chief of Staff. Later, it will be placed permanently in the archives of the Army.

M. Maldwin Fertig, member of the ORT executive board, who made the presentation, declared that "every member of the American Jewish community is grateful to our Army for its assistance in reconstructing the Jewish survivors of Hitlerism. It symbolized the American tradition of lending a helpful hand to the persecuted and down-trodden of the world."

ISRAELI ARCHAEOLOGIST COMING TO U.S. FOR FUNDS; DISCOVERED MANUSCRIPT OF PROPHET ISAIAH

JERUSALEM, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Prof. E. Sukenik, one of Israel's leading archaeologists, is due to arrive in New York this week on a mission for the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, University officials announced here today.

Prof. Sukenik is seeking to raise funds to publish the text of a partial manuscript attributed to the Prophet Isaiah and to acquire other parts of the manuscript which are scattered throughout the Middle East. The manuscript was originally discovered by a Bedouin in a Judean desert cave, well preserved in an earthenware vessel.

The Bedouin apparently traded parts of the manuscript during his wanderings, before coming to Prof. Sukenik. The archaeologist, who realized the tremendous value of this find, acquired what he could and has since published a book on the discovery.

Prof. Sukenik is the father of Yigal Yadin, Israeli Army chief of operations, who is a well known archaeologist in his own right. Another of Sukenik's sons was killed over Tel Aviv while piloting a plane in action against Arab raiders.

U.N. SOCIAL COUNCIL TO CONSIDER PACT ON DECLARATION OF DEATH OF MISSING PERSONS

LAKE SUCCESS, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- The United Nations Economic and Social Council decided today to consider the question of an international convention on the issuance of declarations of death of missing persons.

The proposed declarations involve the uncertified death of millions of Jews who perished in Europe at the hands of the Nazis and whose assets remain frozen due to lack of legal proof of their death. The Council will take up only procedural problems in order to work out an acceptable international formula.

AMERICAN JEWISH GROUPS ISSUE STATEMENT CONDEMNING TRIAL OF CARDINAL MINDSZENTY

NEW YORK, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- The trial of Cardinal Mindszenty, Roman Catholic primate of Hungary, was condemned in a statement issued here today by three national Jewish organizations: The American Jewish Committee, the Jewish Labor Committee and the Jewish War Veterans.

"When it is recalled that Bishop Lajos Ordas of the Lutheran Church in Hungary has also been arrested and imprisoned, it is difficult not to conclude that the Communist Government has embarked on a program of religious persecution, which it is seeking to disguise as prosecution on political grounds," the statement said. "Nor, in view of the methods to which totalitarian governments commonly resort to wring 'confessions' from their victims, has this suspicion been dispelled by what has happened at Cardinal Mindszenty's so-called trial, at which, interestingly enough, the presiding judge and the prosecuting attorney are former Nazis.

"The undersigned organizations, in conformity with their uncompromising support of full religious freedom for all men, take this occasion to register their abhorrence of all religious persecution, and their sympathy with the church leaders who are currently being persecuted in Hungary," the statement concluded.

Herbert H. Lehman, in a letter to Cardinal Spellman of New York, made public today, said: "I am shocked beyond measure by the procedure and the verdict in the trial of Cardinal Mindszenty. This sham trial is an affront to the entire civilized world. It is a matter that concerns not only the Catholic Church, but deeply offends the conscience of all liberty-loving people. It is an effort to destroy or weaken through persecution and fear all religion and all democracy. Its implications directly affect people of all creeds in every part of the world. I deeply pray that the fight for Cardinal Mindszenty's vindication and release will be continued under the leadership of this country and that the forces of bigotry and atheism will be routed."

USE OF ANTI-SEMITIC AND PRO-NAZI PUBLICATION FROM U.S. ZONE IN GERMANY IS SOUGHT

NEW YORK, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- The World Jewish Congress today addressed a letter to the State Department asking for the banning from the U.S. zone in Germany of *Neue Politik*, a German magazine published in Switzerland and devoted to reviving Nazism. The letter points out that British occupation authorities have banned the publication because of its anti-Semitic character.

HEAVY SNOW, RARITY IN JERUSALEM, FALLS ON CITY; TRAFFIC SNARLED; ACCIDENTS REPORTED

JERUSALEM, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- A heavy snow, which is a rarity in this area, has been falling in Jerusalem since yesterday and has covered sections of the city to a depth of six inches. Traffic has been snarled as a result of the storm and convoys proceeding to the Mt. Scopus area have been delayed. Many trees have fallen and a number of minor accidents have been reported.

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BILL TO OUTLAW ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION IN NEW JERSEY APPROVED BY STATE ASSEMBLY

TRENTON, N.J., Feb. 8. (JTA) -- A bill providing for the outlawing of all forms of discrimination because of race, creed, national origin or color in employment, education, housing, public accommodation and recreational facilities was approved unanimously here yesterday by the State Assembly.

The measure, proposed by Assemblywoman Grace Freeman, also endorses guarantees in the state's new constitution against discrimination. Governor Alfred E. Driscoll and members of various civil rights organizations have previously urged passage of such a measure.

NATIONAL BODY FORMED TO SPUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO MAXIMUM SUPPORT OF U.J.A. DRIVE

NEW YORK, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- The United Jewish Appeal today announced the organization of a National Committee on Community Quotas to spur Jewish communities throughout the country to give maximum support to its current \$250,000,000 campaign.

The new committee consists of leaders from cities in every section of the country. It was formed yesterday at a meeting addressed by Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, William Rosenwald and Herman L. Weisman, national chairmen of the United Jewish Appeal. Bernard F. Alexander, of Trenton, N.J., was elected chairman of the new body.

MAYOR O'DWYER PROCLAIMS FEB. 20-26 AS "FOOD FOR ISRAEL WEEK" AT CITY HALL CEREMONY

NEW YORK, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Mayor William O'Dwyer today proclaimed the week of February 20-26 as "Food For Israel Week" and called upon all residents of New York City to assist in the filling of the Friendship Food Train which has been initiated under the auspices of the Zionist Organization of America.

In special ceremonies held in his office at City Hall, Mayor O'Dwyer stressed the need of alleviating the current food shortage in the Jewish state. He hailed the formation of the Friendship Food Train as "New York City's expression of friendship and encouragement to the people of Israel" and pointed out that it represents a "concrete demonstration of American good will to the newest state in the family of nations."

DR. JOSEPH HYMAN, FORMER EXECUTIVE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF J.D.C., DIES IN LOS ANGELES

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Dr. Joseph C. Hyman, formerly executive vice-chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee and for a quarter of a century a leading figure in the J.D.C.'s program to alleviate the suffering of Jewish communities overseas, died here this morning of a heart attack at the age of 59.

Dr. Hyman retired from his post as executive vice-chairman of the J.D.C. in January, 1947. In the summer of the same year, however, he undertook a survey of conditions among Europe's displaced Jews, reporting that only the continued assistance of American Jewry could assure the speedy solution of the Jewish DP problem. He visited Palestine as well as seven European countries.

The President's War Relief Control Board awarded Dr. Hyman a citation of commendation for his wartime activities. Signed by President Truman, the document commended Dr. Hyman "for eminent service rendered in the field of humanitarian war relief during World War II."