

Friday, February 18, 1949

# JTA

## Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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

DR. WEIZMANN SWORN IN AS ISRAEL'S FIRST PRESIDENT; THOUSANDS LINE STREETS OF JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- In the most impressive ceremony in the last 2,000 years of Jewish history, Dr. Chaim Weizmann was today sworn in as the first president of the state of Israel. Thousands of cheering men, women and children, soldiers and civilians, lined the streets of this city as the elder Zionist statesman took his oath of office in the temporary meeting hall of the Israeli Constituent Assembly. Dr. Weizmann's election took place in the early hours this morning.

At 8 A.M. local time a delegation of 12 Assembly members, representing every shade of opinion and party--except the Heruth and the Communists, but including Moshe Shai Said Eldin, an Arab Assembly member--proceeded to Rehovoth to inform Dr. Weizmann that he had been elected Israel's chief of state.

Receiving the delegation, Dr. Weizmann said: "You bring me the highest possible human honor, but my days decline and my health fails and I do not know whether I will be able to bear such a great responsibility, but one promise I give you--I will not spare myself to fulfill my obligations." The President then shook hands with each member of the delegation.

The Presidential party proceeded to Jerusalem under strong military escort and accompanied by an Army motorcycle unit. At Motza, three miles from the Holy City, cheering crowds began to line the road for a glimpse of the President. The procession stopped outside a specially-erected "Gate of Honor" where Jerusalem Mayor Daniel Bar welcomed Dr. Weizmann.

### President Symbolically Re-Unites Jerusalem with Israel

At the gate, Dr. Weizmann was handed a pair of scissors which the President used to cut a ribbon in front of the gate, symbolizing the re-uniting of Jerusalem with the rest of Israel. The procession stopped in front of the Jewish Agency headquarters here. Dr. Weizmann was accompanied by his wife, Police Inspector-General Yecheskiel Sacher and the Chief of Protocol. He inspected a guard of honor made up of units of the Army, Air Force and Women's Auxiliary Forces. The Police Band then played Entikvah and the President Weizmann and his party entered the Assembly hall in the Agency building.

The shofer was blown and flashbulbs exploded as Dr. Weizmann slowly entered the Assembly hall and took his seat. Joseph Sprinzak, Speaker of the Assembly, then rose and declared: "My President, we now proceed to swear thee in. I will now read to thee of the oath to thee."

Weizmann stood up and raised a trembling right hand and repeated: "I, Chaim Weizmann, as President of the state, swear allegiance to the state of Israel and its laws." Rabbi L. Zwebner, a member of the Assembly, then pronounced the traditional "Shochehyanu" blessing and Sprinzak exclaimed to the Constituent Assembly: "Long live the President!"

The Assembly cheered for several minutes when Weizmann declared: "From a heart's depth full of joy and thrill and responsibility, I thank you for the honor

electing me as the first President of Israel. With all my heart and strength I will endeavor to fulfill my lofty assignment for the benefit of my brethren and for all the inhabitants of the country and to raise the prestige of our state.

"Great is the task entrusted me," the President continued. "I am only flesh and blood and may God forbid that I fail in my deeds, but do not regard me as an intentional sinner. This is a great hour in my life. I send blessings to all the inhabitants of the country and to the Jewish people throughout the world. I know that anything done, or anything not done, will bring light or shadow to our entire nation. I am aware of the burden of responsibility which I now enter in fulfilling my duties as President."

The only sounds heard during the speech were Dr. Weizmann's voice and the noise of movie cameras filming the Presidential inauguration. The members of the Assembly burst into applause when he wished Provisional Premier David Ben Gurion—who was absent from today's proceedings on account of illness—a speedy recovery.

After his address, Dr. Weizmann shook hands with most Assembly members—one of the first being Muchammed Edin Seif, an Arab. Accompanied by his Army escort, he went from the Assembly hall to the Hotel Eden for rest and a brief luncheon before returning to Rehovoth.

#### 21-Gun Salutes Fired During Ceremony

Twenty-one gun salutes were fired throughout Israel while Dr. Weizmann was being sworn in. After the inauguration, members of the Assembly were tendered a reception by the Jerusalem municipality.

Dr. Weizmann was elected on the first ballot after midnight this morning by a vote of 83 to 15 for Prof. Joseph Klausner, who was nominated by the Heruth. Fifteen Assembly members abstained from voting while one ballot was declared invalid. In addition, six Assembly members were not present at the session. Four of the latter were out of the country.

Before the voting, which was conducted by secret ballot, Eliezer Prael, representing Mapam, said that members of his party would cast their votes for Dr. Weizmann because of "his glorious past and his achievements and services for Zionism. Voting for Dr. Weizmann does not mean that we support his political line."

M. Ben Eliezer, speaking for the Heruth, said that his party representatives will vote against Dr. Weizmann because of "his treacherous defeatist policy." Speaking for the Sternists in the Assembly, Nathan Friedman-Yellin declared that he would vote for him because Dr. Weizmann "is too old to lead the nation and although he was yesterday's great teacher, he is today a small pupil." L. Wilber, Communist delegate, expressed opposition to both Weizmann and Klausner, because "they represent Zionism imperialism."

Just prior to the election, Rabbi Meir Berlin, world Mizrahi leader, withdrew his candidacy but demanded, on behalf of the Religious Bloc, that Dr. Weizmann be sworn in by Israeli Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog to demonstrate the Jewish state's adherence to religion.

Earlier, by an overwhelming majority, the Assembly approved a transitional charter for Israel to be known as a "little Constitution." One of the clauses includes a provision that the "President must sign every law except those dealing with his prerogatives."

Moshe Beigin had proposed that the Israeli President's oath be an expression of allegiance not only to Israel but also to the "Jewish people," but his motion was defeated. Another proposal by Beigin called for the immediate transfer of the Israeli Government to Jerusalem. This motion, too, was defeated.

ISRAELI FINANCE MINISTER SIGNS AGREEMENT FOR FIRST PART OF \$100,000,000 U.S. LOAN

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- Israeli Finance Minister Eliezer Kaplan today signed a formal agreement for the first \$35,000,000 of the Export-Bank's \$100,000,000 loan to the Jewish state.

Signing for the Bank was the new chairman of its board of directors, Herbert Gordon. The Israeli special representative to the U.S., Eliahu Epstein, was present during the signing ceremony. It is expected that he will sign for Israel the necessary documents when the remainder of the U.S. loan is made available.

The \$35,000,000 loan will be available to Israel until 1952. Interest on the loan will be three-and-one-half percent. The first repayment on the principal must be made within three years and the entire principal must be repaid within 15 years.

ISRAELI MISSION IN MOSCOW MOVING TO PERMANENT QUARTERS; ACCEPTED IN DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES

MOSCOW, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- The Israeli Legation here will, within a few days, move from its present temporary headquarters in the Hotel Metropole to a 12-room building which has been especially reconditioned and refitted, it was learned today. The Israeli mission here, which is headed by Mrs. Goldie Myerson, who is now in Israel, has a 21-member staff.

The past six months--for most members of the Israeli mission--have been a period of settling down within Moscow's diplomatic colony. The coolness displayed toward the Israeli mission several months ago by certain Western diplomats has ended. For more than a half-year, the Israeli mission here has been inspired by the belief that Soviet-Israel relations are on a solid basis of friendship.

The staff--seven of whose members speak fluent Russian--includes a number of distinguished Israelis. The military attache is Col. Yohanan Ratner, a former Ezerai commander, while the commercial attache is Moshe Bergerano, a leading Israeli citrus expert.

The new Israeli Legation's headquarters--which has a fully-electrified kitchen and laundry--will also serve as residence of the Israeli Minister. Numerous Israeli paintings have been brought here from Israel and will decorate the legation's walls.

BRITISH AUTHORITIES PLAN TO BEGIN SHOWING FILM ATTACKED AS ANTI-SEMITIC IN BERLIN

BERLIN, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- Despite unofficial protests from the United States, the British plan to exhibit the motion-picture version of Charles Dickens' "Oliver Twist" to German audiences in Berlin as well as in their zone of Germany, it was learned here today. The British-produced film, which was withdrawn from exhibition in the United States following charges that the characterization of the villain Fagin was strongly anti-Semitic, will have its German-language premier here tomorrow.

The picture has not yet been cleared for a showing in the United States zone. Col. Gordon Textor, chief of the Information Services Division of the military government, said today that the British had not officially submitted the picture to his staff for approval. He added that an American decision on the subject would not be made until the film was submitted.

It is highly unlikely that "Oliver Twist" will receive U.S. approval. Protests received from Jewish civic groups in the United States have made Gen. Lucius D. Clay, American military commander, reluctant to sanction its showing in the American zone or the American sector of Berlin. Members of Col. Textor's staff have also vigorously protested the British insistence on showing the picture to Germans.

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REJECTION OF CASE OF JEWS IN MOSLEM LANDS TO SECURITY COUNCIL SEEN AS W.J.C. VICTORY

LAKE SUCCESS, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- The U.N. Economic and Social Council's adoption yesterday of a resolution asking U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie to submit to the Security Council World Jewish Congress records on the treatment of Jews in Arab countries, was hailed here today as a victory for the Congress which since March, 1945, when it first appealed to the U.N. for action, has been pressing for international aid for some 600,000 Jews in Moslem countries.

It was pointed out that the resolution placed the records in the case before the Security Council, a U.N. body with punitive powers. The W.J.C. was particularly active in the successful campaign to eliminate from the Economic and Social Council resolution a phrase which sought to place the Council on record as having "at the present time no competence to judge and hence to recommend any useful action on the statement of the World Jewish Congress." The W.J.C. was the first organization to issue a White Paper on the plight of the Jews in Arab lands.

CANADA WILL NOT SEND TRADE MISSION TO ISRAEL, MINISTER REPORTS TO PARLIAMENT

OTTAWA, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- Canada will not send a trade mission to Israel, Lester B. Pearson, Minister for External Affairs, announced in Parliament.

Canada's recognition of the Jewish state is only a few weeks old, Pearson said in explanation. He added that conversations were recently held in Ottawa between Eliahu Epstein, Israeli special representative to the United States, and Canadian officials. "These conversations have been most encouraging," he said.

HAVE JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS IN ARGENTINA BAIL GOVERNMENT'S RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL

BUENOS AIRES, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- The DAIA, central representative body of Argentine Jewry, and the pro-Peronist Organization Israelita Argentina today wired President Juan Peron to express their thanks for Argentina's recognition of Israel.

The DAIA's message stated that Argentina's action "presages fruitful collaboration with the new state." The O.I.A. called the move a "splendid gesture" and hailed Peron as a "champion of social justice."

ORGANIZATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN ITALY DISSOLVING THIS MONTH; WAS ORGANIZED IN 1945

ROME, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- The central committee of the Organization of Jewish Refugees in Italy will dissolve on February 28, it was announced here today. The organization, which was established in 1945, ceased functioning last December 15. Leon Bernstein, its chairman, resigned today because he is leaving for Israel shortly.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT WILL NOT BAN RITUAL SLAUGHTER, SPORTSMAN TELLS HOUSE OF LORDS

LONDON, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- The British Government is not prepared to prohibit the Jewish ritual slaughtering of cattle, Lord Lucas, government spokesman, declared yesterday at the conclusion of a debate on ritual slaughter.

Lord Lucas, however, said that the government was not completely certain that there are no possibilities of cruelty involved in this form of slaughter. As soon as practical, he added, the government will make the granting of meat rations to the Jewish community conditional on the use of special equipment during the slaughtering.

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ENGLISH-JEWISH NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION PARLEY; CONVENTION OPENS TODAY

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- A message of greeting from President Truman to the American Association of English-Jewish Newspapers whose annual convention will be held here Feb. 18-21 was released today by the Association. The parley, which will also mark the 100th anniversary of the publication of the first Anglo-Jewish newspaper in this country, will feature panel discussions led by experts in the advertising, circulation and editorial fields. The President's message, addressed to Philip Slomovitz, editor of the Detroit Jewish News and president of the Association, reads:

"Please give my warm greetings to all those who are attending the convention of the American Association of English-Jewish Newspapers February eighteenth to twenty-first. The 100th anniversary of the publication of 'The Asmonean' is a significant occasion, and I am delighted to have a part in it.

"The century that has passed since that date has witnessed our country's rise to a commanding world position. This has been possible because we were richly endowed by nature; but even more because we have drawn to ourselves from all the nations of the earth those who loved freedom best.

"It is our people who have made America great, and I am proud of the fact that there have always been many of Jewish origin among us. In the development of our country, in its defense, and in upholding its high ideals, American Jewry has played a distinguished role.

"For one hundred years, the Jewish press has been a potent force in building the America we love. May it long continue to uphold the highest ideals of human dignity and social justice!"

CITIZENS CONFERENCE ON CIVIL LIBERTIES HEARS STATE DEPT. AIDE ON HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- The maintenance of free institutions and political independence is one of the "new international frontiers in human rights," Edward V. Sanfifer, acting director of the State Department United Nations Affairs Division, declared at a meeting of the National Citizens Conference on Civil Liberties held here.

Such political frontiers, he said, are to be found in Palestine, among other places. America's "most vulnerable point is on the frontier of discrimination," he added.

RABBI ZLOTNIK NAMED PRESIDENT OF ISRAEL INSTITUTE OF FOLKLORE AND ETHNOLOGY

JERUSALEM, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- Rabbi J.L. Zlotnik, director of the Board of Jewish Education in South Africa, has been named president of the Israel Institute of Folklore and Ethnology here, it was announced today. Rabbi Zlotnik will soon leave for Israel to take up permanent residence. Sephardic Chief Rabbi Ben Zion Haid, Vaad Leumi president Itzhak Ben-Zvi and Dr. Max Grunwald were elected honorary presidents.

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