

Tuesday, April 26, 1949

JTA Daily News Bulletin

Published by JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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

TRUMAN TENDERS LUNCHEON TO WEIZMANN; ISRAELI PRESIDENT PRESENTS PLAQUE TO TRUMAN

WASHINGTON, April 25. (JTA) -- President Truman today tendered a luncheon to Israeli President Weizmann. The affair was a state function.

President Truman paid high tribute to the Israeli Chief of State, referring to him as "a great leader and one of the world's greatest scientists." Truman said that he had recently read "Trial and Error," the autobiography of "this very modest man," adding that "if you will read between the lines you will find in the book much more than the print itself says."

In reply, President Weizmann said that he was "deeply moved" by his reception and expressed the thanks of Israel for the "great debt which we owe" the United States. Replying to a toast by Truman, Weizmann toasted the "prosperity of your great country."

Weizmann presented Truman with a bronze plaque on which is inscribed the entire text--in English--of the Israeli Declaration of Independence. The presentation was made "as a token of the deep and grateful appreciation of the government and people of Israel" for Truman's efforts in their behalf. The plaque was engraved by Moritz Gottlieb, of Allentown, Pa.

Other luncheon guests included Secretary of State Dean Acheson and Mrs. Acheson, Vice-President Alben W. Barkley and his daughter Mrs. Max Truitt, Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn, Israeli Ambassador Eliahu Elath and Mrs. Elath, Sen. Margaret Chase Smith, Rear Admiral Robert L. Denison and Mrs. Denison.

President and Mrs. Weizmann will be guests of honor at a private luncheon to be given tomorrow by Associate Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter.

WEIZMANN REJECTS MASS REPATRIATION OF ARAB REFUGEES; SUGGESTS RESETTLEMENT IN IRAQ

WASHINGTON, April 25. (JTA) -- Israeli President Chaim Weizmann today rejected mass repatriation of the Palestine Arab refugees as a practical solution of the problem. At the same time, he suggested that they be resettled in the Tigris and Euphrates Valleys, in modern Iraq, in the area comprising the Biblical Garden of Eden.

Mass repatriation, he asserted, "would create a new minority problem and re-new old strife." He estimated that some 400,000 Arabs had fled the country and that only about 80,000 remained in Israel. Speaking further of their plight, the Israeli president declared: "We begged them to stop." He placed the responsibility for their flight on the Arab states and British officers in Transjordan who promised them that they would return in a matter of weeks to reclaim their property and that of the Jews as well.

He also revealed that the Arabs were given false hopes of "golden mountains" of loot, that they were promised the spoils of Tel Aviv and the Jewish quarter of Jerusalem. The flight of some of them, he stated, was so hasty they left behind unfinished meals and even chunks of gold."

The population of Israel will reach the million mark by a year from now, the Israeli President predicted, adding that he would like to see a balance between the

development of industry and agriculture so that the economy of the country could absorb 2,000,000 homeless Jews. He said that the two groups of Jews who most urgently need homes in Israel are the DP's from Europe and the North African Jews.

North African Jews Need Education in Pioneering, Dr. Weizmann Asserts

The North African Jews, Dr. Weizmann indicated, are creating a problem for Israel that may require several years to solve. He complained that they "suffer from too much imagination," expecting to receive in Israel a "garden and a little cottage on a platter." It is necessary "to tell them they have to work," he stressed.

The North African Jews--some 800,000 who are spread across Tunisia, Algeria, Tripolitania and Morocco--are unprepared for pioneering, he insisted. "They need, above all, education," he maintained. He estimated that the problem of adjusting these Jews to life in Israel would take "a few years."

Dr. Weizmann said that if the development of Israel was concentrated along agricultural lines immigration would move slowly. Greater numbers could be absorbed through industrial expansion, he emphasized. He noted that the DP camps in Europe are now "practically cleared."

Asked to comment on Arab fears of alleged Israeli aggression and designs for expansion in the Middle East, President Weizmann questioned the genuineness of that fear. He also asked: "Why should we transgress and put our heads in the noose?" At another point he commented that "it is ironical that they should fear us, we have plenty of work to do." He also reviewed Israel's negotiations with the Arab states and stated that the Jewish state is prepared to enter into non-aggression pacts with all the Arab nations.

Weizmann Did Not Discuss With Truman Any Further Loan for Israel

Speaking of his luncheon with President Truman, the Israeli President said he had found the American President to be "very kindly" and "sympathetic." He said that he did not discuss finances or prospects for a further loan with Truman. He added that Truman asked him about the "hopes" and "development" of Israel, its relations with its neighbors, and the work accomplished as a "foundation for peace."

(The New York Times today reported from Rome that the statement made in New York Saturday by President Weizmann declaring that the Israeli Government is ready to recognize the interests and concerns of Christianity regarding the immunity and protection of the Holy Places in Jerusalem was welcomed in Vatican circles as "a conciliatory and reassuring gesture.")

ARAB-ISRAELI TALKS START IN LAUSANNE TODAY; ISRAELI DELEGATES LEAVE FOR SWITZERLAND

TEL AVIV, April 25. (JTA) -- Two members of the Israeli delegation to the Arab-Jewish conference which is to open tomorrow at Lausanne under the auspices of the U.N. Palestine Conciliation Commission left by air today for Switzerland. They are: Elias Sassoon, Israeli Foreign Ministry expert on Arab Affairs, and Gershon Hirsch, chief of the Foreign Ministry West European Department. Walter Eytan, director-general of the Foreign Ministry, who will head the delegation, is scheduled to leave for Lausanne Thursday.

IMMIGRANTS DEMONSTRATE IN FRONT OF GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS IN TEL AVIV; DEMAND WORK

TEL AVIV, April 25. (JTA) -- Several hundred immigrants who are housed in Lydda and Ramleh today demonstrated in front of the Knesseth and government offices here, demanding employment.

Delegations of the demonstrators were received by the Secretariat of the Knesseth and by the Labor Department. They were assured that the government is aware of the acuteness of their position and is completing plans for full rehabilitation of the newcomers.

Ten thousand tents will be erected in Israel within a fortnight in an effort to relieve the desperate housing shortage, Jewish Agency treasurer Dr. Israel Goldstein revealed during the week-end. The tents, purchased at a cost of over \$5,000,000 in Belgium and Cyprus, will be erected in areas where work but not housing is available for immigrants. Dr. Goldstein said this was one of many makeshift arrangements which the Agency must make at this time because it does not have sufficient funds for the construction of permanent housing.

ISRAELI KNESSETH TO DEBATE RATIONING PROGRAM TODAY; PLAN TO BE PRESENTED BY BEN GURION

TEL AVIV, April 25. (JTA) -- A new rationing program designed to combat the high cost of living in Israel and concentrate production on essential requirements will be debated in the Knesseth tomorrow after it is presented by Premier David Ben Gurion and by Dov Joseph, Minister of Rationing and Supply. The Cabinet discussed the program yesterday and decided to refer it to the parliament as soon as possible.

Most foodstuffs and essential consumers' goods will be rationed under this plan. Items like clothing will be manufactured only in conformity with regulation specifications, and production of luxury goods for the local market will be prohibited completely. The new rationing plan may also extend to consumption of electric current.

Along with this extended rationing program will be a closer regulation of imports into the country with further limitation on import of non-essential goods. Government subsidies to industries producing cheap consumption goods are also expected to fit into the new plan.

The new measures, it is understood, are aimed to correct conditions caused here by scarcities of most items in general demand and secure better distribution of available supplies. A ban on production of luxury items for the local market will enable the authorities to concentrate the country's available facilities on production of items universally needed. The ban on luxury imports would save foreign exchange and permit the country to import machinery and equipment, raw materials and the basic commodities it needs.

ISRAELI ARMY CHIEF DORI WARNS COUNTRY WILL ALWAYS NEED STRONG ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE

HAIFA, April 25. (JTA) -- Israel will always have to maintain a strong army, navy and air force, Brig. Yaacov Dori, Israeli Army chief of staff, declared here this week-end, warning against a feeling of complacency which has set in as a result of the recent armistice pacts. Dori, who spoke at ceremonies marking the first anniversary of the liberation of the port city, stated that the Israelis will have to consider themselves a fighting people for many years to come, adding that the gains achieved during the war will be useless unless consolidated in peace.

1,200 JEWS WHO FLED HUNGARY LEAVE VIENNA FOR ISRAEL; TRAVELLED VIA CZECHOSLOVAKIA

VIENNA, April 25. (JTA) -- The largest mass exodus of Jews from Eastern European countries was launched last week-end with the departure of 1,200 Hungarians, who had arrived here earlier by way of Czechoslovakia, for Israel. At the present time there is a total of 3,500 refugees housed here in two Jewish camps, which have normal facilities for only 2,000.

The Hungarian frontier with Austria is so tightly closed today that the Jews were compelled to flee by way of Czechoslovakia. Thus far, the Czechoslovak authorities have not interfered with this Jewish exodus. The organized Jewish agencies are not involved in the current flight.

SIXTH ANNIVERSARY OF WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING COMMEMORATED AT MASS RALLY IN LONDON

LONDON, April 25. (JTA) -- The sixth anniversary of the Warsaw ghetto uprising was commemorated here last night at a mass rally sponsored by the British section of the World Jewish Congress. Among the guests who joined in the tribute to the Warsaw heroes were diplomatic representatives of Israel, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Hungary, Finland, Ethiopia, Cuba, Bolivia, United States, Denmark, Poland and Yugoslavia.

Attorney-General Sir Hartley Shawcross, attacking "those who preach Nazi doctrines in England," said: "These things cannot always be dealt with by law. Hitler intended to exterminate the Jews, but failed. What he did, gave final impetus to the establishment of a Jewish state. That state is now established and we wish it well, hoping that in peaceful and tolerant cooperation with the peoples of the Middle East and of the rest of the world it will make a contribution to peace, prosperity, human dignity and understanding."

Sir Maxwell Fyfe, chief British prosecutor at the Nuremberg war crimes trials, asserted that "as long as human hearts are warm and human minds think, the story of the Warsaw Ghetto will live forever." Other speakers included Sidney Silverman, M.P., and Chief Rabbi Israel Brodie.

OVER 2,000 PERSONS PARTICIPATE IN NEW YORK RALLY MARKING WARSAW GHETTO REVOLT

NEW YORK, April 25. (JTA) -- More than 2,000 persons participated last night in a public rally here commemorating the sixth anniversary of the uprising in the Warsaw Ghetto. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Congress for Jewish Culture.

Among those who addressed the gathering were S. Niger, noted Jewish critic, and H. Leivick, Yiddish poet. A number of survivors of the revolt who are now in the United States were introduced to the gathering.

FOUR BRITONS FINED FOR FLYING FIGHTER PLANES TO PALESTINE; PILOTS ADMIT MAKING FLIGHTS

LONDON, April 25. (JTA) -- Four London residents, all pilots, were today fined \$200 each for having flown four British Beaufighter planes from Britain to Palestine. The men admitted flying the planes. Three of the four said that they had received \$2,000 for the flight, while the fourth member stated that he got \$300.

JEWS AND ARABS REPRESENT ISRAELI GROUPS AT PARIS LEFT-WING CONFERENCE

PARIS, April 25. (JTA) -- An Israeli delegation of 16, representing Mapam, Communist and other left-wing groups and composed of Jews and Arabs, has been attending the left-wing World Congress of Fighters for Peace, which concluded here tonight. Meir Yarri, addressing the conference, stressed Israel's need for peace--for both Jews and Arabs--to make possible constructive, progressive efforts to build up the country and absorb the thousands of immigrants now arriving.

COUNCIL FOR JUDAISM PARLEY PLEDGES AID TO REVITALIZATION OF JUDAISM IN AMERICA

CHICAGO, April 25. (JTA) -- Lessing J. Rosenwald was reelected here last night to serve for a sixth term as president of the American Council for Judaism at the closing session of the three-day annual conference of the organization.

The conference adopted a resolution pledging the organization to full cooperation in all efforts toward "revitalization of Judaism in America." Another resolution protested against "the use of coercion and intimidation in fund-raising and in discussion of public issues." One of the resolutions adopted expressed support for the bills now in Congress which would liberalize the present DP law to permit the entry of increased numbers of displaced persons to the United States.

Emphasizing that there is a distinction between the obligations of religion and those of nationality, the Council in one of its resolutions said: "We share common religious beliefs with those in Israel who are Jews, but we have no political or national rights or responsibilities to their state as they have no national connection with us. We seek to build here in America a Judaism that will serve as a shining example to the Jews of Israel and to all other communities throughout the world. We believe that expressions of Orthodox, Conservative and Reform Judaism, free of nationalism and stressing the universal traditions of our faith, are essential to the survival of Judaism in America."

In its resolution on fund-raising, the Council described philanthropy as "an expression of personal responsibility to be determined by the conscience of each individual." The resolution said: "We urge our co-religionists to conduct all organized efforts for fund-raising and for creating public opinion with the most meticulous regard to the basic freedoms of America and Judaism respecting the individual's freedom of conscience." The resolution urged American Jews "to give most generously to such organizations as, in conformity with their personal convictions, raise funds for the relief, resettlement, rehabilitation, and other humanitarian needs of our co-religionists."

Activities of Council for Judaism Criticized at Z.O.A. Executive Session

NEW YORK, April 25. (JTA) -- Sharp criticism of the activities of the American Council for Judaism was voiced here last night at a closed session of the executive committee of the Zionist Organization of America by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, president. Dr. Neumann charged that the activities of the Council "showed a certain amount of coordination with corresponding anti-Zionist propaganda emanating from non-Jewish sources."

American Zionists, Dr. Neumann said, "must keep watch and ward to maintain public interest and public sympathies for the struggling young republic of Israel as well as to extend every possible economic assistance."

Z.O.A. ADMINISTRATION ENDORSES NOMINATION OF FRISCH FOR PRESIDENCY OF ORGANIZATION

NEW YORK, April 25. (JTA) -- Leaders of the national administration of the Zionist Organization of America headed by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Emanuel Neumann, president of the Z.O.A., meeting last night in New York at the Hotel Biltmore, endorsed the nomination of Daniel Frisch as the administration candidate for the presidency of the Z.O.A. at the forthcoming convention.

The meeting, which was presided over by Dr. Neumann, was attended by high ranking officers of the Z.O.A., members of the National Executive Committee and presidents of Regions from various parts of the country. Dr. Silver paid tribute to Mr. Frisch's record as a Zionist leader and called for the whole-hearted support of the Zionist membership and the delegates to the forthcoming convention, for the election of Mr. Frisch as Z.O.A. president for the ensuing term.

FRENCH-JEWISH LEADERS ARRIVE IN ISRAEL TO DISCUSS EXTENSION OF SCHOOL PROGRAM

TEL AVIV, April 25. (JTA) -- Eugene Weil and Jules Braunschwig, members of the central committee of the Alliance Israelite Universelle, have arrived here to negotiate with the Israeli education authorities for maintenance and extension of a group of schools supported by the Alliance.

The French-Jewish leaders will also present a demand to the Minister of Education that if and when education becomes compulsory in Israel and the government assumes responsibility for all schools, the Alliance schools will be integrated within the school system and subsidies and facilities extended to them on an equal basis. The Alliance is also planning to convert the nine schools it now maintains--with a student enrollment of 5,000--into secondary schools. Negotiations are expected to be completed by the end of this week, and the A.I.U. leaders plan to report the results to the Alliance by the beginning of May.

Maldwin Fertig, chairman of the executive committee of the American ORT Federation, has arrived in Jerusalem where he will study the ORT's accomplishments in the field of vocational training. Fertig is also interested in the possibilities of further promotion of vocational education in Israel.

ISRAEL NEEDS 2,000 NEW TEACHERS YEARLY, EDUCATORS' PARLEY IN NEW YORK HEARS

NEW YORK, April 25. (JTA) -- Israel needs between 1,500 and 2,000 new teachers annually to provide schooling for an estimated 30,000 new school age immigrants entering the Jewish state yearly. Dr. Eliezer Rieger, head of the Department of Education at Hebrew University, reported yesterday at a conference of American educators called to consider the present-day problems of education in Israel. The parley was conducted under the auspices of the National Council of Jewish Women.

More than 50 leading educators offered a series of suggestions concerning the development of education in the Jewish state which Dr. Rieger said he would take back with him for guidance in "the great pioneering enterprise" of education in the Jewish state. The Hebrew University official, who was scheduled to return to day to Jerusalem, asserted that he joined the view of President Chaim Weizmann in deploring the present trifurcate system of education in Israel.

CLEVELAND COLLEGE TO INTRODUCE TWO-YEAR COURSE IN HEBREW LANGUAGE NEXT FALL

CLEVELAND, April 25. (JTA) -- A two-year course in modern Hebrew will be introduced next fall at Cleveland College, a branch of Western Reserve University, it was announced here today. The course will include a study of the grammar and literature of the language.

YOUNG JEWS IN U.S. AND CANADA WILL BE ASKED TO SIGN ROLL CALL GREETING ISRAEL

NEW YORK, April 25. (JTA) -- Young Jews throughout the United States and Canada will be asked to sign a special "Roll Call" to salute the President and Premier of Israel on the occasion of the first anniversary of the proclamation of the Jewish state, it was announced here by the Hebrew Educators Committee for Chaiutzim in Israel, sponsor of the project. The program will be conducted in Jewish schools and community centers as well as among youth organizations.

RABBI ABRAHAM KLAUSNER NAMED RABBI OF TEMPLE ISRAEL IN BOSTON; SUCCEEDS DR. LIEBMAN

BOSTON, April 25. (JTA) -- Rabbi Abraham J. Klausner, provost of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, was named yesterday rabbi of Temple Israel here, succeeding the late Dr. Joshua Loth Liebman. Rabbi Klausner, a native of Denver, recently returned from Europe where he conducted assistance projects among DP's.

THE CONTENTS OF THIS BULLETIN ARE NOT FOR PUBLICATION WITHOUT SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION