

JTA Daily News Bulletin

U.N. ASSEMBLY VOTES 37-12 TO ADMIT ISRAEL; SHARETT HAILS STEP AS GREAT MOMENT FOR JEWS

FLUSHING MEADOWS, May 11. (JTA) -- Israel tonight became the 59th member of the United Nations following a vote taken at the U.N. General Assembly at 7:30 P.M. with 37 nations voting in favor of its admission to the world body and 12 voting against. Nine delegations abstained.

As soon as the result of the voting was announced, the six Arab delegates walked out of the Assembly. President of the Assembly Dr. Herbert Evatt, in a statement, said he looked forward to the day when all the wounds would be healed in the Middle East and when Israel and her Arab neighbors would cooperate to their mutual advantage.

He then introduced the Foreign Minister of Israel, Moshe Sharett, who delivered a brief statement before the Assembly. He said: "This is a great moment for the state of Israel. It is a great moment for the Jewish people throughout the world. One is awed by the responsibility which it entails. One is uplifted by the vision it reveals for the future. The admission of Israel to this Assembly is the consummation of a people's transition from political anonymity to clear identity; from inferior to equal status; from mere passive protests to active responsibility; from exclusion to membership in the family of nations."

Sharett expressed Israel's deep gratitude to all the nations which, in the years when "we had no voice in world councils," championed the right and aspiration of the Jewish people to nationhood. The Jewish state, he added, arose from the convergence of two factors: catastrophe in Europe and achievement in Zion. He said it was particularly fitting that Israel should join the United Nations which was born out of a common battle against Nazi oppression in which the Jews of all the Allied nations, no less than the Jews of Palestine, had fought side by side with all other freedom-loving peoples.

Israeli Foreign Minister Pledges Full Cooperation to U.N.

The Israeli Foreign Minister said he was not aware of any serious conflicts between Israel and the Arab states which could not be resolved through peaceful negotiations. The fact that a war has been fought changed the pattern of settlement foreseen in the partition resolution, he stated. He pledged full cooperation with the United Nations in seeking to solve all the problems still outstanding between Israel and the Arab states. He declared that poverty and ignorance were enemies of peace and said that Israel was determined to root out these evils and thereby lay the groundwork for peaceful and cooperative relations with all countries in the Middle East.

Thunderous applause greeted Sharett's final sentence, spoken in Hebrew, in which he recited the vision of the prophet Isaiah that the time will come when "nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they war any more." Following his speech, he was ceremoniously conducted to his seat in the Assembly chamber by a U.N. official.

The 12 states which voted against Israel's admission to the U.N. are: Afghanistan, Burma, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Yemen. The nine abstainers are: Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, El Salvador, Greece, Siam, Sweden, Turkey and United Kingdom.

U.S. DELEGATES AT ACTIONS COMMITTEE DEFEND U.J.A. LEADERS; DENY THEY ARE ANTI-ZIONISTS

JERUSALEM, May 11. (JTA) -- Allegations that those who now head the United Jewish Appeal in the U.S. are anti-Zionists were denied here at the conclusion of the general debate of the Zionist Actions Committee by Baruch Zuckerman, president of the Labor Zionist Organization of America.

"The fact is," the American Labor Zionist leader said, "that they (the U.J.A. leaders) often abandon their businesses and devote all of their time to the collection of funds for Israel. This shows they are good and faithful Zionists," he added.

The debate became especially impassioned when the issue of the resignations of Dr. Eliezer Silver and Dr. Emanuel Neumann from the executive of the Jewish Agency was taken up for discussion. Berl Locker, chairman of the Agency executive in Jerusalem, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, acting chairman of the American section of the Agency executive, and Dr. Israel Goldstein, Agency treasurer, delivered long speeches on the subject.

Locker warned against "terrorization of the majority by a minority--even by a minority consisting of respected members of the Jewish Agency who are contributing much to the Zionist movement." He urged maintaining of the democratic spirit of the Zionist movement.

Agency's Decision on U.J.A. Saved Drive This Year, Goldmann Says

Dr. Goldmann stated that the decision of the majority of the Agency executive with regard to the U.J.A. saved the Appeal's campaign in 1949. The main issue, he said, was the refusal by Drs. Silver and Neumann and American Zionist bodies to accept the majority decision of the Agency executive. Such a policy, he added, if allowed to prevail, would destroy the voluntary democratic system prevailing in the Zionist movement.

"The imposition of the will of individual personalities upon the Zionist movement is not admissible," Dr. Goldmann declared. "I fought it in the past and will fight it in the future. Nobody denies the great merits of Dr. Silver but we should not forget also other great Zionist leaders in America, such as the late Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

"The decision of the Jewish Agency executive with regard to the U.J.A. established the authority of the executive in America and saved the Zionist movement from sliding into a centralized direction. The full autonomy of local Zionist bodies with a right to defy the central authority would have broken the Zionist organization," Goldmann concluded.

Dr. Goldstein said: "Speaking for the General Zionists, I can say that if Dr. Silver and Neumann would wire that they withdraw their resignations tomorrow and that they are returning to the Jewish Agency executive, there would be a widespread satisfaction.

"A good deal has been said here that on account of financial considerations the Zionists sacrificed to the non-Zionists. Others argued here that the Zionists had a victory because the position of the Jewish Agency had been maintained. My firm conviction is that American Zionists can regain their leadership in the field of fundraising--if they lost it--as soon as they are prepared to throw themselves into fundraising with the same zeal and passion of self-sacrifice with which they threw themselves into the political struggle." Dr. Goldstein declared.

A reception honoring members of the Actions Committee was given today by the Israeli Presset. Various subcommittees of the Committee began work today on their respective assignments, including the subcommittee preparing resolutions on relations to be established between the Agency and the Israeli Government.

DEADLOCK BROKEN AT LAUSANNE PARLEY; ARABS ACCEPT U.N. "WORKING PAPER" FOR DISCUSSION

LAUSANNE, May 11. (JTA) -- The deadlock between the U.N. Conciliation Commission and the Arab delegations was broken late today when the Arabs, through their spokesman Fouad Amoun, accepted the "working paper" submitted by the French member of the Commission as a basis for future discussions. A similar acceptance from Israel was expected tonight.

Arab acquiescence meant that their delegates would agree to discuss the issue of the Palestine Arab refugees simultaneously with the question of future frontiers with Israel. A full-dress session of the Commission, to resume negotiations with both sides, will be held tomorrow morning.

Amoun originally proposed a whole range of amendments to make the working paper acceptable to the Arabs as a basis for negotiations. But these changes were of such a nature that the Commission decided this morning to reject them. However, the Commission agreed to make slight changes in the text to meet Arab anxiety about committing themselves unduly in the opening stages of the conference.

RESE APPROVES ISRAELI AUSTERITY PROGRAM; PLAN WILL SAVE \$51,000,000 ANNUALLY

TEL AVIV, May 11. (JTA) -- The Israeli Parliament at a late session today approved the government-sponsored austerity program. The vote was 57 against 33, with many abstentions.

Dev Joseph, Minister of Food and Supply, summing up the arguments in favor of the plan, said that a total saving of 17,000,000 pounds--about \$51,000,000--annually will be achieved if the austerity program is effected. He emphasized that austerity was only a part of the over-all government program aimed at bringing down the cost of living and consolidating the Israeli currency.

Z.O.A. LEADERSHIP AND COMMITTEE FOR PROGRESSIVE ZIONISM NEGOTIATE ON UNITY

NEW YORK, May 11. (JTA) -- Dr. Emanuel Neumann, president of the Zionist Organization of America, and Rudolph G. Sonnenborn, spokesman for the Committee for Progressive Zionism, today jointly stated that conferences have been held recently between the Z.O.A. administration and leaders of the C.P.Z. "with a view to establishing internal unity and harmony" between the two groups.

"Considerable progress toward an agreement has been made," they said, adding that the conversations are continuing "with the distinct possibility that prior to the annual convention of the Z.O.A.--scheduled to open in New York on May 28--recommendations will be agreed upon with regard to the list of officers for the coming year."

RANKIN SAYS HE WILL SEEK CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION OF ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE

WASHINGTON, May 11. (JTA) -- Rep. John Rankin, of Mississippi, today told the House that he intends to introduce a resolution to investigate "that subversive organization," the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

Rep. Emanuel Celler arose and called Rankin's remarks about the A.D.L. a "sland." Rankin objected that this was a personal attack and Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn sent out for a dictionary to define the word, "canard." Rayburn decided that Celler meant that Rankin was a liar and Celler was not allowed to finish speaking.

AFRICAN MINISTER SAYS NO RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IS PRACTICED IN SELECTING IMMIGRANTS

JOHANNESBURG, May 11. (JTA) -- The assurance that the South African Government does not practice any discrimination on racial grounds in its immigration policy, but is merely following a system of selective immigration to prevent undesirable elements from entering the country, was given today by Dr. T. E. Dönges, Minister of Interior, addressing the Parliament in Capetown.

The Minister emphasized that the government also bars fascists, Nazis and Communists from entering the country. He added that he is not prepared to accept the infiltration of Fascist or Nazi as given by General Jan Smuts, the Labor Party or by the Communists. The government, he said, views Fascism or Nazism as foreign to South Africa's "mode of life," and no supporter of these creeds will be welcome to South Africa.

While this assurance is welcomed in Jewish quarters, some doubt is voiced as to the extent it may be carried out. It is pointed out that only last February the government admitted to this country J.L. Battersby from England where he was interned during the war as a Mosleyite. Battersby is now publishing a quarterly magazine here entitled, "Nation," with articles expressing admiration for Hitler. Battersby also expects that inquiries regarding arrangements for lectures to be delivered by him should be addressed to "The Hitlerian Center, Post Office Newcastle, Natal."

EMMENT LONDON SYNAGOGUE CONSIDERING SECESSION FROM BOARD OF DEPUTIES OF BRITISH JEWS

LONDON, May 11. (JTA) -- The board of the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue, the oldest synagogue among the organizations which founded the Board of Deputies of British Jews over a century ago, this week-end met to consider its future relationship with the Board.

It is understood that at the secret session there was a strong sentiment favoring secession, but that the final decision was to refrain, for the time being, from electing deputies to the new Board. The Synagogue has given to the Board several outstanding presidents, including Neville Laski, and other prominent leaders.

This new development widens the rift in the Jewish community which was first caused by the recent decision of the representatives of Liberal synagogues to walk out of the Board. The Liberals have thus far taken no final decision on secession from the Board, leaving the matter to the annual meeting of their group, which will be held this month.

CENTRAL LOCATION INDEX" SUSPENDS OPERATIONS; LOCATED 50,000 RELATIVES DURING EXISTENCE

NEW YORK, May 11. (JTA) -- The Central Location Index, set up in 1944 as a central clearing house for Jewish and non-Jewish displaced persons seeking and being sought by relatives throughout the world, has suspended operations, it was announced today. Approximately 50,000 locations were made by the Index since its inception, the agency's final report declared. Of these, 40,000 survived the war while the remaining 10,000 were victims of the Nazis.

A total of 750,000 uprooted and, in many cases, deceased persons were sought during the five-year existence of the Index, which spent a sum of \$450,000 during its lifetime. Search operations for missing DP's are still continuing and will be carried on henceforth by member agencies of the C.L.I.

Among the organizations which sponsored the Index are the Joint Distribution Committee, ELIAS, United Service for New Americans, National Council of Jewish Women, Church World Service, International Rescue and Relief Committee and Unitarian Service Committee. The final announcement was issued on behalf of the three organizations which have borne the major expense of the Index during the past year--the J.D.C., U.S.N.A. and ELIAS.

VICE-PRESIDENT BARKLEY ADDRESSES WASHINGTON MEETING MARKING ISRAEL'S INDEPENDENCE

WASHINGTON, May 11. (JTA) -- Vice-President Alben W. Barkley addressed thousands of Washington Jews in Constitution Hall tonight at a celebration marking the first anniversary of Israel. Other speakers included Ambassador Eliahu Elath and Jacob Blaustein, president of the American Jewish Committee. (The speech of the Vice-President did not reach New York at the time the Bulletin went to press.)

Pledging that Israel, when admitted to United Nations membership, will endeavor to "contribute her share to the peace and security of the world and to the constructive cooperation between nations," Elath declared: "We now look forward hopefully to successful peace negotiations with the Arab states in Lausanne and to the early transformation of the armistices into a final settlement by agreement between us and our neighbors. We are gratified by the historical achievement which these agreements represent for the United Nations, which, by the wise and moderate exercise of its authority, has demonstrated its capacity to contribute to peace and understanding between the peoples of the world."

"We hope that we shall be worthy of the trust imposed in us by the United States and by the United Nations so that in the years to come, when we shall look back upon this first year of our existence, it can be said of us that we were true to the principles of international justice and morality which just one year ago became the basic foundation for our state," the Israeli Ambassador stated.

CELEBRATIONS MARKING ANNIVERSARY OF ISRAELI INDEPENDENCE CONTINUE THROUGHOUT WORLD

NEW YORK, May 11. (JTA) -- Reports of the celebration of Israeli Independence Day continue to arrive here from Jewish centers throughout the world.

In Italy, where the synagogues were crowded on the eve of the fifth of Iyar, a reception was held by Israeli consul Arie Oren. Among the guests were Nobel prize winner Dr. E.B. Chain, Chief Rabbi David Prato, head of the Union of Jewish Communities Raffaele Cantoni, J.D.C. director Louis Borowitz and representatives of the Italian Government and many foreign consulates in Rome.

In Belgium, the celebrations of the anniversary of the Jewish state were highlighted by meetings in Brussels and Antwerp which were addressed by representatives of leading Jewish organizations. The meetings also featured Hebrew songs and dances.

In Brazil, the first anniversary of the establishment of Israel was marked in Sao Paulo at a reception tendered by Marcos Frankenthal, president of the Zionist Organization. Among the guests who attended the celebration were the consuls of the United States, Britain, Italy, Colombia, Argentina and Uruguay. Leading Brazilian military and civilian officials also were present. Later, a public rally marking the Israeli anniversary was held in the Pacaembu hall here.

In South Africa, rallies continued throughout the country. A Johannesburg mass rally, chaired by Bernard Gering, head of the Zionist Federation, was addressed by Chief Rabbi L.I. Rabinowitz, Leo Trager, chairman of the Israeli United Appeal and Dr. H. Schenabend, vice-chairman of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies.

LEHMAN ARRIVES IN HAIFA; WILL STUDY IMMIGRATION PROBLEMS DURING TEN-DAY STAY

HAIFA, May 11. (JTA) -- Former Gov. Herbert H. Lehman of New York arrived here today from Marseilles aboard the transport S.S. Negeba for a ten-day visit in Israel. He will confer with government authorities on problems of resettlement and absorption of immigrants and will study conditions here.

NEW YORK, May 11. (JTA) -- A pioneering program aimed at establishing good intergroup relations among the personnel of American industrial plants was launched today when the General Cable Corporation opened a nine-week seminar on intergroup relations at its factory in Perth Amboy, N.J. The program is sponsored by the Corporation and by the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

In announcing the program, the N.C.C.J. blueprinted a plan for labor-management intergroup relations which it will endeavor to put into effect on a nationwide scale. The plan aims to bring to industrial executives and workers an awareness of the evil of prejudice; the huge toll in production losses suffered by the country through bigotry; and the resultant gains flowing out of greater understanding among Protestants, Catholic and Jews.

ORGANIZED ANTI-SEMITISM IN U.S. REACHED LOWEST EBB IN 1948, ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA SAYS

NEW YORK, May 11. (JTA) -- Organized anti-Semitism in the United States in 1948 was at the lowest ebb since the depression years of 1932-33, it is established in the Encyclopedia Britannica Book of the Year, published today.

"While many areas of social discrimination continue to exist, most of them were localized and revolved about individuals rather than crusades or organized campaigns," the analysis says. "Some of the most outspoken leaders of potential movements of anti-Semitism in the United States were reported to be talking to consistently diminishing audiences."

Pointing out that 1948 was an election year, the analysis says: "Competent authorities observed that there had been less appeal to religious prejudice than in some previous election campaigns. This was understandable for, despite the political tensions of the world, internal conditions in the United States remained generally prosperous."

PALESTINE ECONOMIC CORPORATION LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN TO SELL 600,000 SHARES IN U.S.

NEW YORK, May 11. (JTA) -- The Palestine Economic Corporation announced today that it has launched a stock-selling campaign offering 600,000 shares of \$25 par value common stock at \$28 each. "The new funds are being sought to expand the P.E.C.'s established enterprises in Israel and to organize new businesses to help meet the needs of Israel's rapidly-growing population for jobs, housing and goods," Julius Simon, president, said.

JEWISH COMMUNITY OF HONG KONG TO REBUILD SOCIAL CENTER DESTROYED IN JAPANESE INVASION

HONG KONG, May 11. (JTA) -- The Jewish community of Hong Kong has raised the sum of 100,000 Hong Kong dollars (approximately \$4,000) for the rebuilding of the local Jewish Club, a social and recreation center which was destroyed in the Japanese invasion in 1941.

A two-story building, including a large auditorium, will soon arise on the site of the former club. The lack of a recreational and social center has severely hampered Jewish communal and cultural life, particularly in view of the fact that the local Jewish population has been doubled by the arrival of Shanghai and other refugees since the end of the war. The local synagogue was undamaged during the Japanese occupation, and has been in operation since the return of the British to the island.