

Tuesday, June 21, 1949

## U.S. CONTINUES TALKS WITH ISRAEL ON TERRITORIAL CHANGES AND ARAB REFUGEES

TEL AVIV, June 20. (JTA) -- Negotiations between the U.S. Government and Israel are continuing over the State Department's requests for concessions on repatriation of Arab refugees and territorial revisions, it was learned today.

Despite these continued talks, there seems to be no change in the attitude of the United States, informants stated. The viewpoint here is that the Americans continue to see Israel as responsible for the breakdown of the Lausanne conversations. In the diplomatic talks here, Israel is attempting to explain its stand, which is unchanged and is opposed to all concessions.

Armistice talks with Syria will be resumed tomorrow at the frontier village of Mahanayim. There appear to be possibilities of agreement after the friendly atmosphere of the last meeting. Agreement is expected on the proposals of Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, United Nations acting mediator on Palestine, but in an amended form.

## VATICAN IS CRITICIZED IN ISRAELI PARLIAMENT FOR "TAMPERING" WITH JERUSALEM ISSUE

TEL AVIV, June 20. (JTA) -- The Vatican was criticized in the Knesset today for "meddling" in Israeli affairs. Mapai deputy Zalman Aharonovitz said that the Vatican "did nothing" when the fate of 6,000,000 Jews was at stake in Europe but is interfering now in Israel and is "tampering" with the Jerusalem issue.

Former Sternist chief Nathan Friedman-Yellin, speaking for the Fighters Party in the general debate on Israel's foreign policy, maintained that the government's efforts to achieve peace by diplomatic means had failed. He advocated beating Israel's opponents by force and then sitting down at the peace table to write an honorable peace.

Yitzhak Ben Aharon, Mapam deputy, severely criticized the government for agreeing to deal with the "one-sidedly composed" U.N. Conciliation Commission. He also demanded that the government coalition broaden its party base in order to enable it to withstand pressure from foreign governments.

One of the high points of the debate was an attack on Britain and the Arab states for their responsibility for the plight of the Palestine Arab refugees by one of the two Arabs in the Knesset, Seif el Din el Zabi, who is a member of the Mapai's parliamentary delegation. Expressing the thanks of his people to the Israeli Government, he added that the "Jewish people have clean hands in their dealings with the Arab problem."

On the other hand, El Zabi took issue with the official government position that the Arab refugees must not be readmitted to Israel because of the security risk involved. He insisted that after experiencing life in the Arab states, the refugees would make the most loyal of citizens of Israel. He proposed that Arab families remaining in this country be permitted to bring in their relatives from outside. At the same time, he suggested that Arab refugees whose abandoned houses are occupied by Jewish immigrants would have to wait for a general settlement. In conclusion, the Arab deputy appealed to the Arab states not to use the refugees as "pawns."

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U.N. PALESTINE CONCILIATION COMMISSION DISCUSSES POSSIBILITY OF ITS DISSOLUTION

LAUSANNE, June 20. (JTA) -- Both Israeli and Arab groups want the United Nations Palestine Conciliation Commission to continue the peace conference here, while the Commission itself was discussing this morning the possibility of adjourning July 15, unless it could report more definite progress before then.

A Commission spokesman said today: "We should adjourn or give up, only if there is nothing left to do. It is up to the Arabs and Israelis to save the conference, if they really want peace."

The Israeli delegation seems less convinced now than two months ago of the possibility of success through separate direct negotiations--as in the armistice talks at Rhodes--outside the framework of the Commission. Such contacts and direct exchange of views as have taken place between the Israelis and the Arabs persuaded the Israelis to abandon hope for a separate peace negotiated without the help of the Commission.

The Israelis, therefore, would like to see the Commission continue. The Arabs are worried by the uncertainties of the Syrian situation and fear of Israel benefiting from any open clashes or differences. They would also prefer that the Commission remain in existence.

The suggestion has been advanced, as a first step to create greater mutual confidence, that the armistice agreements between Israel and Transjordan, the Lebanon and Egypt should be extended for two or three years, although this would require a just settlement with Syria and Iraq. Only if this latest move toward getting something done dies and all efforts once more are stalemated, will the Commission consider its mission a failure and entertain an adjournment.

Commission Will Make Last Appeal to Israeli and Arab Delegations

LONDON, June 20. (JTA) -- The three members of the U.N. Conciliation Commission on Palestine today decided to make a special appeal to Israel and the Arab countries before taking final action to suspend the Arab-Jewish talks, Reuters reported today from Lausanne.

The report said that at a secret meeting the commissioners resolved that tomorrow they would see Dr. Walter Eytan, head of the Israeli delegation here, and that Hussein Yalchik, Turkish member of the Commission, would talk to the leaders of the four Arab delegations during the week.

It was understood the commissioners would ask each side to make a "serious effort" to produce proposals which stand a chance of being accepted by the other. If this appeal has no result, it was believed, the commissioners may break up the Lausanne talks, but will arrange to keep in touch with Israel and the Arab states in order to resume work if any chance of fruitful talks reappears, the Reuters report stated.

The commissioners are to meet the four Arab delegations this evening to discuss the future status of Jerusalem. Prospects of obtaining a solution on this were said to be "reasonably good," Reuters reported. The future of Jerusalem and the Arab refugees from Palestine were the two problems on which the Conciliation Commission was specifically instructed to work by the United Nations General Assembly.

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U.N. BODY REACHES DECISION ON ISSUANCE OF DEATH CERTIFICATES FOR MISSING PERSONS

GENEVA, June 20. (JTA) -- A decision aimed at facilitating the issuance of death certificates for missing persons has been made by the United Nations Economic and Social Council's ad hoc committee, set up to consider a draft convention on such death certificates.

The committee included in its draft a provision to empower not only the courts at the missing person's last permanent home, but the courts at the last temporary residence, such as concentration camps, to issue such certificates. If the certificate is requested by a close relative of the missing person, a court at the latter's place of residence shall be entitled to issue the document.

The Jewish viewpoint was outlined before the committee by Dr. F.R. Bienenfeld of the World Jewish Congress and by M. Eisenberg of the American Jewish Committee, acting in behalf of the Consultative Council of Jewish Organizations. The ad hoc committee is composed of representatives of Brazil, Denmark, France, Poland, the United States and the Soviet Union. The presiding officer is the Lebanese Minister to Switzerland.

JES IN HUNGARY RECEIVE VERDICT AGAINST HUNGARIAN ZIONIST LEADERS WITH BITTERNESS

VIENNA, June 20. (JTA) -- The conviction and sentencing of six Hungarian Zionist leaders and one non-Jew on charges of promoting illegal emigration of Israel-bound Hungarian Jews this week-end has shocked Hungarian Jews, it was reported by refugees arriving here today. The refugees stated that Hungarian Jews received the sentences with bitterness and skepticism about the justice of the trials.

Jewish sources here assert that Dr. Bela Denes, one of the chief defendants who admitted partial guilt in having given leadership to Hungarian Zionist youth, has taken no active part in the leadership of the Hungarian Zionist movement for the past half year because of illness. He was scheduled to leave Hungary with a valid passport, these same sources asserted. They insisted that Dr. Denes took no part in the organization of mass emigration from Hungary, describing the migratory movement as "unorganized and absolutely spontaneous." These sources stated that the defendants were assigned the same defense counsel as Cardinal Mindszenty, over their objections.

W.J.C. SEEKS U.S. INTERVENTION FOR RESTORATION OF GOLD SEIZED BY NAZIS FROM GREEK JEWS

NEW YORK, June 20. (JTA) -- The World Jewish Congress today announced that it has been advised by the State Department that its request for the restoration of gold seized by the Nazis from the Jewish community of Greece has been taken under consideration. The W.J.C. is acting in the matter at the request of the Central Board of Jewish Communities of Greece, the announcement said.

A total of over \$6,000,000 in gold was seized from Greek Jews who were subsequently murdered in German death camps. The Greek Government has notified the Central Board of Jewish Communities that if the gold were returned to Greece, the Greek Government would pay the equivalent in Greek currency to the Central Board. The question of such reparations will shortly be discussed by the Tri-Partite Commission in Brussels and the State Department has referred the matter to the U.S. representative on the Commission.

PRESIDENT OF RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY URGES FORMATION OF NEW ZIONIST GROUP IN AMERICA

KAMESHA LAKE, N.Y., June 20. (JTA) -- The Rabbinical Assembly of America, whose 49th annual convention is currently being held here, today heard an appeal that it take the lead in the formation of a new branch of the Zionist movement which would represent the 500,000 Conservative Jews of the United States. The proposal was advanced by Rabbi David Aronson, president of the Assembly.

The 200 rabbis attending the parley heard Rabbi Aronson outline a plan for a religiously oriented body to foster American Jewry's spiritual ties with Israel and to "strengthen our religious way of life." Asserting that from here on the basis of the Zionist movement's activities will not be political, Rabbi Aronson stressed that the liaison between American Jews and Israel must be based on a common faith and culture. He suggested that the projected new Zionist body would join a federation of Zionist bodies in this country and would also be affiliated with the World Zionist Organization.

To strengthen the spiritual ties between the Jews of Israel and the U.S., the rabbinical leader disclosed that a four-member mission will be sent to Israel following the closing of the current conference. It will undertake to study the religious resources of the new state which could also be applied toward strengthening Jewish life in America. In addition, the mission, which will be led by Rabbi Ben Zion Bokser of New York, will seek to learn how America can contribute to the development of religious life and institutions in Israel.

BNAI ZION CONVENTION CLOSES; ADOPTS RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ISRAELI STAND ON CONCESSIONS

ATLANTIC CITY, June 20. (JTA) -- The Bnai Zion convention here today adopted a resolution supporting the Israeli Government "in its rightful insistence upon no discussion of the Arab refugee problem until peace is formally established with the Arabs."

The resolution also supported Israel "in its rightful insistence upon no territorial concessions." It asked that the United Nations see to it that Israeli and Arab negotiations be carried forward successfully "devoid of outside influences so that they may agree upon an equitable and permanent peace to bring stability to the entire Near and Middle East."

The resolution charged that "certain pro-Arab officials in the U.S. State Department, in concert with British foreign policy, are pursuing a campaign designed to prevent Israel from developing a free and strong state and obviously are attempting to accomplish through diplomatic intrigue and double-dealing what the Arabs failed to accomplish on the field of battle."

In another resolution, the closing session of the convention saluted the new state of Israel and "pledged solidarity with our Israeli brothers and sisters in their struggle to develop a strong and healthy state." The convention also passed a resolution encouraging Bnai Zion members "to invest directly in Israel's economy and to employ industrial skills through machinery and American enterprise in the task of developing Israel's economic well-being."

The delegates voted for a drive by the American Red Mogen David for 250,000 new members "as a means of making possible a larger measure of assistance in the form of ambulances, medical and surgical supplies and cash remittances upon which the Mogen David depends. The convention also pledged continued support to the United Jewish Appeal, Jewish National Fund, ORT, Yeshiva College and other agencies. Harry A. Pine, of Newark, was re-elected national president of the group by acclamation.

EBAN OUTLINES ISRAEL'S POLICIES AT U.N. IN ADDRESS AT BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

WALTHAM, Mass., June 20. (JTA) -- Aubrey S. Eban, permanent Israeli representative to the United Nations, declared at the first convocation of Brandeis University here yesterday that "Israel's policy within the U.N. will be based upon democratic principle, international brotherhood and regional responsibility." Israel can never be neutral between reaction and progress, between the lingering ghosts of Nazism and the reviving spirit of democratic government, he said.

"By regional responsibility I mean a sense of Israel's identity with the genuine interests of the Near East. We look with sympathetic aversion upon the illiteracy, ignorance, endemic disease and primary poverty which ravage and degrade the harder life of the common man in the countries of the Arab East. Whenever we see an impulse for peace and liberation awakening amongst our neighbors, Israel will be identified with that impulse," Mr Eban declared.

Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, acting U.N. Palestine mediator, told the 2,000 guests attending the convocation exercises that "it would be a serious mistake to exaggerate the significance of the Palestine armistice agreements." Touching on the objectives of the U.N. Charter, Dr. Bunche declared: "The Charter reinforces and gives new inspiration to the heroic struggles of racial and religious minorities as, for example, the Negroes and Jews of America, to free themselves of unjust disabilities which they suffer only because of race or creed."

Dr. Abram Leon Sachar, president of Brandeis, reviewed the progress of the institution's various departments during the past year. "Brandeis University, as the nation's first and only Jewish-inspired, non-sectarian institution of higher learning, has dedicated itself to the task of meeting this responsibility, fully cognizant of the role it is destined to play," he asserted.

George Alpert, president of the Board of Trustees, declared: "A Jewish sponsored, non-sectarian institution of higher learning has emerged within this land of great opportunity. It is our hope that history may record Brandeis University as a corporate contribution of the American Jewish community to the educational wealth of our nation, a token repayment to a land where the Jew, by and large, has found security and opportunity."

Arab States Are Responsible for Deadlock at Lausanne Peace Parley, Eban Declares

NEW YORK, June 20. (JTA) -- The deadlock at the U.N.-sponsored peace talks at Lausanne is the result of the refusal of the Arab states represented there to make a single conciliatory proposal while belittling and rejecting every Israeli suggestion, Aubrey S. Eban, Israeli permanent delegate to the United Nations, declared here last night at the annual dinner of the Mizrahi Organization of America.

At the same time, Mr. Eban insisted that "the difficulties encountered in the conciliation effort are not necessarily insuperable." He pointed out that there is a tendency to divide the responsibility for the failure of the talks up to this point between the Arabs and the Israelis, but added that all disinterested parties should correct this impression rather than "unwittingly condoning it by directing indignation against the only party which has complied with its clear duty of pacific settlement." The Mizrahi dinner opened the organization's celebration of "Israel Week." Its 29th annual convention opens in Atlantic City Wednesday.

48 SETTLEMENTS ESTABLISHED IN ISRAEL IN FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1949, ROTHENBERG REPORTS

NEW YORK, June 20. (JTA) -- A total of 48 settlements were established in Israel from January through May of this year, Judge Morris Rothenberg, acting national chairman of the United Palestine Appeal, revealed today. He added, in a semi-annual report to the U.P.A.'s board of directors, that plans for founding 60 additional colonies during the remainder of 1949 have already been drafted.

JEWISH COMMUNAL SERVICE TRAINING BUREAU INAUGURATES SUMMER SERIES OF COURSES

NEW YORK, June 20. (JTA) -- Seven three-week summer courses in various aspects of Jewish communal service were inaugurated today by the Training Bureau for Jewish Communal Service, it was announced by George W. Rabinoff, executive director. The first course offered by the Training Bureau's Institute of Advanced Studies in Jewish Community Organization is "Historical Perspectives for Jewish Communal Workers," given by Prof. Salo W. Baron of Columbia University.

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY ENDS DEDICATION WEEK PROGRAM; GETS \$50,000 FOR ENDOWMENT FUND

NEW YORK, June 20. (JTA) -- A gift of \$50,000 to Yeshiva University's endowment fund from Morris Morgenstern, to be used for a public award for an outstanding personality, was announced here last night by Dr. Samuel Belkin, president of Yeshiva, at the institution's closing event of its Dedication Week.

Vice-President Alben W. Barkley was the principal speaker at a banquet arranged in behalf of Yeshiva which was held at the Waldorf-Astoria. Dr. Belkin revealed that Yeshiva's \$7,500,000 expansion program envisaged an enrollment of 5,000 students as compared with the 1,500 now attending.

AMERICAN JEWISH PLAYWRIGHTS WIN TWO PRIZES FOR YIDDISH PLAYS OFFERED IN ARGENTINA

BUENOS AIRES, June 20. (JTA) -- Leiser Treister of New York has been awarded the Moshe Kasner prize for this year for his Yiddish play "King Saul," it was announced here. The prize is \$1,000.

The Kasner award was established in Argentina two years ago for Jewish playwrights. No first prize was awarded for a one-act play this year. The second prize, worth \$150, went to Gershon Einbinder of Los Angeles for "The Jewish Woman of Minsk."

ALL-FAITH WAR MEMORIAL COMMITTEE FORMED TO HONOR AMERICANS WHO FELL IN WORLD WAR II

CHICAGO, June 20. (JTA) -- Formation of a national "All Faith Memorial Committee" to "commemorate the sacrifices of Americans of all faiths, races and national origins in World War II" was announced here today. The new group urged support of a Senate resolution which provides for the creation of an official commission to select an appropriate design and site for a memorial. The Governors of Illinois and Rhode Island have joined the committee.

MEMORIAL MEETING FOR PROF. CHAIM TCHERNOWITZ HELD IN N.Y.; LEADING EDUCATORS SPEAK

NEW YORK, June 20. (JTA) -- A memorial meeting honoring the late Prof. Chaim Tchernowitz was held here last night with prominent Jewish educators eulogizing the world-renowned Talmudic scholar. Hayim Greenberg presided at the memorial and speakers included Israel Matz, Prof. Simon Halkin, Mrs. Rose Jacobs, Dr. Simon Bernstein, Dr. Nissan Turov and Dr. M. Wisnitzer.