

Tuesday, July 5, 1949

JTA *Daily News Bulletin*ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER CALLS FOR FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TEL AVIV, July 4. (JTA) -- Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett, addressing the opening session of the Mapai Youth convention here, declared during the week-end that the Jewish state must have friendly relations with the American Government despite the recent "disputes and unjustified pressure." Mr. Sharett added: "We will never forget the great help of the U.S.S.R. and we will never concede the right of East European Jews to immigrate to Israel." Premier David Ben Gurion was also a featured speaker at the convention's opening session.

Israel through neutrality in world affairs seeks peace, Mr. Ben Gurion told the convention. Israel must take the best of each country, he went on. From the United States, it can learn the lesson of individual freedom, and much is to be learned also from Czechoslovakia and Russia, without becoming a satellite of East or West.

"We do not believe the world is split in two, half black and half white. The belief that there is a dispute only between East and West is untrue. There is, for instance, a dispute between the Cominform states of Eastern Europe and Yugoslavia. We believe peace is a possibility among all states and between blocs," he said.

Mapai, he went on, for 50 years has been based on the principles of national social freedom, mutual aid and the brotherhood of man. Therefore, he stated, others may learn Socialism from Mapai, rather than vice versa. He urged the Mapai youth to a great pioneering effort to renew the barren areas and to scientific achievements, "since the future of Israel must be based on the development of industry."

Mr. Sharett urged the Mapai youth delegates to build an extensive network of agricultural settlements to "fructify the barren areas and especially to establish a chain of semi-military settlements on the borders." Despite the present tense situation, and despite the fact that Israel seeks peace, he cautioned, "we must not forget the surrounding hostile countries."

Zalman Shazar, Minister of Education, asked for thousands of educators of youth to work in the immigrant camps. The convention was attended by 6,000 Mapai youth from 152 settlements and 16 Army camps. Resolutions were adopted calling for a mass draft of youth to help in the immigrant camps.

Immigration Minister Moshe Shapira conferred today with Israeli Ambassador to the U.S., Eliahu Elath, on the possibilities of American immigration to the Jewish state. Earlier, Minister Shapira received a delegation of OSE leaders from Geneva and Paris who are now visiting Israel. The delegation reviewed plans for the extension of OSE programs to this country.

A delegation of the World Union of Jewish Students arrived at Lydda Airport today from Paris. The delegation plans to set up an international study camp to accommodate 250 students.

BRITAIN TO RELEASE \$6,000,000 IN CONTRIBUTIONS TO ISRAEL, ENVOY IN TEL AVIV REVEALS

TEL AVIV, July 4. (JTA) -- The British Government will release \$6,000,000 in contributions by British Jewry which had formerly been prohibited to Israel, British Minister Alexander Knox Helm advised David Horowitz, Undersecretary of the Israeli Treasury. This concession was made at the Anglo-Israeli financial talks, opened earlier by Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett.

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ARMISTICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND SYRIA EXPECTED TO BE CONCLUDED BY END OF WEEK

TEL AVIV, July 4. (JTA) -- An armistice agreement with Syria is expected to be reached by the end of this week or the beginning of next week, it was learned today, following talks yesterday at Mahanaim.

The Israeli and Syrian delegations reached agreement in principle on the basis of U.N. Acting Mediator Ralph J. Bunche's plan for demilitarization of territory held by the Syrian Army. Two subcommittees were set up to deal with formulation of an armistice and with military affairs. All the participants expressed great optimism after the meeting.

An agreement that the Israeli army, with a United Nations observer present to represent Transjordan, would investigate Transjordan's charges of alleged Israeli breaches of the armistice pact was reached after a four-hour discussion yesterday by the Israeli-Transjordan mixed armistice commission, it was learned today.

U.N. CONCILIATION BODY SEEKING TO PREVENT PALESTINE ISSUE FROM COMING BEFORE ASSEMBLY

LAUSANNE, July 4. (JTA) -- The U.N. Palestine Conciliation Commission is consulting with Trygve Lie, U.N. Secretary-General, to see if it is possible to keep Palestine off the agenda at the next meeting of the General Assembly.

In the Commission's view, it was reported today, this would greatly facilitate progress at Lausanne and provide the U.N. delegates at the Assembly with an unexpected and welcome relief. A plea along the same lines was made today as the last of the Israeli and Arab delegations dispersed to seek new instructions from their governments on the future of the peace talks here. The Commission members appealed particularly to Israel and Egypt not to take the issue to the General Assembly.

A Commission spokesman felt that conciliation efforts at Lausanne could not be advanced if staged against the background of a verbal match between the Arabs of Egypt, Transjordan, Lebanon and Syria, and the Israelis, at Lake Success.

If Mr. Lie agrees to leave Palestine off the agenda, the Commission expects to make only a formal report to the General Assembly and to seek an extension of its powers and period of work. This course offers the best hope of obtaining a satisfactory outcome to the peace negotiations, in the Commission's view.

If the General Assembly should insist on receiving a report, however, the Commission proposes to outline in September the precise stages which it has reached and to submit certain recommendations of its own.

At the moment, the Commission has sought to persuade all parties concerned that it is advisable to leave the General Assembly out of the Lausanne talks, until something definite has been achieved. It is assumed here that the General Assembly will probably meet again in the spring of 1950--after its session in September is concluded--and it is felt that might be a suitable moment for winding up the Palestine issue with a final settlement.

NUMBER OF JEWS IN ISRAEL IN MAY TOTALLED 861,000; FIVE-MONTH GAIN OF 100,000 NOTED

TEL AVIV, July 4. (JTA) -- The Jewish population of Israel at the end of May was 861,000, as compared with 759,000 at the end of 1948, it was announced by the statistics division of the government.

50,000 JEWISH BOOKS LOOTED BY NAZIS ARE NOW IN N.Y. TO BE DISTRIBUTED THROUGHOUT U.S.

NEW YORK, July 4, (JTA) -- Approximately 50,000 Jewish books, looted by Nazis from institutions and individuals in Europe between 1933 and 1945, and recovered by Allied military authorities after V-E Day, are now in New York and will be distributed to libraries and educational institutions throughout the country before the end of 1949, it was announced today by Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc., an organization founded at the end of the war to trace and relocate stolen Jewish cultural treasures.

Communications have already been addressed to major American Jewish libraries, educational and religious institutions, advising them of the project and inviting them to make application for the volumes from the collection, Prof. Salo Baron, president of the J.C.R., said.

Z.O.A. LEADERS IN NEW YORK AREA ATTEND EMERGENCY MEETING; URGED TO CONTINUE ALERTNESS

NEW YORK, July 4. (JTA) -- Zionist Organization of America leaders in the metropolitan area, summoned to an emergency meeting during the week-end at the Hotel Statler here, heard acting Z.O.A. president Benjamin G. Browdy urge them to maintain a "continued state of alertness and mobilization in view of the serious political situation affecting Israel." Mr. Browdy appealed for a bolstering of the Z.O.A.'s membership "to safeguard Israel's integrity as an independent and viable state."

28-MEMBER DELEGATION FROM U.S. TO ATTEND WORLD ORT PARLEY OPENING IN PARIS JULY 10

NEW YORK, July 4. (JTA) -- A 28-member delegation of the American ORT Federation will attend the second postwar congress of the World ORT Union in Paris opening July 10, it was announced here today.

The delegation will include George Backer, president of the American ORT and of the World ORT Union, who will open the congress. Julius Hochman, vice-president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, will head the delegation.

TOURIST TRAFFIC TO ISRAEL INCREASING; OVER 5,400 AMERICANS RECEIVED VISAS IN 1949

NEW YORK, July 4. (JTA) -- Tourist traffic to Israel is steadily increasing and the number of visas issued in the United States in the first six months of this year was 5,437, it was announced today by Arthur Lourie, Consul General of Israel. In June the number of visas issued at the Consulate General in New York City, and at the Los Angeles Consulate totaled 1,594.

Forty-seven American graduate and undergraduate students left by plane yesterday for Israel where they will attend a six-week workshop sponsored by New York University's School of Education. A second group of 18 students will leave tomorrow.

British Hebrew Teachers Leave For Jerusalem Study Course

LONDON, July 4. (JTA) -- A group of 14 Hebrew teachers left for Israel during the week-end to attend a training course in Jerusalem. Among those who participated in a reception tendered in honor of the teachers was Israeli Minister to Britain, Dr. Mordecai Eliash. Upon their return to this country, the teachers will work a minimum of one year in the service of the Jewish community.