

Monday, October 31, 1949

**JTA** *Daily News Bulletin***ISRAEL STANDARD OF LIVING IN DANGER, BEN GURION WARNS; ASKS INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY**

TEL AVIV, Oct. 30. (JTA) -- The present standard of living of the Israel worker is in great danger, Premier David Ben Gurion today told a special meeting of members of Mapai labor councils from all parts of the country. The parley was called to answer attacks on the Histadrut executive for agreeing to government requests for a second cut in the cost of living bonus.

Mr. Ben Gurion pointed out that during the last year the national income was only 200,000,000 pounds, the equivalent of 16 pounds (\$47) per month per person. The purchasing power of the Israel pound is presently only half that of the pound sterling, he said. (Both are pegged at the same value in relation to the dollar -- \$2.80.) Unless the productivity of the individual worker increases and production and export increases, the value of Israel's currency will drop, the Premier warned.

The government intends to raise the value of the pound by lowering the cost of living, he asserted, and will increase the national income by boosting production. Unless the government succeeds in both these aims, it will also fail in attracting new foreign capital, he insisted. The direct cause for the lowering of the Israel standard of living is the unprecedented and large-scale immigration, he stated.

Turning to the Histadrut's internal problems, he charged that the present struggle between the Mapai, on one hand, and the Mapam and Communists, on the other, is more than a mere party struggle for power. It declared that it is a "life and death struggle between Socialist-Zionism and Communism, between which no bridges exist."

Three-quarters of all Israelis are opposed to any sort of restrictions on the continued immigration of Jewish refugees to this country, it was reported here today by the Public Opinion Research Institute. Only 25 percent of the persons questioned in the poll expressed approval of placing restrictions on immigration.

Meanwhile, a new United Jewish Appeal mission, invited by the Jewish Agency to study immigration and resettlement needs on the spot, visited the immigration camp at Beer Yacov over the week-end and toured the Haifa district. The mission includes U.J.A. leaders from seven leading cities of the United States: Leo Galling of Los Angeles, Sanford Treguboff of San Francisco, Herman Pekarsky of Newark, Henry Zucker of Pittsburgh and Elkan Voorsanger of Milwaukee.

**IRAQI JEWISH WOMEN ARRESTED WHEN THEY PROTEST JAILING OF HUSBANDS AND FATHERS**

TEL AVIV, Oct. 30. (JTA) -- A number of Iraqi Jewish women were arrested in that country last Tuesday, it was reported here today.

The women were arrested when they demonstrated against the arrest of their husbands, sons and relatives earlier. The demonstration was dispersed by Iraqi police. On the same day, all Jews in Iraq observed a day of fast and mourning in protest against the arrest and persecution of hundreds of Jews. The latest reports received here from Iraq place over 400 Jews in jails there.

(Edward S. Crocker, the United States Ambassador to Iraq, left on the Queen Mary from New York yesterday to return to his post at Bagdad. The State Department has still not received a report from the Embassy in Bagdad concerning the persecution of Iraqi Jews. The request for a report was made last week.)

ISRAEL WILL CONTINUE TO COOPERATE WITH UNITED NATIONS CONCILIATION COMMISSION

TEL AVIV, Oct. 30. (JTA) -- Israel has not refused to continue to cooperate with the United Nations Conciliation Commission, an official spokesman declared here today. Replying to press comment abroad that Israel had refused to cooperate, the spokesman pointed out that Arthur Lourie, Israel consul-general in New York, is scheduled to meet with the Commission this coming Tuesday.

Israel Demand For Direct Negotiations Will Further Peace Efforts

LAKE SUCCESS, Oct. 30. (JTA) -- A spokesman of the Israel delegation to the United Nations said today that the latest stand of his government in refusing to negotiate peace except by direct discussions with the Arab states would further rather than retard peace efforts.

The present procedure of the Conciliation Commission of trying to make peace with the Arabs and Israel, separately, is encouraging the Arabs to expect further concessions from Israel, the spokesman added. These concessions will not be made, he said, and when Arabs find they can make no headway through indirect commission procedure, they will sooner or later have to consent to the only peace conference that gets results -- all parties sitting around the table and talking it over.

Sir Ellsworth Flavelle of Toronto, chairman of the World Committee for Palestine, a federation of about 30 non-Jewish committees throughout the world which favored the establishment of a Jewish national homeland, yesterday stated: "As Christians, we are deeply concerned about the future of Jerusalem. We believe that the sanctity of the city must be preserved and that the city must be allowed to develop and grow. We recall that it was the Jewish community of Jerusalem which successfully defended the city when it was shelled a year ago. That community has demonstrated its devotion for Jerusalem and that community, it seems to us, can best be entrusted with the city's future."

ISRAEL TAKING ACCOUNT OF ARAB STATES REARMAMENT IN PREPARATION FOR NEW HOSTILITIES

TEL AVIV, Oct. 30. (JTA) -- Israel is taking account of the Arab states preparations for new hostilities, an Israel spokesman declared today. He was commenting on reports that Egypt had purchased jet fighter planes from Britain.

Syria and Lebanon are also reported rearming feverishly and building new fortifications along their Israel borders. Latest reports in the Arab press indicate that strong Syrian shock troops are concentrated behind the first line of fortification. A special Syrian mobile force was recently formed and a strong "home guard" of men from 15 to 50 years of age was recently mobilized and is now undergoing special training in street fighting.

The Transjordan press has called on the Arabs of the world to "teach the Jews a lesson and liberate Jerusalem." It assails "politicians" who hope "to come to terms with Israel."

ISRAEL MILITARY ATTACHE TO MOSCOW LEGATION RECEIVED BY SOVIET ARMED FORCES MINISTER

TEL AVIV, Oct. 30. (JTA) -- Colonel Israel Barnea, Military Attache to the Israel Legation in the Soviet Capital, was received at the Ministry of Soviet Armed Forces by General B. Sereyev, Director General of the Ministry's Foreign Relations Division according to advices received here today from Moscow. Col. Barnea is a military transport specialist.

EUROPEAN STUDY GROUP CHARGES SOVIET ANTI-SEMITISM; QUITES ANTI-IMMIGRATION POLICY

LONDON, Oct. 30. (JTA) -- Sweeping charges of anti-Semitism on the part of the Soviet Union are featured in the most recent report of the International Committee for Study of European Questions. The body, headed by Dr. Robert Borel, operates jointly in Britain and France and has issued reports on Germany as well as Russia. Among its sponsors are Lord Brabazon, Lord Vansittart, Martin Lindsay, M. P., Ernest Marples, M. P., Paul Reynaud, conservative prewar French Premier; Andre Le Trocquer, Paul Claudel, 81-year-old French writer and former Ambassador to the United States.

The report declares that "anti-Semitism and racial persecution are now beginning to appear in Russia." It adds that "apart from deportation to Asia of hundreds of thousands of Jews, Russia is now applying an anti-Semitic policy in Russia itself."

In support of these charges, the report asserts that Jews have largely been purged from the Soviet Government and press. Lazar M. Kaganovitch is the only Jew left in the Soviet Union's Politburo, and none is left in the Foreign Ministry, the statement continues. Furthermore, it is charged that the U.S.S.R. arrested 28 Jewish officers last summer who had been in Germany, assigned to conduct German newspapers in the Soviet zone, and that Jews were purged from Austrian newspapers under Soviet license.

The report also charges that Poland is depriving Jews emigrating to Israel of their Polish citizenship, while Russia, Hungary, and Rumania forbid Jewish emigration. It also maintains that more than 200,000 Jews have been deported from the Ukraine and White Russia to Asia.

THREE GERMAN PAPERS DENY CONNECTION WITH JEWS; BLAME COMPETITORS FOR "INSULTS"

FRANKFURT, Oct. 30. (JTA) -- Three United States-licensed German language newspapers in editorials today categorically denied that they were influenced by Jews.

The Weisbadener Kurier protested against the "unfounded and impertinent statement of competitors that the Kurier was owned by Jews." The Kurier, however, denounced its rival Weisbadener Tageblatt as having Jewish affiliations. The Frankenpost, appearing in Hof, Upper Franconia, also denied that it was published or edited by Jews, declaring that these "insulting charges" were made by competitors in order to discredit the paper among its readers.

Meanwhile, in order to speed the payment of indemnification for migrants living outside Germany, the Jewish Central Committee of Germany has sent a two-man commission to Israel. Their duty is to form an organization for handling the applications of the persons concerned. A similar organization will be set up soon in the United States. The deadline for all applications for indemnity is March 31, 1950.

I.R.O. AGREES TO GIVE ISRAEL \$2,500,000 TO FINANCE CARE OF AGED AND SICK REFUGEES

GENEVA, Oct. 30. (JTA) -- The Government of Israel will receive \$2,500,000 from the International Refugee Organization to finance the permanent care of aged, sick and handicapped Jewish refugees, it was announced here today. The funds will be used to further an extensive building program in Israel to care for the so-called "hard core" cases among displaced persons.

250,000 JEWS STILL IN ROMANIA REPORTED FACED WITH SEVERE ECONOMIC CRISIS

HAIFA, Oct. 30. (JTA) -- The 250,000 Jews still in Rumania are currently being faced with a severe economic crisis, according to Jewish passengers who arrived here from Constanza aboard the S.S. Elilath. They stated that the Rumanian Government, after nationalizing all Jewish enterprises has not only failed to pay compensation, but has claimed additional payments from former owners.

In the meantime, the Elilath passengers stated, the Jewish press in Rumania continues its anti-Zionist campaign. They added that customs duties on relief parcels recently were raised by the Rumanian Government to such an extent that many addressees have been unable to clear badly-needed food gifts.

B.B.C. BROADCASTS TO ISRAEL IN HEBREW LANGUAGE INAUGURATED; ELIASH SPEAKS

LONDON, Oct. 30. (JTA) -- The first British Broadcasting Company transmission in Hebrew beamed to Israel went out over the airwaves tonight. Dr. Mordecai Eliash, Israel Minister here, marked the occasion with an address in which he noted that "for the first time a great country undertakes regular broadcasting service in our language -- the first time that the Hebrew tongue takes its place among the broadcasts of the world, to be heard day-by-day from outside the frontiers of Israel."

ISRAEL PIONEERS ORGANIZATION OPENS FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGN IN BEHALF OF HISTADRUT

NEW YORK, Oct. 30. (JTA) -- More than 2,500 delegates representing 900 New York benevolent and fraternal organizations met in special conference at the Hotel Commodore here today to launch officially the 1949-50 Israel Histadrut Campaign of the United Organizations for the Israel Pioneers. The U.O.I.P., a division of the Israel Histadrut Campaign, adopted a \$300,000 goal as part of the \$10,000,000 nationwide drive.

Addressing a banquet winding up the conference tonight, Congressman Jacob K. Javits called upon the United Nations to place the Arab part of Palestine under a U.N. trusteeship. "Far more effective than undertaking a responsibility to handle the municipal administration of Jerusalem on the part of the United Nations would be to establish a United Nations Trusteeship for Arab Palestine, coordinating this with the international regime for safeguarding the Holy Places and access to them," he said.

Meir Grabowsky, who arrived from Israel last week as head of a special Histadrut delegation to the United States, told the delegates that Israel must double its population in four years in order to make manpower available should there be renewed hostilities in the Middle East. "Because of the present situation, we dare not slow up the pace of immigration and we expect to have a population of 2,000,000 by 1953," Mr. Grabowsky said. Other speakers at the parley included Isaac Hamlin, general secretary of the Histadrut campaign, and Judge Samuel S. Leibowitz, president of the U.O.I.P.

UNITED SYNAGOGUES OF AMERICA ESTABLISHES MIDWEST REGION AT TWO-DAY CONFERENCE

CHICAGO, Oct. 30. (JTA) -- A Midwest Region of the United Synagogues of America was formally established here at a two-day conference of the United Synagogues of America this week-end. The conference was attended by representatives of congregations, sisterhoods, men's clubs and young people's leagues from Colorado, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Wisconsin.

JEWISH WELFARE BOARD'S FINANCE COUNCIL TO SET ORGANIZATION'S 1950 BUDGET TODAY

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 30. (JTA) -- The proposed budgets for the major divisions of the National Jewish Welfare Board were this week-end presented to the National Finance Council of the J.W.B. which is meeting to set up a budget for the organization for the next year. The Council will make its decision on the budget tomorrow and will then present it to the J.W.B. National Executive Board here later in the day.

The Jewish Center Division, in its report, pointed out that the nationwide effort to intensify Jewish group life in the United States is being given practical expression by an aggregate sum of \$26,000,000 raised or in the process of being raised locally by Jewish communities in this country to provide additional facilities to house essential Jewish community center services. This expansion has resulted in the placing of responsibility on the J.W.B. for maintaining services to keep pace with this growth, the report stated. It was presented by Mrs. Walter E. Belier, new chairman of the Division, and Philip M. Klutznick, retiring chairman.

Rabbi Samuel B. Freehof, chairman of the Division of Religious Activities, said that there was a 14 percent increase in 1949 in the number of part-time chaplains serving the religious needs of Jewish personnel in the armed forces at domestic installations and Veterans Administration hospitals. At the same time, the number of such installations served by J.W.B. chaplains has risen by 18 percent. Mrs. Alfred R. Sachrach, chairman of the Women's Organization's Division, reported on the activities of eight national women's groups which aid GI's in isolated outposts and veterans in hospitals.

ISRAEL FREE OF EPIDEMICS, HADASSAH DIRECTOR REPORTS; SEES HEALTH DANGER IN CAMPS

NEW YORK, Oct. 30. (JTA) -- Scoring what he called "scare reports about Israel," Dr. Eli Davis, director of the Hadassah medical organization in Israel, said here today that "not a single epidemic has marred the general health record of the Jewish state, despite the influx of 300,000 destitute, starved and ill-treated immigrants, most of them from Arab lands." The only real health hazard in Israel is in the reception camps where, because of a stupendously heavy oriental Jewish population, all of it immobilized by the housing shortage, Israel is falling heir to diseases indigenous not to itself, but to the whole Middle East."

Dr. Davis reported these facts to a closed session, of the Hadassah national board and the medical reference board of Hadassah and the Hebrew University. A proposed expanded program of hospitalization, tuberculosis control and medical teaching was reviewed. Dr. Davis arrived in this country by air last week to attend a meeting of the American Public Health Association as a representative of Israel. He will address the 35th annual convention of Hadassah, which will be held in San Francisco, from Nov. 13-16.

MILLIONAIRE ANTI-SEMITIC PLANS ESTABLISHMENT OF WHITE SUPREMACY SCHOOL IN TEXAS

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 30. (JTA) -- With the announcement by trustees of Jefferson Military College that they had severed all relations with George W. Armstrong, millionaire oilman who last week offered to endow the school with \$50,000,000 if it would limit student and faculty membership to white Christians, and would teach "White Supremacy," Armstrong today announced that he would set up an Armstrong University in Texas. At the school, which he plans to establish either in Fort Worth or Port Arthur, Armstrong said he would "put in any stipulations I want" adding that he disliked the idea of Jews and gentiles together in schools because it tended to "mongrelize the American race."

100 JEWS LEAVE MANCHURIAN CONSUL ROUTE TO JERUSALEM, HYAS ANNOUNCES

NEW YORK, Oct. 30. (JTA) -- HYAS world headquarters today announced the receipt of a report from its Shanghai office that a considerable movement of Jews has begun from Harbin, Manchuria.

This is the first movement of any portion of the population from Harbin since the start of the war in the Pacific. According to information from the Jewish community of Harbin, a group of about 100 Jews left Harbin last month for Israel, via Tientsin.

INSTITUTE FOR PROMOTION OF MEXICAN-ISRAEL CULTURAL RELATIONS SET UP IN MEXICO CITY

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 30. (JTA) -- An institute for the promotion of Mexican-Israel cultural relations has been organized here under the chairmanship of Judge Alfonso P. Ramirez. Serving as vice-chairman of the new group is Dr. Adolph Eastlicht, Jewish Agency representative and Israel immigration officer in Mexico. Other members of the institute include leading Mexican political leaders, writers and artists as well as prominent Zionist figures.

MORGENTHAU CALLS ON U.N. TO END TRANSJORDAN ARMY'S BLOKADE OF MT. SCOPUS ROAD

NEW YORK, Oct. 30. (JTA) -- Henry Morgenthau, Jr., general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, last night called on the United Nations to reopen the road to the Hebrew University - Hadassah Hospital on Mt. Scopus, in Jerusalem, which has been cut by the Jordan Arab Legion. Mr. Morgenthau spoke at a dinner at which he received an award for his contributions "to the cause of democracy and peace in the nation and throughout the world." The award was presented by the Justice Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons.

Pointing out that the Hadassah Hospital and the Hebrew University are the greatest centers of medicine and education in the Middle East, Mr. Morgenthau, declared that "it is difficult for me to understand how the United Nations countenance the fact that there is no free access to them. In the face of seeming acquiescence by the U.N., the Transjordan troops flaunt themselves openly across the road, barring it to those who have built the University and the Hospital and are anxious to continue the splendid work that they have made possible."

MRS. ROOSEVELT AND AUBREY EBAN TO RECEIVE YESHIVA UNIVERSITY AWARDS NEXT MONTH

NEW YORK, Oct. 30. (JTA) -- Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and Aubrey Eban, Israel's representative to the United Nations, were named today to receive Yeshiva University awards at the University's annual Charter Day Dinner to be held November 13th, it was announced by Dr. Samuel Belkin, president.

Mrs. Roosevelt will be awarded the first annual Morris Morgenstern Award for her "great contribution in furthering world peace and humanitarian principles." Mr. Eban will have the annual Yeshiva University Synagogue Council Award in recognition "of his outstanding services to Israel as well as to the cause of world peace."

MRS. ROOSEVELT GIVEN DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD OF UPPER N.Y. COUNCIL B'NAI B'RITH

HYDE PARK, N.Y., Oct. 30. (JTA) -- The annual Distinguished Service Award of the Upper New York State Council of B'nai B'rith for "outstanding Americanism and activity in civic affairs" was presented this week-end to Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, at her home here, by Frank Goldman, international president of B'nai B'rith.