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KNESSET RECONVENES; BEN GURION OUTLINES GOVERNMENT'S PLANS FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY

TEL AVIV, Nov. 8. (JTA) -- Premier David Ben Gurion, addressing the Knesset deputies who reconvened here last night after a two-month recess, outlined the achievements of the present Israel Government during its eight months of tenure and disclosed a series of proposals designed to carry the Jewish state through its present economic difficulties.

Attending the opening session were Israel President Chaim Weizmann and a large representation from the diplomatic colony in Israel. Distinguished guests from abroad also witnessed the Knesset's session.

"Operation Afforestation"--designed to plant hundreds of millions of trees on 1,250,000 acres in the "wastes of the Negev extending to the port of Eilat on the Gulf of Agate and along the boundaries and highways of the country"--was outlined by the Premier. He revealed that the government has invited afforestation experts from Italy and Argentina to come to this country to aid in the new program. He also said that a request for the loan of Russian experts has been forwarded to the Soviet Union.

Mr. Ben Gurion disclosed the government's plans to plant 125,000 acres yearly in order to restore the "country's fertility, prevent dislocation of the soil and improve general climatic conditions." He pointed out that the project will afford employment to tens of thousands of presently jobless residents of immigrant reception camps.

Urges World Jewry to Help Double Israel's Population

Mr. Ben Gurion declared that the Israel Government "opposed and continues to oppose the slightest restriction on immigration, despite the difficulties of absorption." The expediting of immigration "is a matter of conscience for the Jewish people," he declared. He urged Jews throughout the world, particularly the American Jewish community, to "display maximum efforts for helping the government double the country's population" and warned that unless such aid was forthcoming, "immigration was doomed to failure."

The government, in cooperation with the Jewish Agency, he asserted, has planned the resettlement of 50,000 immigrants in 150 new colonies by the end of the current fiscal year. Cost of this project, he said, will be 28,000,000 pounds (\$78,400,000). Plans for creation of an agricultural bank in the near future to aid young agricultural settlers and orange grove planters were also outlined by the Premier. "Our objectives," he declared, "are to reach a situation where all fertile areas in the country will be cultivated and will produce the country's entire food requirements, with possibilities for export."

Mr. Ben Gurion continued: "There are parties protesting the country's present boundaries--a contingency we cannot ignore, but the most pressing contestant is the presence of huge wastes of land which must be completely eliminated through total afforestation."

The Premier, who was scheduled to continue his address late today, left the Knesset meeting with President Weizmann and other top government leaders to attend a reception at the Soviet legation here arranged in honor of the 32nd anniversary of the October revolution.

PRO-ISRAEL DEMONSTRATION IN MOSCOW LED TO SUPPRESSION OF JEWISH GROUPS, WRITER SAYS

NEW YORK, Nov. 8. (JTA) -- The closing down of the only two Yiddish-language publishing houses and the dissolution of the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee in Moscow last year were the direct results of a Zionist demonstration conducted by Jews in the Soviet capital on the occasion of the visit by members of the Israel delegation to the Moscow Synagogue, Joseph Newman, former Moscow correspondent of the New York Herald Tribune, reported today in a series of articles on conditions in Russia appearing in that newspaper.

Mr. Newman reported that members of the Israel legation in Moscow, who had just arrived in the Soviet Union in the latter part of the summer of 1948, were invited to attend Rosh Hashanah services at the Moscow Synagogue. "When Mrs. (Golda) Myerson and members of her mission arrived," the article stated, "they were amazed at the huge throng of Jews who packed the entire street in front of the synagogue to greet them.

"They were dumfounded at what happened next," the report continued. "There was an impassioned and almost hysterical outburst of feeling. Jewish men and women broke out in tears. They wept as they cheered and cried aloud: 'We have waited all our lives for this! For Israel! Tomorrow to Jerusalem!'"

The article added: "The Soviet leaders were not slow to punish the demonstrators. They sounded a clear and strong warning to the Jews in Russia. It was a notice that Russian Jews would not be permitted to leave the Soviet Union and to go to Israel."

Asserting that a "large number of Russian Jews had been flocking" to the Israel legation "to demand visas for Israel and to ask help in getting Soviet permission to leave the country," the article said the Jews proceeded to the legation "full of enthusiasm demanding to know what they could do and how they could serve Israel." Mr. Newman stated: "The Israel legation was put under under strict surveillance both inside and outside the Metropole Hotel. Soviet citizens bound for the legation were ordered to leave immediately and never return."

The former Moscow correspondent, who has been denied reentry to the Soviet Union, said Soviet officials "liquidated the offices of the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee," because they felt it had "served its purpose in mobilizing support during the war but should not be permitted to continue as a center through which Jews could keep in touch with one another." The article added that "Jewish employees left their offices as usual on Saturday but when they returned on Monday they found the following announcement pasted on the doors: 'Liquidated.'" The Herald Tribune correspondent added that the anti-Zionist campaign "became so violent, brutal and vulgar that it began to run away with itself," and "it officially contributed to the spread of latent anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union by providing an opportunity for anti-Semites to parade publicly as anti-Zionists."

U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO BE ASKED TO FINANCE FULL RELIEF PROGRAMS FOR ARAB REFUGEES

LAKE SUCCESS, Nov. 8. (JTA) -- U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie will ask the General Assembly in December to assure the full financing of the Palestine refugee relief program through next March, it was revealed today in the first report on the operations of the U.N. Relief for Palestine Refugees. The report says 37,600 refugees are in Israel and indicates that U.N. relief agencies have had the full cooperation of the Israel Government.

India's Prime Minister Pandit Nehru, at a press conference last night, declared that India recognized Israel as an existing and continuing fact. This was in reply to a question whether India is ready to accord Israel diplomatic recognition. Asked if there were any Moslem-Jewish clashes in India, Mr. Nehru replied there was at no time any anti-Semitism in his country.

JEWS DEMONSTRATE IN BAVARIA TO DEMAND IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION OF RESTITUTION LAW

MUNICH, Nov. 8. (JTA) -- A group of Jewish and non-Jewish claimants for restitution today picketed the Bavarian Office of Restitution, demanding that the provincial government take immediate action to implement the General Claims Law, which has been passed in all states in the United States zone of Germany. A government spokesman promised the demonstrators that a final decision on the problem would be made by Friday.

Although the states of Hesse and Wuerttemberg have already begun making payments on claims filed under the law, Bavaria has not yet issued any instructions on its implementation. Despite the intervention of Dr. Philip Auerbach, Bavarian Commissioner for Persecutees, the provincial government has failed to set up any organization to handle restitution and indemnification claims. The maximum payment which Bavaria has authorized for claims under the law is 500 marks, while the other provinces in the American zone have agreed to pay a top of 3,000 marks.

MANY AUSTRIAN JEWS CONSIDERING EMIGRATION BECAUSE OF RECENT NAZI ACTIVITIES

VIENNA, Nov. 8. (JTA) -- Many of the 12,000 Jews presently residing in Austria are talking of emigrating from this country as a result of recent anti-Semitic incidents and the election gains of the neo-Nazi League of Independent Voters, it was reported here today.

Wilhelm Krell, general secretary of the Vienna Jewish Community, commenting on this development, declared that "the Austrian Jews may be a little hypersensitive, but nobody can blame them for this considering the experiences they have had." Referring to the recent discovery of a Nazi flag on the stairs of the Community's office here, Mr. Krell pointed out that this reminds the Jews of the pre-Anschluss days when swastikas were painted on walls and leaflets bearing the Nazi emblem were scattered in Vienna streets by Austrian Nazis. The Jews also recall the gas chambers, forced labor camps, the Aryanization of property and the other horrors which followed the Anschluss, he said.

THREAT OF RESURGENT NAZISM IN NEXT FEW YEARS FORESEEN BY W.J.C. LEADER

LONDON, Nov. 8. (JTA) -- A new battle in defense of Jewish rights may have to be waged in three or four years as anti-Semitic forces in rebuilt Germany become aggressive again, Maurice Perlzweig, World Jewish Congress leader, warned last night at a reception here in connection with the Congress' Stephen Wise Memorial Appeal. The forces to which he referred, Mr. Perlzweig explained, may become strong again, not in Germany itself--where hardly any Jews are left--but in the United States and the Arab world.

Stating that "we have reached the turning point in the fortunes of the Jewish people," Mr. Perlzweig pointed out that while the Jewish state was represented today at the U.N. "it is not in a position to take over the responsibilities discharged by voluntary organizations like the W.J.C." The Jewish state, he added, "has a legitimate interest in the fate of Jews all over the world, but cannot represent them."

French Section of W.J.C. Asks Government to Aid Iraqi Jews

PARIS, Nov. 8. (JTA) -- The French section of the World Jewish Congress today announced that it has sent an appeal to French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman asking that the French Government intervene with the Iraqi Government and in the United Nations to halt the persecution of Iraqi Jews. A letter of protest was also sent to the Iraqi Minister in Paris.

U.S. JEWRY MUST FINANCE RESETTLEMENT IN ISRAEL IN 1950, CJJWF LEADERS PARLEY TOLD

CHICAGO, Nov. 8. (JTA) -- With the Government of Israel emerging as the only force which can supply the basic long-term capital and organization for upbuilding the country's economic position, American Jewish philanthropy must continue its responsibility of providing large-scale funds for resettlement and welfare purposes in 1950, Harold Glasser, director of the Institute on Overseas Studies of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, declared here during the week-end.

Addressing 125 leaders of America's 30 largest Jewish communities at a National Planning Conference called by the CJJWF, Mr. Glasser said that Israel had experienced its "most trying economic year" but could now move ahead toward the realization of its "sound economic potential." The conference appraised the current situation in regard to Israel, overseas and local Jewish needs as a "realistic basis for community planning to meet Jewry's total responsibilities."

In addition to Mr. Glasser, a panel of consultants answered questions of community leaders on aspects of contemporary Israel and overseas conditions. The panel consisted of Robert Nathan, director of the economic department of the American section of the Jewish Agency, and Moses Beckelman, assistant European director of the Joint Distribution Committee.

Utilizing the facts given on the Israel and overseas needs for 1950, the community representatives engaged in a round-table discussion on their implications for community planning, local capital funds needs, budgeting procedures, national-local relationships, and campaign organization and goals.

Mr. Glasser told the community leaders that a clear delineation of the roles of government and private philanthropy was necessary in planning aid to Israel in 1950. "The Government of Israel is emerging as the only effective force for supplying the basic capital and organization necessary to advance the country's position," he declared.

Philanthropic Groups Being Forced to Limit Activities, Glasser Says

While Jews outside Israel, particularly the American Jewish community, have a great responsibility for providing Israel with adequate funds to carry out its program of internal upbuilding, specific tasks and capacities must be evaluated, he said. "Private philanthropic organizations," Mr. Glasser asserted, "can no longer attempt to undertake tasks for which they do not possess adequate resources. They are being forced to restrict their activities primarily to the urgent welfare needs and can assume only a small part of the huge task of economic absorption of the new immigration."

Analyzing Israel's present economic position, Mr. Glasser said that despite the fact that Israel experienced "its most trying economic year in 1949, it demonstrated its basic stability and capacity to develop its sound economic potential to the fullest extent." Even during the present period, when the new state faced the task of resettling and absorbing an unprecedented number of immigrants, and was forced to institute strict price and ration controls, its standard of living did not compare unfavorably with other small nations, he noted.

Mr. Nathan told the communal leaders that the flow of immigrants to Israel has imposed a problem whose "magnitude is almost beyond conception." Regarding the resettlement of immigrants, he said that absorption had preceded at a much slower rate than had been desired, and that there had been only a partial absorption of many immigrants who had left the camps. This, he said, resulted from inadequate housing, capital facilities and equipment.

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS CONVENTION OPENS TODAY; TRUMAN AND WEIZMANN GREET PARLEY

NEW YORK, Nov. 8. (JTA) -- As 1,000 delegates from all parts of the country began assembling here today for the opening tomorrow of the five-day national convention of the American Jewish Congress, messages of greetings were received from Presidents Truman and Weizmann.

The convention, which closes Sunday evening, will elect a president to succeed the late Dr. Stephen S. Wise and will formulate a program covering the important issues facing the American Jewish community. Some of the problems to be discussed are the relationship of American Jews to the Jews of Israel and the Jews in other nations; how to build a creative Jewish life in the U.S., and how best to safeguard and strengthen American democracy.

In a letter to Rabbi Irving Miller, executive committee chairman of the American Jewish Congress, President Truman declared: "I am happy to extend greetings to the American Jewish Congress on the occasion of the biennial convention to be held on November 9th to 13th in New York and I welcome this opportunity of congratulating you on a fine record of accomplishments.

"In your program for the safeguarding of American democracy, the elimination of all forms of discrimination and the defense of the rights of Jews, you were privileged to have the leadership of one of the great Americans and Jews of our times, the late Dr. Stephen S. Wise. Your creative contributions constitute a proud and fitting tribute to his memory. His ideals should continue to serve as inspiration and guide for all your future endeavors."

President Weizmann's cable stated: "I send your national convention my heartiest good wishes. I feel sure that with your traditional good efforts you will succeed in your important work. Be strong and steadfast."

PICKETS DEMONSTRATE BEFORE IRAQI CONSULATE IN N.Y.; PROTEST PERSECUTION OF IRAQI JEWS

NEW YORK, Nov. 8. (JTA) -- A picket demonstration under the auspices of the Emergency Youth Committee for the Jews in Iraq was staged before the Iraqi Consulate General and the Iraq United Nations delegation offices here yesterday. Two hundred young men and women carried banners and chanted slogans protesting the persecution of Jews in Iraq.

During the demonstration, a delegation of the committee was received by a representative of the Consulate. The delegation said that American Jewry will not passively watch the "Nazi-like vandalism and persecution of Jews in Iraq." It demanded that the Iraq Government cease its "Hitlerite" activities of illegal arrests, hangings and ghetto-ization of Jewish citizens and that the basic human rights guaranteed by the U.N. Charter be granted in Iraq.

FORMER IRGUN MEMBER DETAINED AT ELLIS ISLAND SINCE AUGUST RELEASED PENDING INQUIRY

NEW YORK, Nov. 8. (JTA) -- Ephraim Margolin, an Israel citizen who was detained at Ellis Island since Aug. 22 because of his admitted membership in the former Israel underground organization, Irgun Zvai Leumi, was released late yesterday and will be allowed to remain in this city pending a final determination of his status by immigration authorities.

SIEGMUND LIFSCHITZ, HIAS MIGRATION EXPERT, DIES IN NEW YORK AT 32

NEW YORK, Nov. 8. (JTA) -- Siegmund Lifschitz, migration expert for the HIAS, died here today at the age of 32. An immigrant to this country in 1938, Mr. Lifschitz served in the U.S. Army during the war and returned to take up the post of chief of the Consultants Division of HIAS.

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