

Friday, January 20, 1950

JTA Daily News Bulletin

Published by the JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY - 106 East 41st Street, New York 17, N.Y.

U.N. TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL OPENS ITS SESSION; JERUSALEM ISSUE TO FOLLOW SOMALILAND

GENEVA, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- The U.N. Trusteeship Council, which is to decide how the U.N. resolution providing for the internationalization of Jerusalem should be implemented, opened its session here today but adjourned immediately until tomorrow following the sudden death of the Ethiopian delegate.

At tomorrow's meeting the members will decide on the agenda of the current session. It is expected that the parley will deal with the Somaliland problem first and will then take up the question of Jerusalem.

It was learned here today that the Soviet delegation will challenge the credentials of the Chinese delegation in the Trusteeship Council and that it will, most probably, walk out from the session if its motion is rejected.

British diplomats are of the opinion that the Soviet representatives might be pleased with such a development since it would be a way out for the Soviet Union from its present position of supporting an unpopular solution to the Jerusalem problem.

U.S. Mission of Christian Leaders Rejects Internationalization of Jerusalem

NEW YORK, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- A fact-finding mission of Christian leaders and spokesmen, sent to Israel to investigate the feasibility of the internationalization plan for Jerusalem, today made public its findings at a press conference held under the auspices of the American Christian Palestine Committee, sponsoring group of the investigatory commission.

The fact-finding mission's report, which was unanimous, concluded primarily that "the United Nations plan to internationalize the Jerusalem area is dangerous and unnecessary," and recommended that a United Nation's commission "with no territorial sovereignty" be established in order to insure the free accessibility of the Christian world to the Holy Places of Jerusalem.

"Guarantees should be given to such a commission by both Jordan and Israel, assuring the freedom and sanctity of the sacred places within their territories. This is all that the Christian world has a right to require of two sovereign states, which we believe will in time compose their differences. This making of the peace will be accomplished all the more speedily if Israel and Jordan are encouraged in their negotiations by the western powers," the report emphasized.

The investigation commission which was composed of persons occupying leading positions in the Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist and congregational denominations, transmitted its report to Secretary of State Dean Acheson; Roger Garreau, president of the U.N. Trusteeship Council; and Francis B. Sayre, U.S. delegate to the Trusteeship Council.

The Jerusalem investigation group disclosed that while it was in Israel and the Holy City, it had discussed the problem of internationalization with representatives of the Coptic Church, the Greek Catholic Church, the Copt Catholic Church, the Roman Catholic Church, ministers of Protestant groups, and with Jews and Arabs. From these discussions, the fact-finding mission was able to conclude, according to its report, that the U.N. plan was unworkable.

BEN GURION WARNS RELIGIOUS BLOC; CONTINUES EFFORT TO WIDEN COALITION CABINET

JERUSALEM, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- Premier David Ben Gurion today sent a letter to Rabbi J.L. Maimon, Minister of Religion, notifying him that if the accusations concerning violations of religious edicts in the immigrant camps in Israel turn out to be true, he will leave the Cabinet. However, should the charges by the Religious Bloc be unfounded, then the religious groups will have to bear the consequences, the letter stated.

The Cabinet committee investigating the charges started its hearings today. The committee is expected to hear a number of witnesses and to proceed to the immigration camps next week to continue the investigation there.

The attempt made by Premier Ben Gurion to enlarge the present coalition Cabinet by inviting the Mapam, left-wing labor group, and the General Zionists to join it, reached a stalemate today when the Mapam demanded three portfolios in the Cabinet, including the post of Minister of Interior.

The "inner circles" of the Mapam, General Zionist and Mapai parties met here last night separately in an effort to work out a formula which would result in widening of the present coalition government.

"SECOND ROUND" IN ARAB-ISRAEL WAR POSSIBLE, CHIEF-OF-STAFF WARNS; WANTS ARMY ENLARGED

TEL AVIV, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- Brig. Yigal Yidan, Chief of Staff of the Israel Army, in the first press conference he has given since he assumed his new post, declared today that the Army of the Jewish state must "be as prepared as ever to repulse any attack and fight the enemy on his own soil."

In order to cope with the preparations being made across Israel's borders, he said, the army must be enlarged. Preparations for a "second round" by the Arab countries, he stressed, were real and not a "propaganda scare." The Israel Army, he stated, has proof of this and as a result, the size of the peacetime Army, for which the present Defense Law provides, would soon be insufficient. This was the reason that a number of amendments to the present law were submitted to the Knesset earlier in the week, he revealed.

The Israel Chief of Staff warned that the "war is not yet over." He said the two-year military service not now in force enables many officers and enlisted men who started their army service in 1948 to obtain their release from service this year. He disclosed that volunteers for the army were numerous. Many of these volunteers, he stated, are veterans of defense organizations that go back many years. Many of these men, he said, now want to make a new start in civilian life and "their places must be filled by conscripts."

Stressing that the army was "completely unpolitical," Brig. Yadin affirmed that "personal qualities only, not political creeds," are taken into account when appointments are made. "The Army should be pioneering in spirit, modern in outlook, democratic and technically efficient," he stated. Women must be called up for a two-year period, he explained, because from ten to 20 percent of jobs in the Army could be filled by them as well or better than by men.

PROGRAM TO ERECT 50,000 HOUSING UNITS IN ISRAEL IN 1950 LAUNCHED; ALL SITES CHOSEN

TEL AVIV, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- A housing program for 1950 entailing the erection of 50,000 housing units was launched today following the allocation of necessary funds by the Knesset's finance committee. Initially 20,000 units will be set up at a cost of 9,000,000 pounds. The sites of all housing units have already been chosen.

ISRAEL GOVERNMENT ASKED TO RESCUE AFGHANISTAN JEWS; CRUEL TREATMENT REPORTED

TEL AVIV, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- An appeal to the Israel Government to make "vigorous efforts" to save the Jews in Afghanistan was directed here today by the Council of Afghan Jews in Israel. The appeal emphasized that Jews in Afghanistan are now subjected to the most cruel treatment and are being deprived of their means of livelihood.

Enumerating the restrictions the authorities in Afghanistan now impose on Jews, the appeal says that the affected Jewish population is practically compelled to sell all of its belongings and "is confronted with hardships and with sordid misery." Other reports received here from Afghanistan indicate that every soldier and policeman there takes the law into his own hands with regard to Jews and that the Jews are being brutally maltreated.

WORKERS IN HAIFA OIL REFINERIES STAGE 24-HOUR PROTEST STRIKE IN LABOR DISPUTE

HAIFA, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- Workers in the Haifa oil refineries last night began a 24-hour protest strike against the management's refusal to discharge employees according to seniority claims. The Haifa Labor Council placed the onus of the blame on the companies' management which, it said, rejected proposed mediation of the dispute by the government. A 50-man skeleton staff was left on the job by the strikers to maintain essential services.

An Israel labor delegation of 15 will leave for the United States within a fortnight to study American production methods. The Soviet Embassy here has not yet replied to a Histadrut request for permission to send a similar delegation to the U.S.S.R. Arrangements to send such delegations to France and Belgium are now being completed.

KNESSET BILL TO AID FOREIGN INVESTORS IMPRESSES EUROPEAN BUSINESSMEN, GROSSMAN SAYS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- Jewish and non-Jewish financial circles abroad have been favorably impressed by the proposal now before the Knesset to encourage private capital investments in Israel through special concessions, Meir Grossman, Jewish Agency executive member in charge of the economic department, declared today at a press conference following his return here from an extensive tour through Europe.

France, he said, favors economic relations with Israel, with reservations, despite the fact that the Jewish state in the past nine months purchased 1,000,000,000 francs worth of French goods. The lack of an Israel-French trade agreement, he added, hampers commercial relations between the two nations, he declared.

Mr. Grossman said he was pleasantly surprised to find in England that both Jewish and non-Jewish circles have increased their interest in furthering economic relations with Israel. He added that the same attitude prevails in Sweden, Belgium and Switzerland.

AMENDMENT TO ADMIT ARAB REFUGEES TO U.S. UNDER DP ACT INTRODUCED BY SEN. LANGER

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- Palestine Arab refugees would be admitted to the United States under provisions of an amendment to the DP Act of 1948 introduced yesterday by Sen. William Langer, of North Dakota.

CZECH MINISTER TO ISRAEL PRESENTS CREDENTIALS; WEIZMANN LAUDS CZECH AID TO ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- Czech Minister Goldstucker today presented his credentials to Israel President Chaim Weizmann. At the ceremony, witnessed by Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett, the Czech diplomat said that the presentation marked the establishment of "regular diplomatic and friendly relations" between the two nations.

In his reply, President Weizmann said that "Czechoslovakia is engraved in the annals of our people as a cultural center for generations. Israel will never forget Czechoslovakia's aid to Israel's struggle for rebirth," he added.

ISRAEL ENVOY TO TURKEY PRESENTS HIS CREDENTIALS; CITES FRIENDSHIP OF TWO COUNTRIES

ISTANBUL, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- Israel Minister to Turkey Eliahu Sassoon today presented his credentials to President Ismet Inonu. Later Minister Sassoon, members of his legation staff and high Turkish Government officials proceeded to Kemal Ataturk's monument, where Mr. Sassoon laid a wreath.

Addressing a press conference later, the Israel Minister declared that he would "always be the spokesman for Israel's sincere friendship towards this great neighbor, Turkey." The Government of Israel's principal interest, he said, was to safeguard its own independence and cooperate loyally with all peace-loving countries. "I believe," he continued, "that I will find in Turkey understanding and sympathy for our constructive efforts and peaceful intentions."

YEMENITE IMMIGRANTS GIVEN SPECIAL AID IN ISRAEL, JEWISH AGENCY REPORTS

NEW YORK, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- The American section of the Jewish Agency reported today that in recognition of the special needs of the Yemenite Jews who have been brought to Israel during the last few months, the Agency's budget for the Yemenite immigration program is 30 percent greater than its budget for any other classification of immigrants.

Thus far the Agency has spent \$4,000,000 for the reception and absorption of more than 32,000 Yemenites who arrived in Israel up to last Dec. 23, the report said. "The priority which the Jewish Agency has granted to Yemenite immigrants is based on recognition of their greater needs compared with immigrants of other countries," it explained.

In the Yemenite camps, the report reveals, the ration allotments are one-third higher than in other camps. Special homes for Yemenite children have been set up. Fifteen percent of all housing under control of the Agency is allotted to Yemenites. On his discharge from a camp to settle in a city, the Yemenite is granted a stipend of eight Israel pounds instead of the five pounds granted other immigrants. If he is to be settled on the land, he receives a stipend of 10 pounds instead of the regular seven pounds assigned to would-be land workers, the report stated.

280 JEWISH IMMIGRANTS FROM ROMANIA LAND IN ISRAEL; ABOUT 2,000 ARRIVE IN WEEK

HAIFA, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- A group of 280 Jewish immigrants from Rumania arrived here yesterday. The passengers included numerous youths.

A total of 1,965 Jewish immigrants arrived in Israel during the first week of January, it was announced here today. During this same period there were 80,453 immigrants living in reception centers in Israel.

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE OPENS ANNUAL MEETING TODAY; WILL DISCUSS MAJOR PROBLEMS

NEW YORK, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- Major issues facing the American Jewish community will be discussed at the three-day annual meeting of the American Jewish Committee, which opens tomorrow at the Hotel Plaza with 500 leading members from 50 cities attending.

The meeting will act on measures needed to strengthen civil and religious life of Jews throughout the world, combat anti-Semitism, promote inter-group harmony, and stimulate religious and cultural development of American Jewry, Jacob Blaustein, president of the organization, announced today. "1950--the midpoint of this century--is the time to lay down the principles of a program of action which will help us, as Americans and Jews, to face the new set of problems which the ensuing years pose for all of us," he said. "Formulating these principles and implementing this program will require the best thinking and service which American Jews, as a community and as individuals, can render."

Mr. Blaustein announced that Supreme Court Justice Hugo L. Black will address the conference. Other speakers will include Irving M. Engel, chairman of the executive committee; Dr. John Slawson, executive vice-president; Fred Lazarus, Jr., David Sher, Alan M. Strock, Frank L. Sulzberger, vice-presidents; Albert H. Lieberman and Gustave M. Berne, treasurer and associate treasurer, respectively.

CHICAGO JEWISH FEDERATION MARKS 50TH ANNIVERSARY; SPENT \$56,000,000 DURING EXISTENCE

CHICAGO, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- The Jewish Federation of Chicago spent more than \$56,000,000 during the past 50 years of its existence for a wide variety of local social welfare, medical, educational and other programs, it was revealed here tonight at the 50th anniversary celebration of the agency. During the past year, the Federation allocated \$3,721,000 for Jewish institutions in this city.

Addressing the more than 1,000 Chicago leaders participating in the celebration, which was held at the Stevens Hotel, Illinois Governor Adlai E. Stevenson lauded the work of the Federation and urged continued support for its activities. A message from President Truman also praised the programs aided by the Federation and expressed the hope that the agency's work will be continued in the future. Congratulatory messages were received from Jewish federations in all parts of the United States and Canada, as well as from Jewish communities abroad.

Joseph L. Block, president of the Federation, presided at the celebration. Other speakers included Samuel A. Goldsmith, who has served as executive director for the past 20 years.

GEN. MARSHALL PROCLAIMS "RED CROSS SABBATH"; WILL BE OBSERVED IN ALL SYNAGOGUES

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- Saturday, February 25, has been designated as "Red Cross Sabbath" by Gen. George C. Marshall, president of the American Red Cross.

The Sabbath will be observed in synagogues throughout the nation in cooperation with the opening of the Red Cross annual fund-raising campaign. The following day, February 26, will be known as "Red Cross Sunday."

WEIZMANN AND MORGENTHAU CONFER AT REHOVOT; DISCUSS UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

REHOVOT, Israel, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- President Chaim Weizmann today entertained Henry Morgenthau, Jr., general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, at his residence here. Mr. Morgenthau discussed with Dr. Weizmann U.J.A. prospects for this year.

50,000 CHILDREN ATTEND 133 ALLIANCE ISRAELITE SCHOOLS IN 12 COUNTRIES, STROOCK REPORTS

NEW YORK, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- Alan M. Stroock, president of the American Friends of the Alliance Israelite Universelle, announced today that for the first time in the history of the Alliance the number of students in the schools of the organization throughout the Mediterranean area has passed the 50,000 mark.

The Alliance has 133 schools serving the Jewish populations of 12 countries. About half of these schools function in North Africa and the other half in Israel, Iran and the Arab states.

CONGREGATION "GATES OF PRAYER" IN NEW ORLEANS CELEBRATES ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- The centennial anniversary of the establishment of Congregation Gates of Prayer here was celebrated this week at a special service in the Reform Temple in which members of other New Orleans congregations joined. Participating in the centennial ceremony were Rabbi Emeritus Mendel Silber and Rabbi Nathaniel Share, spiritual leader of the Temple.

Dr. Nelson Glueck, president of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, declared in a centennial sermon that the significance of the celebration lies not in the fact that it marks 100 years, "but that the event marks a link in the chain of history 1,000 and many more years ago with a past full of significance that is part of the present."

AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROCLAIMS JEWISH HISTORY WEEK FOR MID-APRIL

NEW YORK, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- The second annual observance of Jewish History Week has been set for April 16-22, it was announced today by Lee M. Friedman, president of the American Jewish Historical Society, sponsor of the event. The Society, which last year initiated and conducted the successful nationwide program seeking to popularize interest in Jewish history, is sponsored by the National Jewish Welfare Board.

Hundreds of local and national Jewish groups throughout the country have been notified of the period in which Jewish History Week is to be observed in 1950. The basic aim of Jewish History Week, Mr. Friedman said, is to "create an understanding of the current movements, trends, and problems in the Jewish community of America in the light of past history."

MAURICE JACOBS RESIGNS FROM JEWISH PUBLICATION SOCIETY; SUCCEEDED BY LESSER ZUSSMAN

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- Lesser Zussman, for the past three and a half years an executive of the Philadelphia Allied Jewish Appeal, was named executive secretary of the Jewish Publication Society of America, succeeding Dr. Maurice Jacobs, who has been executive vice-president for the past 14 years, according to an announcement made today by Judge Louis E. Levintka, president of the Society.

Dr. Jacobs resigned to enter his own publishing business, and his resignation, effective March 15, was accepted with regret. Mr. Zussman will assume his new office Feb. 1st.

ISRAEL EXPORT OF FLOWERS TO UNITED STATES IS SUCCESS; TRANSPORTS GO BY AIR

TEL AVIV, Jan. 19. (JTA) -- The experiment of exporting Israel-grown flowers to the U.S. is producing "excellent results," it was announced here today. Extensive preparation for development of the flower-exporting trade is being made. The announcement said American dealers acknowledge perfect receipt of the flower consignments, which they receive by air.