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EXPORT-IMPORT BANK AUTHORIZES \$20,000,000 CREDIT FOR CONSTRUCTION WORK IN ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- The Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank announced today authorization of credits totaling \$20,000,000 to Israel for the purchase of U.S. equipment, materials and services necessary for the continuation in 1950 and 1951 of Israel's construction program.

The program includes the erection of houses and community facilities, construction and reconstruction of interurban highways and the expansion of water-supply and sewage-disposal facilities. During the next two years Israel expects to use this money to help house approximately 400,000 immigrants--including upwards of 75,000 now in camps--according to the Bank.

The new credits are to be amortized in 15 years and will bear interest at $3\frac{1}{2}$ percent per annum. They bring to a total of \$93,350,000 credits authorized thus far by the Export-Import Bank from the \$100,000,000 earmarked for Israel in January, 1949.

ISRAEL CABINET REJECTS GARREAU'S MODIFIED PLAN FOR INTERNATIONALIZATION OF JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet rejected today the modified plan for the internationalization of Jerusalem presented to the U.N. Trusteeship Council this week in Geneva by Roger Garreau, Council president. However, the Foreign Ministry will send a delegation to Geneva with limited credentials to explain Israel's attitude toward the plan to members of the Trusteeship Council.

(Reports from Amman today indicated that King Abdullah of Jordan would break off his peace talks with Israel if the Jewish state should agree to the Garreau plan. Israel's consent to this plan, it was indicated from Amman, would place Jordan in a disadvantageous position in view of the fact that the bulk of the Holy Places which M. Garreau proposes be put under U.N. jurisdiction are located in territory now held by Jordan.)

The Cabinet, meanwhile, authorized its Ministerial Committee for Religious Education to devise a system for religious education in the immigrant camps acceptable to all religious groups in the country, thus making an effort to resolve the problem of religious education in the reception centers. At the same time the Cabinet approved an Israel-Uruguayan barter agreement.

ISRAEL MINISTER DENIES REPORTS PEACE TALKS WITH EGYPT ARE BEING HELD IN TURKEY

ISTANBUL, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- Reports that peace talks between Egypt and Israel are being conducted in Turkey by diplomatic representatives of both countries were denied here today by Eliahu Sassoon, Israel's Minister in Ankara.

The reports have no basis whatsoever, the Israel diplomat said. He pointed out that the sudden departure to Tel Aviv of one of the members of the Israel legation in Turkey--which gave rise to the rumor about Israel-Egyptian talks here--was due to the necessity for consulting with the Israel Foreign Ministry on purely administrative matters.

ISRAEL AND JORDAN SIGN AGREEMENT REDUCING NUMBER OF ARTILLERY GUNS FOR BOTH SIDES

JERUSALEM, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- Another Israel-Jordan agreement was signed here today but is subject to approval by the U.N. armistice commission. The pact fixes the number of 48mm artillery guns for both sides as follows: eight for Jerusalem, four in the Hebron-Dead Sea area, 12 for the southernmost sector of the Negev desert and 20 for the "Arab triangle" region.

COMMUNIST CONFERENCE DECIDES TO FIGHT ZIONISM IN COMINFORM COUNTRIES; DISCUSSES ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- A series of resolutions aimed at intensifying the fight against Zionism was adopted at a conference of Jewish Communist leaders from East European countries held early in January in Marienbad, Czechoslovakia, it was learned here today.

The conference, which lasted five days, was attended by experts on Jewish affairs from Moscow, headed by Professor V.B. Lutzky, notorious for his attacks on Zionism and Israel in the Soviet press and at public lectures in the U.S.S.R. The resolutions adopted urged the waging of a "bitter war to the end" against Zionism in all Cominform countries.

As a result of this conference, special broadcasts will be launched in Yiddish from Budapest and Bucharest radio stations appealing to Jews in Hungary and Rumania "to boycott Zionist agents and oppose their propaganda for emigration to Israel." The Communist Party of Israel was promised at the conference "better support" on the condition that it purge its ranks of "nationalist and Titoist elements."

The conference suggested that the activities of the Communist party in Israel be devoted primarily to the spreading of propaganda among the Arabs in the Jewish state and to the establishment of contact with the underground Communist groups in Lebanon and Syria. The Communists in Israel have also been urged by the conference to intensify their subversive activities, including demonstrations, parades and strikes.

Communist Deputy Creates Tumult in Israel Parliament Following Defeat

JERUSALEM, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- The Israel parliament witnessed another stormy session last night when Communist deputy Meir Wilner proposed that the Knesset agenda include discussion of the "situation in several agricultural settlements where Communist settlers have been subjected to economic and political terror."

Mr. Wilner also called for a parliamentary investigation of police conduct in the quelling of the Communist demonstration in Tel Aviv last week-end. Mapai deputy Shmuel Dayan proposed that the deputies immediately take up the items on the agenda, without considering inclusion of Mr. Wilner's proposals. The Mapai deputy declared that "each settlement has a perfect right to live in ideological unity," adding that "the Tel Aviv's police conduct was correct."

After the proposal of the Communist deputy was defeated, Police Inspector-General Behor Shetreet took the floor to declare that "two policemen and three demonstrators were injured in the clash in Tel Aviv in which Wilner himself delivered an inciting speech to the crowd." Mr. Wilner immediately sprang to his feet, demanding that the Israel police official withdraw his remarks, but Mr. Shetreet refused. The Communist deputy thereupon continued shouting on the floor of the Knesset. The stormy exchange lasted 15 minutes.

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U.S. ORTHODOX GROUPS REBUKED BY BEN GURION FOR INTERFERING IN ISRAEL'S AFFAIRS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Religious Bloc was sharply rebuked today by Israel Premier David Ben Gurion for intervening in the internal affairs of the Jewish state by taking sides in the conflict with regard to religious education for children in the immigrant camps in Israel.

The Bloc, which includes the Agudas Israel, the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, and other religious groups in the United States, was told by Premier Ben Gurion in a cable today that although nobody in Israel wants to deprive any Jew in the world of the right to voice an opinion or criticism with regard to the Jewish state, he was nevertheless surprised to receive a threatening resolution from the Jewish Religious Bloc in America with regard to a "complicated matter, without knowing the facts."

Affirming that Israel is a democratic republic based upon freedom of conscience and religion, the Premier emphasized in his cable to the American Orthodox group that all matters in the Jewish state are decided by the majority vote of its citizens. No action is taken under pressure of threats but everything is decided on the merits of the case, the cable pointed out. "If you want to influence and to strengthen certain trends, the best way is to come and to settle here. You are all welcome," the Israel Premier said.

CHAIRMAN OF JEWISH AGENCY SATISFIED WITH RESULTS OF PLENARY SESSION IN JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- Summing up the achievements of the plenary session of the Jewish Agency executive which concluded here this week, Berl Locker, chairman of the Agency, told a press conference today that he is satisfied with the results of the session.

The immigration budget adopted by the session amounts to 15,500,000 Israel pounds, Mr. Locker said. This includes the cost of housing and absorption of new immigrants. This arrangement is valid for three months, he pointed out.

The colonization budget was set at 16,000,000 pounds, whereby 15 new settlements will be established during the current year, Mr. Locker said. The Jewish Agency, he said, will also repay a 1,000,000-pound debt, but is simultaneously contracting a 6,000,000-pound loan. "The Agency is entering a hard year, but is hopeful that it will overcome all difficulties and will reach its goal," he declared.

The Jewish Agency is planning the establishment of 30 new villages to accommodate 3,000 Yemenite Jewish families, it was announced here today. Details of this plan and other measures in behalf of the Yemenites were revealed in a move to counter unfavorable reports current in the United States alleging that the Agency is discriminating against Yemenite Jews.

INVESTMENTS IN ISRAEL LAST YEAR TOTALLED ABOUT \$250,000,000; BANK DEPOSITS RISE

TEL AVIV, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- The Finance Ministry announced today that investments in Israel last year totalled approximately \$250,000,000. Of this sum \$80,000,000 went for construction purposes, \$50,000,000 for housing, \$40,000,000 for industry and \$30,000,000 for communications. Bank deposits in Israel rose 29 percent from 1948 to 1949, it was announced.

EYEWITNESSES TESTIFY AT TRIAL OF NAZI HANGMEN; ESTABLISH THEY KILLED 30,000 JEWS

WUERZBERG, Germany, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- Testimony given by eyewitnesses today at the trial of the two Nazi hangmen, Martin Weiss and August Hering--charged with ordering and carrying out the annihilation of tens of thousands of Jews in Vilna during the German occupation of the Baltic countries and the Soviet Union--established that Weiss was responsible for the killing of 30,000 Jews and 300 Catholic priests.

One of the witnesses testified that Weiss selected 200 Jews for execution, but told the victims that he would let them live provided each of them paid him 10,000 rubles. After receiving the money, Weiss rescinded the execution order for one day, but returned the next day with 30 policemen and shot the 200 Jews.

A Jewish woman testifying today against Hering told the jury that her own boy was shot by Hering before her eyes. Other witnesses accused Hering of personally killing Jews in a brutal manner.

SITUATION FOR AFGHANISTAN JEWS "FRAUGHT WITH POSSIBLE DANGER," BOMBAY REPORTS

BOMBAY, India, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- Emphasizing that the situation for Jews in Afghanistan is "fraught with possible danger," the Zionist Association here today appealed to the World Jewish Congress to seek intervention through Washington and London with the Afghan Government with a view to obtaining permission for the Jews in Afghanistan to leave the country.

At the same time, Zionist leaders here will approach the diplomatic representatives of Afghanistan in New Delhi, India, with a memorandum requesting that the Jews be permitted to emigrate from Afghanistan.

ONLY THREE JEWISH ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS EXIST IN ROMANIA; OFFICIAL REPORT REVEALS

BUCHAREST, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- An official announcement here revealed today that there are only five Jewish kindergartens and three Jewish elementary schools in the whole of Rumania. However, there are 120 courses in Yiddish in Rumanian schools throughout the country. There is also one Jewish high school training Yiddish teachers.

NATIVE AND DISPLACED JEWS LIVING IN U.S. ZONE OF GERMANY FORM REPRESENTATIVE BODY

MINNEN, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- Representatives of both native and displaced Jews in Germany decided at a meeting today to create a representative body in the American zone. A board for the new organization was composed but no chairman was elected. Officials of world Jewish organizations operating in Germany participated in the session as observers.

HOLLAND SIGNS NEW TRADE PACT WITH ISRAEL; AGREEMENT IS VALID FOR SIX MONTHS

THE HAGUE, Holland, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- A new trade agreement between the Netherlands and Israel was signed here last night, it was officially announced today. The agreement is valid for six months.

The pact provides for Israel's buying of 700,000 pounds worth of Dutch goods, payable partly from Israel exports to the Netherlands and partly in payment arrangements similar to those existing during the previous agreement. The new agreement is subject to final approval by both the Israel and Dutch governments.

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MERGER OF HEBREW UNIVERSITY AND WEIZMANN INSTITUTE IS LIMITED TO JOINT FUND-RAISING

NEW YORK, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- Clarification of the reported merger of the Hebrew University and the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel was given today by Dr. Israel Wechsler, president of the American Friends of the Hebrew University, and Meyer Weisgal, chairman of the executive council of the Weizmann Institute, who is now in this country.

Dr. Wechsler emphasized in a statement to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the merger covers only joint fund-raising for both institutions. There has been no merger of the boards of governors of the two institutions, he said. Mr. Weisgal said that "the complete integration of these two institutions is not a matter that can be effected overnight" but expressed the conviction that science in Israel will greatly benefit when the Hebrew University and the Weizmann Institute eventually become completely integrated.

"It is a source of deep satisfaction to me that the University and the Institute have come to an agreement to work jointly for their needs throughout the world," Mr. Weisgal said in his statement to the J.T.A. "I must, in the first place, express my deep gratitude to Prof. Selig Brodetsky who together with me labored closely in Jerusalem, Rehovoth and here to help bring about this common undertaking. The acceptance of Prof. Einstein as president of this joint action symbolizes the unity of this great enterprise.

"This is only the beginning," he pointed out. "The cooperation between the University and the Institute must be strengthened and regulated and made an integral part of a systematic structure. In a country like Israel it is inconceivable that the two highest institutions of learning and science should function at separate levels. They must be knitted closely together, if not in their internal administration, certainly in their interlocking scientific progress.

"There must be an ordered policy of exchange of professorships and research fellowships and an interchange of university students and research personnel," Mr. Weisgal continued. "Collaboration in laboratory projects must be widened and extended. The complete integration of these two institutions is not a matter that can be effected overnight but I am profoundly convinced that the best interests of science and learning of Israel and the Jewish people will be served when eventually these two institutions will be completely integrated."

PRESIDENT TRUMAN SAYS HE IS SEEKING PASSAGE OF F.E.P.C. BILL IN CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- President Truman said at his press conference today that he is doing everything in his power to secure passage in Congress of the F.E.P.C. Bill to guarantee equal rights to workers regardless of race or religion.

JEWISH NATIONAL WORKERS ALLIANCE CONVENTION CLOSES; ADOPTS EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR U.S.

ASBURY PARK, N.J., Feb. 2. (JTA) -- A plan calling for the establishment of a \$150,000 fund to be used for the maintenance of Jewish schools in principal cities in the United States was approved today at the closing session of the 13th triennial convention of the Jewish National Workers Alliance. In another resolution, the delegates decided to plant a forest on Jewish National Fund land in Israel to be named "Forest of the Heroes," in memory of Israel troops who died in the fighting last year.

JEWISH AGENCY IN NEW YORK SEEKS 200 AMERICAN DOCTORS, NURSES FOR ISRAEL SETTLEMENTS

NEW YORK, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency Immigration Department here today issued a call for young American doctors and nurses who may wish to practice in new colonies in outlying settlements of Israel. The call is intended for "young doctors with pioneering spirit and an interest in the upbuilding of Israel," Zvi Lurie, head of the Agency's Immigration Department said.

Mr. Lurie explained that while there are a large number of doctors in Israel, many of them are in the older age groups and unable to undertake the vigorous pioneer life of the new settlements. He urged all interested doctors and nurses to communicate with him, emphasizing that about 200 must be mobilized to meet the needs of the new settlements in Israel, most of which are populated by newly-arrived immigrants.

THREE NEW YORK JEWISH SCIENTISTS STUDY USE OF RADIOISOTOPES IN MEDICINE AT OAK RIDGE

OAK RIDGE, Tenn., Feb. 2. (JTA) -- Three New York scientists are studying here the techniques of using radioisotopes in research, it was revealed today. They are Dr. S. Steven Brodie, Associate in Research at the Jewish Memorial Hospital; Dr. Seymour L. Halpern, Welt Fellow in Research Medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital; and Alex Meshbane, chemist at Fleischman, Burd & Co.

Dr. Brodie plans to use radioisotopes in bone, liver and tumor studies. Dr. Halpern will use them in metabolism studies. Mr. Meshbane plans to use radioisotopes in medical therapy. The New Yorkers are among 32 scientists enrolled in the twelfth in a series of one-month courses in radioisotope techniques offered by the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies. The Institute, comprised of 24 Southern universities, conducts a broad program of research, training, and education in the nuclear sciences through a contract with the Atomic Energy Commission.

LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA OPTIMISTIC ON RETURN OF ISRAEL-HELD LUTHERAN PROPERTY

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- Optimism with regard to obtaining the release of German Lutheran Mission properties taken over by Israel forces after the British relinquished their mandate in Palestine was expressed here today at a session of the National Lutheran Council by Rev. Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, president of the United Lutheran Church in America.

Dr. Fry voiced "just sympathy" for the Israel Government in its endeavor to solve this problem. He reported to the Council that a bill was now before the Israel parliament calling for the expropriation of all German properties, except those belonging to Mission groups.

LOS ANGELES JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL EMPHASIZES PRIMACY OF UNITED WELFARE FUND

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- The primacy of the fund-raising drive of the United Jewish Welfare Fund was emphasized in a resolution approved here by 1,000 delegates representing 320 Los Angeles Jewish organizations at the annual winter meeting of the Los Angeles Jewish Community Council. The month of February was named as "manpower month" to enroll volunteer workers in the Fund's current campaign.

Among a series of resolutions approved by the delegates was a statement supporting the need for F.E.P.C. legislation and an appeal to the American delegation to the United Nations to work for a reversal of the Assembly-approved internationalization plan for Jerusalem. Hurry and Jack Warner, well-known motion picture producers, were cited for helping promote better understanding among religious and racial groups.

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