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ISRAEL PARLIAMENT PASSES CONSCRIPTION BILL AT SECOND READING; MEN AND WOMEN AFFECTED

JERUSALEM, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- A service bill drafting men and women in Israel for a period of two years passed its second reading in the parliament tonight. The bill provides that the first year's service be devoted to agricultural and military training and the second year to specialized vocational training.

An Amman radio broadcast reported today that the Jordan Government "categorically denies" that a peace treaty has been concluded between Jordan and Israel. Reports to this effect were described in the broadcast as having "no foundation."

(A Near Eastern regional conference of U.S. diplomatic and consular officials will be held in Cairo from March 7 to 11, the State Department announced in Washington. The conference will discuss U.S. political-relations with Near Eastern states in addition to economic, cultural, and consular relations. Discussions will be on a working level. American diplomatic and consular representatives from Tel Aviv and Haifa will attend.)

It was announced here today that the first transfer to Israel of Arab dependents from Egyptian-occupied territory will take place within a week. The first group will consist of 120 displaced Arabs who will cross the Egyptian lines into the Jewish state.

Adequate arrangements were concluded at yesterday's meeting of the Israel-Egyptian subcommittee for the reunion of war-separated Arab families. The Egyptian delegates to the meeting, which was held three kilometers east of Gaza, submitted the names of the 120 persons to the Israel authorities for approval. Most of the Arabs live in Migdal Gad. The Israel-Egyptian meeting was described as "most cordial."

COMMUNICATIONS RESUMED IN ISRAEL; NORTHERN PART OF COUNTRY STILL SNOW-BOUND

TEL AVIV, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Communications were resumed in Israel today following the improvement in the country's temperature. The unprecedented heavy snowfall which disrupted communications and transportation still held a number of areas, particularly in the north, isolated. Feverish efforts were under way today to clear the approaches to the town of Safed.

While the total extent of the damage resulting from the heavy snows is not yet known, it is understood that the entire banana crop has been lost, while thousands of chickens froze to death in their coops when heating devices failed as a result of electric power cut-offs.

FRENCH GOVERNMENT DECIDES TO ABANDON PRESSURE FOR JERUSALEM INTERNATIONALIZATION

PARIS, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- The French Government has decided to abandon its leading role in pressing for the internationalization of Jerusalem, it was learned in diplomatic circles here today.

Ambassador Roger Garreau, president of the U.N. Trusteeship Council, who advocates a plan for modified internationalization of Jerusalem, has frequently emphasized that he does not speak for the French Government on this matter.

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ISRAEL SIGNS \$4,000,000 COMMERCIAL PACT WITH HUNGARY; IS BASED ON BARTER TRADING

TEL AVIV, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- A \$4,000,000 commercial agreement between Hungary and Israel was signed in Budapest last night, it was officially announced here today. The one-year pact provides for the Jewish state's importing essential raw materials and foodstuffs from Hungary and exporting to that country citrus products, industrial diamonds, artificial dentures and wood products.

Barter trade between Israel and overseas countries reached a \$1,000,000 volume during June, it was announced today.

AMERICAN MANUFACTURERS WILL CONSTRUCT STEEL PLANT IN ISRAEL AT \$1,000,000 COST

TEL AVIV, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Two American steel manufacturers will construct an American-type steel plant in Israel by June of this year at an estimated cost of \$1,000,000, it was officially announced today. The names of the American steel men were not made public. The plant's initial annual production is expected to exceed 15,000 tons of steel and manufactured goods.

An 11-man United Jewish Appeal delegation arrived here today for a seven-day tour of inspection. The delegation, representing the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York, will consult with leaders of the Israel Government and the Jewish Agency. Louis Nizer, well-known lawyer and author, heads the delegation.

RABBINICAL CONFERENCE IN ISRAEL APPEALS TO GOVERNMENT TO IMPROVE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

JERUSALEM, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- The nationwide rabbinical conference now taking place here today adopted a resolution demanding that the Israel Government take immediate steps to improve the situation concerning religious education in the immigrant camps. The resolution stated that "compulsory and seductive methods are being practiced in the camps to prevent children and youths there from receiving religious education."

The resolution also demanded that instructors and lecturers opposing religious education be removed from the camps for religious immigrants. It requested that the Jewish Agency place these camps under the direction of religious Jews.

The conference simultaneously accepted a proposal that each rabbi in the country contribute one-fourth of his monthly salary for the promotion of religious education in the camps. In making this proposal, Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog severely criticized the present situation in the camps.

Criticism was also voiced by Rabbi J.L. Maimon, Minister for Religious Affairs, who, however, advocated restraint pending the findings of the inquiry committee which the Israel Cabinet appointed for the purpose of establishing the exact situation with regard to religious education in the camps.

ISRAEL'S MERCHANT MARINE CONSISTS OF 18 SHIPS; WAS STARTED WITH FIVE VESSELS

HAIFA, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- The Israel merchant marine, which numbered five vessels at the birth of the Jewish state less than two years ago, now consists of 18 ships, it was announced here today. The announcement was made by Aba Chushi, secretary of the Haifa Labor Council and deputy in the Knesset, who added that Israel vessels are transporting about 50 percent of the immigrants who arrive here.

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DEFENSE OF NEGEV DISCUSSED AT CONFERENCE IN BEERSHEBA; PREMIER ATTENDS DISCUSSIONS

BEERSHEBA, Israel, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Problems of security for the Negev were discussed here today at a conference attended by Premier David Ben Gurion.

Delegates representing the Negev settlers were assured by the Premier that the Israel Government "will not forget the natural defenses of the area." At the same time, he urged the settlers to maintain constant readiness in connection with the much-advertised Arab "second round," which Egyptian and other Arab newspapers have been threatening.

Levi Eshkol, treasurer of the Jewish Agency, who also participated in the conference, told the delegates that 20 new settlements will be founded this year in the southernmost part of the Negev.

A cornerstone for a branch of the Premier's office was laid in Elath, on the shores of the Gulf of Aqaba, at the southeastern tip of Israel. The beginning of work on the government building, which will contain offices and living accommodations for the Premier and his guests when he works in this area, symbolizes the government's determination to build up this area and weld it solidly into Israel.

FOREIGN AIRCRAFT WARNED BY ISRAEL NOT TO FLY OVER JEWISH STATE WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION

TEL AVIV, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Flights by foreign civilian or military aircraft over Israel or Israel territorial waters are prohibited, except within the authorized air corridors leading to the Lydda and Haifa airfields, it was announced last night in a military order covering the flights of foreign planes over the Jewish state.

It was explained that for flights outside the authorized corridors, permission must be obtained beforehand from Israel Airforce headquarters. Israel anti-aircraft will open fire on foreign military planes making unauthorized flights, it was emphasized. Israel Airforce craft will also force any foreign civilian planes flying over the Jewish state without permission to land at either the Lydda or Haifa airfields.

ISRAEL IMPOSES FIRST DEATH SENTENCE ON JEW; COURT RECOMMENDS LIFE IMPRISONMENT

TEL AVIV, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- For the first time since Israel was established, the death sentence was imposed yesterday on a Jewish citizen. Joshua Danokh, a 50-year-old Yemenite butcher, was found guilty by the Tel Aviv district court of murdering another Yemenite butcher, ostensibly to be rid of competition on the black market.

The court, however, recommended that President Weizmann commute the sentence to life imprisonment in view of the fact that Danokh is the father of 13 children.

BNEI BRAK COLONY GETS STATUS OF MUNICIPALITY; 13,000 JEWS ENTER ISRAEL IN JANUARY

JERUSALEM, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- The Israel Ministry of Interior today signed an ordinance granting the settlement of Bnei Brak, located near Jaffa, the status of a municipality.

A total of 12,937 immigrants entered Israel during the month of January, it was officially reported here today.

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Jews in Germany Welcome U.S. Commissioner's Support of Indemnification Claims

MUNICH, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- American High Commissioner John J. McCloy's speech in Stuttgart Monday in which he told a German audience that the United States Government supported restitution of property and indemnity for sufferings of victims of the Nazis was welcomed in Jewish circles here.

Dr. Philip Auerbach, Bavarian Commissioner for Persecutees, said today that the speech "cleared the atmosphere," adding that the Germans are unwilling to return Jewish property, that denazification has been sabotaged and that even American officials have avoided taking decisions that would break the Nazi hold on German industry. Commissioner Auerbach announced that he will propose that the restitution statute in effect in the American zone be extended to all of West Germany, since the American zone measure is the best one.

(In New York, Rabbi Irving Miller, president of the American Jewish Congress, welcomed Commissioner McCloy's statement, and expressed the hope that it constituted "a turning away from our deplorable and inept handling of the Germans, which permitted the emergence of German nationalism." He expressed gratification with the High Commissioner's warning that, should the necessity arise, ultra-nationalistic forces in Germany would be checked.)

LONDON COUNCIL HEARS EXPLANATION FOR BANNING "SWORD IN THE DESERT"; BAN IS CRITICIZED

LONDON, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- An explanation of the banning of the American-made film "Sword in the Desert" by the London County Council last week-end, following two days of fascist demonstrations and hooliganism against it, was made today at a meeting of the Council.

Victor Mishoon, chairman of the Council's Public Control Committee, which halted showings of the film about Palestine, explained that he had given the order following receipt of a message from the Home Office that the police had learned that the fascists planned a demonstration at the next showing of the film which might involve risk of loss of life and against which the police were not prepared to act. Mr. Mishoon, a well-known Zionist leader, called on the Council to take action to prevent the further hooliganism.

The role of the Home Office in the banning of the film was strongly criticized tonight by the Evening Standard which charged that the Office had capitulated in the face of threats of violence. The paper also said that the ban "represents a great victory for the dark and totalitarian forces."

TRUMAN URGES BROTHERHOOD BETWEEN CHRISTIANS AND JEWS; STRESSES EQUALITY OF RIGHTS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- President Truman today accepted the honorary chairmanship of Brotherhood Week, beginning Feb. 19, and sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

"There probably has never been a time in history when true brotherhood was so indispensable to the welfare of our own nation and to the peace and freedom of the entire world," the President said. He pointed out that America is dedicated to the conviction that all people are entitled to equal rights and freedoms even though they may differ in religious persuasion, social and political views or in racial origin. "Our greatness is and will be measured by the degree of our recognition of this fundamental truth," he emphasized. John L. Sullivan, former Secretary of the Navy, and general chairman of Brotherhood Week, said in a statement today that all men of good faith must cooperate "for the defense of our Judeo-Christian civilization."

U.S. COLLEGE STUDENTS SHOW LESS ANTI-JEWISH PREJUDICE THAN ADULTS, SURVEY ESTABLISHES

NEW YORK, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- American college students show less anti-Jewish prejudice than the country's population as a whole, it was disclosed in a report made public today by Supreme Court Justice Meier Steinbrink, national chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

Based on a study of social distance attitudes among both college seniors and freshmen conducted for the League by the Elmo Roper organization, the report reveals that college students are overwhelmingly opposed to quota systems and other discriminatory admissions policies which exist in many American colleges. The study was made in connection with the A.D.L.'s forthcoming annual survey of anti-Semitism.

Only one out of 10 seniors expresses a preference for colleges which discriminate. By contrast, almost one-third of the general adult population--including college graduates and non-graduates--are so inclined. "On the basis of this finding we know now what we have always suspected," Justice Steinbrink said. "College quota systems have been defended by some as protection for non-Jewish students. It is now evident that these students themselves reject the bigotry of their protectors.

To determine how much prejudice college students feel toward Jews, researchers asked a series of key questions which probed such areas as education, social contacts, housing, employment and intermarriage. A standard of comparison with the general population was provided by a previous Anti-Defamation League study made by Roper in September, 1948.

One surprising conclusion is that the low index of prejudice among college students is not at all, according to the study, the result of attending college for a four-year period. Tests made on 50 American campuses in the first few weeks of the 1949 fall term show that the incidence of prejudice is the same for seniors who already have had the benefits of almost four years of college, as for freshmen who have yet to become acclimated to or influenced by college life. Here is how the attitudes of college seniors compare with those of American adults on specific questions:

1. Do you think Jews are getting too much economic power in the United States? Thirty-eight percent of the general adult population said "yes"; among seniors, 23 percent. The answer to the same question with regard to "too much political power" was: Adults, 19 percent; seniors, 6 percent.
2. Would you prefer not to work side by side with Jews? Only 5 percent of the seniors replied "yes"; adults, 14 percent.
3. Would you prefer not to have Jews move into your neighborhood? Adults, 22 percent; seniors, 10 percent.
4. Would you prefer not to have Jews as guests in your home? Adults, 15 percent; seniors 3 percent.

The highest degree of non-acceptance is shown in answers to the question: "Would you prefer not to have one of your near relatives marry a Jew?" One out of four seniors opposed intermarriage. But here, again, the college group was less restrictive than the general adult population, where the ratio on this provocative question is 48 percent.

A breakdown of college sub-groups shows that there is greater bias among fraternity and sorority members than among non-members. Students on Southern campuses were more anti-Semitic, students at Far Western colleges less prejudiced, although

Jewish enrollment in both areas is small. Researchers could find no appreciable differences in attitudes toward Jews between men and co-eds or between Catholics and Protestant students.

The interviewers also presented two hypothetical situations involving anti-Semitic discrimination on the campus. The first described two equally well qualified candidates, a Jew and a Gentile, for election to the board of the college newspaper. Non-Jewish seniors were asked if they had "any preference." Fifty-seven percent said "no." Seventeen percent definitely "preferred" the Gentile; another 19 percent adopted the same attitude if election of the Jew "meant that Jewish students would become a majority of the board." One percent preferred the Jewish candidate.

The second situation: "Suppose six of the eleven best football players in college happened to be Jews. Do you think it would be a good idea to have them all play on the varsity?" The answers: Yes--49 percent; doesn't matter (a volunteered answer)--41 percent; no--7 percent.

FEDERAL JURY CONVICTS THREE PERSONS FOR SHIPPING PLANES TO ISRAEL; URGES LENIENCY

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- A Federal jury has convicted three men and a corporation on charges of having conspired to violate United States neutrality laws by shipping planes to Israel during the Arab invasion. The jury, which acquitted three other defendants, recommended leniency in sentencing the defendants.

Convicted were Adolph W. Schwimmer, president of Service Airways of New York, the firm involved in the proceedings; Ray Selk and Leon Gardner, both of Los Angeles. Acquitted were Herman M. Greenspan of Las Vegas; William Sosnow of New York; and Sam R. Lewis of Los Angeles.

MAPAI NEWSPAPER DENIES PREMIER BEN GURION WAS INVITED BY Z.O.A. TO VISIT U.S.

TEL AVIV, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- The Mapai afternoon newspaper, Hador, today published a report denying that Premier David Ben Gurion has been invited to visit the United States, as reported last week-end in New York by Daniel Frisch, president of the Zionist Organization of America.

(At the National Administrative Council meeting of the Z.O.A. in New York last week-end, Mr. Frisch declared that he had extended an invitation to the Israel Premier to visit the U.S.)

HISTADRUT ADOPTS \$29,000,000 BUDGET FOR CURRENT YEAR; EXPECTS \$10,000,000 FROM U.S.

TEL AVIV, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- A budget of \$29,000,000 for the current year was adopted by the Histadrut executive, it was announced here today. The Histadrut hopes to raise \$10,000,000 toward this budget in its campaign now being conducted in the United States. The budget covers the maintenance of the Histadrut medical system as well as housing and other projects.

YAAKOV KLEBANSKI, NOTED EDUCATOR, DIES IN TEL AVIV; WAS 62

TEL AVIV, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Yaakov Klebanski, one of Israel's best-known educators and authors, died here at the age of 62. A teacher in this country for the past 40 years, Mr. Klebanski instructed thousands of youngsters in scattered settlements and in Tel Aviv. Many of his former students now hold important positions in the government.