

Wednesday, February 15, 1950

JTA Daily News Bulletin

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

ISRAEL'S STAND ON TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL'S DELIBERATIONS IN GENEVA OUTLINED IN KNESSET

JERUSALEM, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett made it clear today that acceptance of the United Nations invitation to appear before the Trusteeship Council now in session in Geneva does not necessarily mean that the Israel Government will accept the Council's decision on the internationalization of Jerusalem.

"Our job," Mr. Sharett declared in Parliament, "is to tell everyone wherever we can, at the U.N. Security Council, at the Trusteeship Council or at the General Assembly, our position on Jerusalem and why we do not accept internationalization."

Egyptian War Minister Mostapha Nosrat Bey today denied a report that he has approached the Israel Government with a proposal to start negotiations for a permanent peace, the Cairo radio announced. The report to which the Egyptian Minister took exception was broadcast by the Near East Arab radio.

The Jordan-controlled radio at Ramallah today announced that King Abdullah of Jordan has decided to send a representative to Geneva to attend the meeting of the U.N. Trusteeship Council there. (Discussion of the Jerusalem issue was again postponed today by the Council for another week.)

Israel Ready to Make Special Concessions to Poor Arab Refugees; Informs U.N.

GENEVA, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- Aubrey Eban, head of the Israel delegation at the United Nations, today informed the U.N. Palestine Conciliation Commission that the Jewish state is prepared to make special concessions to meet the needs of the poorest Arab refugees.

Mr. Eban revealed that Israel will release frozen Arab balances in the Jewish state up to 100 Israel pounds per account. This will cost Israel about \$3,000,000, it was estimated. The only condition attached is that the money will be released in local currency and may not be transferred abroad.

The argument against permitting the transfer of the currency, as presented by the Israel delegates, is that if transfers were permitted they could swell Arab cash resources for further purchases of arms abroad. However, the money would become transferrable 60 days after the signing of a permanent peace pact between Israel and the Arab states.

GOVERNMENT COMMISSION TOURING ISRAEL TO ASSESS DAMAGES CAUSED BY LAST WEEK'S BLIZZARD

TEL AVIV, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- A government commission is now touring the country assessing damages to crops caused by last week's severe snow and ice storm.

A delegation representing the public transport services of Israel is leaving for London tomorrow to purchase a large number of vehicles.

ORTHODOX GROUPS IN ISRAEL GIVE GOVERNMENT THREE-DAY ULTIMATUM; MAY LEAVE COALITION

JERUSALEM, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- The resignation from the Israel Cabinet of all members representing the Religious Bloc will be announced publicly three days from today if no reply is received by the leaders of the religious parties to a letter which they sent Premier David Ben Gurion last Friday in connection with their charges that religious education is being hampered in the immigrant camps.

The three-day ultimatum was decided upon last night at a meeting of the leaders of the Bloc. It was resolved that for the time being the Bloc's members in the Cabinet would refrain from participating in any Cabinet meetings and would leave the coalition government in a body if the Premier, who is now vacationing in Tiberias, fails to give a definite reply by Friday morning on demands for guarantees of religious education in the camps.

Talks on broadening the Israel Cabinet, which have been going on for some time between the Mapai and the Mapam, concluded last night. The results--not yet made public--will be forwarded for final decision to Premier Ben Gurion, it was reported here today.

SETTLERS IN COOPERATIVE COLONIES ARE NOT EXEMPT FROM INCOME TAX, ISRAEL MINISTER RULES

JERUSALEM, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- Members of kibbutzim and other cooperative settlements in Israel will have to pay an income tax on the same basis as other wage earners, regardless of their communal way of life.

A statement to this effect was read today in Parliament in reply to a question raised yesterday. The statement was cabled by Labor Minister Golda Myerson from London. Mrs. Myerson will remain in London until the end of this week.

From now on, persons who buy black market goods will be punished more severely than those who sell them, an Israel judge declared here today. The judge was I. Giladi, presiding justice of Tel Aviv's special anti-profiteering court.

IMMIGRATION TO ISRAEL WILL NOT BE LIMITED, FOREIGN MINISTER ASSURES U.J.A. DELEGATION

TEL AVIV, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- Despite the crushing burdens imposed by its immigration program--carried out on a greater scale than ever before in history--the Jewish state will not limit immigration, Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett today told a delegation of the United Jewish Appeal visiting this country. "Israel belongs as much to Jews seeking a haven as to those who have already obtained shelter," he stated.

Louis Nizer, head of the delegation, assured the Foreign Minister that American Jews feel responsibility for the needy and distressed Jewish refugees and have accepted the obligation of aiding their absorption and settlement in Israel.

Work began today in the town of Bat Yam on a new \$150,000 plant which will produce pre-fabricated concrete walls for homes. Employing American machinery and production methods and Israel labor, the plant will produce all the necessary walls for five houses per eight-hour shift, it was stated.

SENATE COMMITTEE GETS MINORITY REPORT ON BILL TO CHANGE PRESENT DP IMMIGRATION LAW

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- Sen. Harley M. Kilgore today filed a minority report on the Judiciary Committee's DP Bill. Sen. Kilgore said that a substitute bill, bearing the names of additional sponsors, will be filed at a later date. Senators Kilgore, Frank P. Graham and Homer Ferguson have objected to an amendment by committee chairman Pat McCarran to include some 8,000,000 Germans in the category of DPs.

ISRAEL'S FOREIGN POLICY DEPENDS ON AMERICA'S ROLE IN MIDDLE EAST, LEADER DECLARES

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- Declaring that "the survival of Israel is dependent upon its rapid growth," Eliezer Liebenstein, vice-chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Israel Parliament, said today "that good relations with all countries of the world, especially with the countries which are important as sources of immigration and capital investment, make necessary the foreign policy which some people call 'Israel's policy of neutrality.'" Mr. Liebenstein spoke under the auspices of the George Friedland Foundation at Dropsie College's Institute on Israel and the Middle East.

Pointing out that the fundamental needs of the new state influence its foreign policy, Mr. Liebenstein said: "The principal requirements of the state are large-scale immigration, high industrial and scientific capacity, and sufficient space for settlement. Peace is a condition for a steady flow of immigration and capital into Israel and for its rapid economic development."

Although Israel strives, as far as possible, to stay out of any global war and to avoid entangling alliances, its government realizes that from every cultural, social and economic point of view, Israel is closely connected with the West, Mr. Liebenstein stated. "The future of Israel's foreign policy depends to some extent on America's role in the Middle East and on her contribution to the reconstruction, peace and defense of that area," he emphasized.

ISRAEL BANS GIFTS OF AUTOS; 300,000 SEEK PERMISSION TO IMPORT VEHICLES FROM ABROAD

TEL AVIV, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- The acceptance by Israel citizens of gifts in the form of automobiles will henceforth be conditional upon obtaining a special license from the Foreign Currency Division of the Finance Ministry, it was announced here today. The announcement stressed that the move was made to prevent illegal dealings in foreign currency to the detriment of the Israel pound.

Dr. Daniel Weiser, a high Treasury official, revealed that there are 300,000 applications on file for permission to import automobiles. He said that the applications will be scrutinized carefully and that attempts to evade the currency regulations will be punished severely. He warned Israelis that if they purchase cars with foreign license plates they may lose their investments since the government may seize the vehicles.

AMERICAN BUSINESSMAN NEGOTIATES FORMATION OF TURKISH-ISRAEL TRADING CORPORATION

ISTANBUL, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- Negotiations are in progress here for the establishment of a Turkish-Israel Trade Corporation, it was announced today by Harry Gretske, an American businessman who represents nearly a dozen Israel corporations.

Mr. Gretske pointed out that in the absence of a formal commercial treaty between Turkey and Israel such a corporation would serve as an important link between the two nations. He estimated that it would be able to dispose of some \$10,000,000 worth of Turkish agricultural products and raw materials annually. He said that his contacts with Turkish businessmen have convinced him that they are eager to deal with the Jewish state.

Mr. Gretske is leaving Turkey this week for a short trip to Greece, where he has already helped form a Greco-Israel Trading Corporation.

U.N. COMMITTEE CONCLUDES DISCUSSION ON ELIMINATING STATELESSNESS; MAKES RECOMMENDATIONS

LAKE SUCCESS, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- The United Nations Ad Hoc Committee on Statelessness today concluded consideration of how to eliminate statelessness by reducing the number of stateless persons through naturalization in the countries where they live and other measures.

The committee adopted a resolution urging its parent body, the Economic and Social Council, to call upon member states of the U.N. to re-examine their nationality laws with a view to reducing, as far as possible, cases of statelessness which arise from the operation of such laws.

The Council was also asked by the committee "to invite member states to contribute to the reduction of the number of stateless persons by extending to stateless persons in their territory the opportunity to be naturalized." The conclusion of an international agreement for the purpose of eliminating statelessness was also recommended by the committee.

FIRST JEWISH THEATRE WILL BE OPENED IN FRANKFURT IN REBUILT NAZI-DEVASTATED BUILDING

FRANKFURT, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- The first Jewish theatre and concert hall--with a seating capacity for 400 persons--will open in the "Philanthropin House" here shortly, it was disclosed today.

Constructed in 1804 and destroyed by the Nazis in 1938, the "Philanthropin House" has served as an orphan asylum and as a Jewish high school. In addition to housing a theatre, the new edifice will provide office space for Jewish communal organizations here and will also serve as a social center.

GERMAN POLICE RECOMMEND CLOSING OF RESTAURANT WHERE JEWS ARE "UNDESIRABLE GUESTS"

FRANKFURT, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- The local police today recommended that a Frankfurt restaurant have its operating license revoked following an investigation into an anti-Semitic incident at the cafe.

During a dispute with a customer, the head waiter declared that Jews were undesirable guests and added that he would be happy to pay 100 marks a month to the local Jewish community to keep Jews out of the place. A report of the incident has been handed over to the local district attorney and denazification court. The police have confirmed the report.

Former Gestapo Lieutenant Rudolph Beer and one-time commander of the Ravensbrueck concentration camp for women is currently on trial before a Stuttgart court on charges of crimes against humanity and mass murder. The indictment cites 33 specific incidents. A verdict is expected some time next week.

FRENCH JEWS EMULATE U.J.A.; LAUNCH THEIR FIRST UNITED FUND-RAISING DRIVE

PARIS, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- The first joint campaign of the United Fund for Jewish Social Work and the French Aid to Israel Fund will be launched at a mass meeting at the Palais de Chaillot Saturday evening, it was announced here today by Baron Guy de Rothschild, chairman of the campaign. The drive will emulate the United Jewish Appeal in America.

Izthak Gruenbaum, former Israel Minister for Interior, arrived here yesterday to sign an agreement in behalf of the Israel institutions which will benefit from the drive. The agreement for a joint campaign was reached after two years of difficult intra-communal negotiations. Pro-Communist organizations still remain outside the campaign.

REP. RANKIN ATTACKS EINSTEIN IN CONGRESS; IS RIDICULED BY WASHINGTON SCIENTISTS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- The Congressional Record today carries a report by the House Committee on Un-American Activities attacking Professor Albert Einstein. The report was prepared at the request of Congressman John E. Rankin of Mississippi, who is known for his anti-Jewish sentiments.

Yesterday, Rep. Rankin, speaking on the House floor, said that Professor Einstein "had nothing to do" with the development of the atom bomb and "should have been deported" from the United States years ago.

At Dr. Einstein's home in Princeton, N.J., it was said today that he would make no comment on Rep. Rankin's outburst. Scientists here, taking issue with the Mississippi Congressman, said that Dr. Einstein had "just about everything to do" with making possible American development of the atom bomb. (In Tokyo today, Professor Einstein was elected an honorary member of the Imperial Academy, highest Japanese scientific and cultural society.)

GEN. MARSHALL URGES SENATE TO RATIFY GENOCIDE PACT; SAYS MASS MURDER MUST BE OUTLAWED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- Ratification by the U.S. Senate of the United Nations Genocide Convention was urged by General George C. Marshall in a letter addressed to Senator Brian McMahon, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee subcommittee which has just completed hearings on the Convention.

The text of the letter, made public here today, emphasizes that "it is not conceivable that anyone in this country or in any country in the world can justify the commission of the crime of genocide, which is designed to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group."

Pointing out that the acts of genocide have been condemned by the civilized world, General Marshall said: "It is not sufficient, however, to condemn acts of genocide and then to stand idly by. We must do more than that. We must join with the other members of the United Nations and ratify the Genocide Convention in order that this moral crime will become a legal crime as well."

AFGHANISTAN CHARGED WITH PROHIBITING JEWS FROM LEAVING THE COUNTRY

NEW YORK, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- The World Jewish Congress has requested the Afghanistan Ambassador to the United States, Sardar Mohammed Naim, to transmit to his government a request that it "abolish its prohibition against Jewish emigration."

In a letter to the Ambassador, the Congress said that the majority of the 5,000 Jews of Afghanistan desire to immigrate to Israel and that only in isolated instances have Jews been permitted to leave the country. The letter pointed out that the "financial position of the Jewish community has steadily deteriorated" and that "the majority of the Jews are today almost impoverished" and in a "continuous state of tension and great uncertainty." The letter also called on the Afghanistan Government to let Jews who leave "take their meager possessions with them."

LOCKER DENOUNCES ARGENTINE COMMUNIST DRIVE FOR ISRAEL; REBUFS CAMPAIGN DELEGATION

JERUSALEM, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- Berl Locker, chairman of the Jewish Agency executive, today strongly condemned the Argentine "Popular Drive for Israel," which is sponsored by pro-Communist elements. He said that a delegation from the campaign is due to arrive in Israel, but added: "We do not want the delegation nor their money."

HARVARD UNIVERSITY STUDENT COUNCIL REFUSES TO RECONSIDER BAN ON DISCRIMINATION

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Feb. 14. (JTA) -- The Harvard University Student Council has tabled a request to reconsider a ban on discrimination on grounds of race, color or nationality in all college organizations, it was stated here yesterday by Edward F. Burke, president of the body.

The ban, passed by the Council last December, is now before the Faculty Committee on Student Activities which is not expected to act on it for a while. Reconsideration of the Student Council ban was asked at a meeting last month, but was turned down.

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHARLESTON JEWISH COMMUNITY MARKED BY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEW YORK, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- Lee M. Friedman of Boston was elected president of the American Jewish Historical Society for a third term last night at the concluding session here of the 48th annual meeting of the society.

The society marked the 200th anniversary this year of the founding of Congregation Beth Elohim and the Jewish community of Charleston, South Carolina; the centennial of the Utica, N.Y., Jewish community; and, the 50th anniversary of the National Conference of Jewish Social Welfare. In addition, abstracts of papers on various Jewish historical subjects were presented by 17 Jewish scholars.

ACTIVITIES OF YESHIVOTH IN U.S., ABROAD TO BE EXPANDED IN MEMORY OF LUBAVITCHER REBBE

NEW YORK, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- The activities of the United Lubavitcher Yeshivoh in this country and abroad must be given every support and must be expanded in memory of the late Lubavitcher Rebbe, Joseph I. Schneersohn, it was decided at a special meeting of the board of the Yeshivoh.

At the recent 10th annual dinner of the Yeshivoh messages of tribute to the Lubavitcher Rebbe, who died recently, were received from the White House, New York's Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, Sen. Herbert H. Lehman and Mayor William O'Dwyer. Representatives of Jewish communities in all parts of the country as well as outstanding Jewish leaders attended the decennial celebration at the Hotel Biltmore.

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA TO GET HILLEL FOUNDATION BUILDING; LAND DONATED BY PIONEER

TUCSON, Arizona, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- The proposed establishment of a B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation Building to serve the cultural, religious and social needs of Jewish students at the University of Arizona was announced here today by Rabbi Jehudah M. Cohen, Pacific Region director of Hillel. The principal benefactor of the proposed Hillel House is Max Lisitsky, 84-year-old Arizona pioneer, who donated the land on which the building will be erected.

ISRAEL MIZRACHI ORGANIZATION ESTABLISHES \$140,000 HOUSING CORPORATION

TEL AVIV, Feb. 14. (JTA) -- The Israel Mizrahi Organization has established a housing corporation with a capitalization of \$140,000, it was announced here today by a representative of the movement. The spokesman also announced that the village of Beit Mansir, in the Jerusalem area, will soon be settled by members of the religious Zionist group.