

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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

ISRAEL MINISTER SIGNS ORDER RESCINDING RESTRICTIONS ON FOOD PACKAGES FROM ABROAD

JERUSALEM, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- An order rescinding all restrictions on the entry of food parcels from abroad for residents of Israel was signed today by Pinhas Lubianiker, Minister of Agriculture. The Israel Minister also rescinded all restrictions on the quantity of food that may be brought into the country by immigrants.

Meanwhile, the Chamber of Commerce in Tel Aviv passed a resolution urging the government to adopt a more liberal economic policy. The resolution criticized the government's system of facilitating the importation of goods from abroad.

JORDAN DENIES TRANSFER OF POTASH PLANT TO ISRAEL; BARS SEPARATE PEACE WITH JEWISH STATE

JERUSALEM, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- The Jordan Government denied emphatically today a report emanating from Damascus that the Jordanians have turned over the Dead Sea potash plant to Israel, at the behest of the British Government.

The Jordan radio station today broadcast a statement by the Jordanian Premier, Samir Pasha el-Rifai, declaring that his government will not conclude a separate peace with Israel despite the fact that Jordan differs in opinions with the Arab League on a number of questions.

United Nations truce chief Gen. William E. Riley today approached both the Israel and Egyptian Governments on the question of the holding of a meeting for the purpose of settling a number of issues beyond the competence of the mixed Israel-Egyptian armistice commissions, it was learned here today from reliable sources. Gen. Riley asked for a meeting on January 15 of a mixed commission to discuss matters of principle. Such a body was provided for in the armistice agreement signed at Rhodes. It is reported that the main subject under discussion will be Israel's objections to Egypt's virtual closing of the Suez Canal to Israel-bound shipping.

(The Associated Press reports from Moscow that the Navy newspaper Red Fleet, in the bitterest Soviet editorial attack yet on Israel, charged that the Jewish state was being turned into an American war base. Although the Israel Government is less than three years old, Red Fleet charged, it has succeeded in fully subjecting the nation to orders from Washington. The American Ambassador at Tel Aviv is Israel's real ruler, said the newspaper, and current negotiations for technical aid under President Truman's "Point Four" program are designed to flood the country with specialists who would dominate its economy.

(Haifa is being made into an American naval base, Lydda into a huge American air base, the Soviet newspaper declared. In addition highways are being built throughout the nation for military purposes, the editorial asserted. It added that Israel was arranging closest contacts with other countries in the Middle East, such as Greece and Turkey, which "long ago became bases for American aggression.")

RELEASE OF 36 ZIONIST LEADERS IN RUMANIA DEMANDED AT LABORITE PARLEY IN TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- The immediate liberation of 36 Zionist leaders arrested in Rumania this year was demanded here today at a session of the executive of the World Union of Labor Zionists. Berl Locker, chairman of the Jewish Agency executive, reported to the session that the forthcoming World Zionist Congress will definitely be held next July in Jerusalem regardless of the circumstances.

Levi Eshkol, Agency treasurer, expressed disappointment with the achievements of the Labor Zionist movement among youth in the United States and South America. At the same time, he revealed that about 1,000 Jewish youth from South American countries have migrated to Israel since the establishment of the Jewish state.

ISRAEL HISTADRUT DELEGATION CONCLUDES VISIT TO BRITAIN; ENGLISH GROUP TO RETURN VISIT

LONDON, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- A British Parliamentary delegation will visit Israel next April, it was announced here today as the visit of a Histadrut delegation to this country concluded.

Speaking at a reception last night for the Israel labor representatives, British Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs Ernest Davies praised the manner in which Israel is going about setting up a democratic regime. Asserting that Anglo-Israel relations have shown "distinctive improvement" of late, Sec. Davies told the members of the delegation that "there is genuine understanding and friendship for your country here today."

U.S. AND ISRAEL EXPERTS DISCUSS IRRIGATION, ELECTRIC POWER PROJECTS FOR JEWISH STATE

TEL AVIV, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- A discussion of final plans for vast irrigation projects in Israel has begun in America between American experts and Israel officials of the Ministry of Agriculture, it was revealed here today. The Israelis are headed by Simcha Bass, director of the Ministry's Water Department.

The plans under discussion are based on the original survey of irrigation, soil conservation and hydro-electric power development carried out some years ago in Palestine by the American soil and water conservation expert, Dr. Walter C. Lowdermilk. The discussions will cover not only irrigation projects, but the discussion of the development of sources of hydro-electric power which will eventually provide Israel with 2,500,000,000 kilowatts of electricity annually.

ASSEMBLY PLANT FOR PHILCO REFRIGERATORS DEDICATED IN ISRAEL; TURKEY IS FIRST BUYER

TEL AVIV, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- A plant for the assembly of Philco refrigerators was dedicated here today. Known as "Ancor," the new plant will turn out 1,000 refrigerators monthly. Capitalized at 200,000 pounds (about \$560,000), the plant already has orders for 250 refrigerators from Turkey.

A delegation representing the Philippine Government and the Philippine Airlines arrived in Israel last night to discuss an air agreement between Israel and the Philippines.

CITY OF JERUSALEM PRESENTS SILVER-COVERED BIBLE TO MUNICIPALITY OF STOCKHOLM

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- A silver-covered Bible, a gift of the city of Jerusalem, was this week-end presented to the city of Stockholm by Dr. A. Nissan, Israel Minister to Sweden, at a luncheon in his honor. The affair was sponsored by the municipal council of Stockholm.

VIENNA JEWISH COMMUNITY COMPLAINS TO GOVERNMENT THAT JEWS ARE DENIED CREDIT FACILITIES

VIENNA, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- The Jewish Community of Vienna has complained to the Austrian Finance Minister of the refusal of the Austrian Credit Institute system to extend loans to Austrian Jews.

The Minister, Dr. J. Margaretha, however, has refused to intervene, asserting that the Credit Institutes have already suffered heavily as a result of the Third Restitution Law because they held mortgages on property illegally confiscated by the Nazis and passed on to "Aryans." The Jews complain that under the terms of the law they must refund to the "Aryan" owners the money paid for their property in order to regain the property. But when they appeal to the credit agencies for a loan and offer to mortgage their property as security the reply is always in negative.

JEWISH REFUGEES LEAVING AUSTRIA EXCEED NUMBER ARRIVING FOR FIRST TIME SINCE 1945

VIENNA, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- For the first time since the liberation of Austria and the end of the war the number of Jewish refugees leaving Austria in any three-month period has exceeded the number arriving, Harold Trobe, Joint Distribution Committee director for Austria, reported today.

In the past three months, he revealed, an average of 400 Jewish refugees have left here for resettlement in various other countries. The arrivals, mostly from Hungary, have numbered between 100 and 125 a month. There are still some 7,000 Jewish refugees in Austria: 3,000 are in two Vienna camps and the remainder are in four camps in the American zone.

ILSE KOCH STILL ABSENT FROM TRIAL ON "NERVOUS BREAKDOWN"; TRIAL WILL END SOON

AUGSBURG, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- Ilse Koch, notorious German war criminal, suffering from what doctors call a self-induced nervous breakdown, was absent from court again when her trial resumed today. She is charged with 45 murders, and complicity in 135 others. Court officials said the trial would probably close before the end of January, the date originally set.

With the hearing of 80 witnesses this week, Hans Ilkow, the prosecutor, will have finished the bulk of his work. On the request of Judge Georg Maginot, he is expected to prune 40 or 50 from his original list of 480 witnesses. Only four or five of the 50 witnesses asked from Eastern Germany now are expected to arrive. Several defense witnesses have already been heard and Alfred Seidl, Koch's counsel, is expected to bring another 30 early next month.

KOREAN WAR STIMULATES MIGRATION OF JEWS FROM MANCHURIA TO ISRAEL; 450 DUE NEXT MONTH

HONG KONG, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- As a result of the world political crisis and the Korean war more Jews are moving from Manchuria to Israel, Jewish organizations in Hong Kong have been advised.

It is estimated that some 450 Jews will come from Harbin next month. A specially chartered vessel will leave Hong Kong for Tientsin early in the month. The immigrants will be brought back to Hong Kong where they will board planes for Israel.

UNIVERSITY OF VENICE ESTABLISHES CHAIR OF HEBREW LITERATURE

ROME, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- A chair of Hebrew literature has been established at the University of Venice and Dr. E. Toaff, Chief Rabbi of Venice, will occupy it, the Union of Italian Jewish Communities reported here today. Universities in Rome, Milan and Bologna are contemplating similar action, it was revealed.

FOUR LARGE AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES SEEK TO RID FRATERNITIES OF RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS BIAS

BOSTON, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- Restrictive membership clauses in fraternity and sorority constitutions have become a major issue recently on four major university campuses, the Christian Science Monitor reports. Fraternity and sorority constitutions which limit membership to certain racial and religious groups have been attacked intermittently for many years, but never have they stirred up so much concern as at present, the report points out.

Michigan, Columbia, Wisconsin, and Northwestern have made recent attempts to meet this problem. None had immediate success, but Michigan and Columbia took steps toward setting a definite time limit for reaching a solution, the article explains. Their student legislatures gave campus fraternities just six years in which to rid themselves of bias clauses. A fraternity failing to concur with this ultimatum would be barred from the campus. The "time limit" plan is not yet campus law at either Michigan or Columbia. Other legislative committees must give their approval.

There is not assurance that this approval will be forthcoming, for the plan already has encountered strong opposition, the article says. At Michigan, the Interfraternity Council, semi-official spokesman for fraternities, labeled the plan "completely detrimental to the program set up by IPC." As a counterplan, the I.F.C. voted to refuse recognition to any fraternity not making an effort to rid its constitution of discrimination. But the controversial question of time limit was ignored, the Monitor reports.

The proposed six-year breathing period was designed to silence those fraternities which claimed no constitutional changes could be effected without going through the proper national channels. The Michigan Daily declared: "The chief targets of time-limit pressure are the clause-favoring blocs at national conventions. Local chapters should welcome the pressure as a means of subduing these blocs. Alone, University of Michigan chapters would fail. But they will not be alone. More schools will follow. Within six years, the demand for removal of the clauses should be so united that few national fraternities would be able to hold out."

Wisconsin University's Board of Regents Rejects Student-Faculty Proposal

At the University of Wisconsin, a student-faculty proposal was turned down by the school's board of regents, the Monitor reports. The plan was incorporated in a human rights report, with recommendations that: 1. No new organizations with bias clauses be approved; 2. Continued approval of existing organizations be conditioned on a reasonable effort to get rid of these restrictions; 3. These organizations be required to report annually to a university committee on human relations; 4. This committee shall review the situation in 1953, if any fraternity or sorority still has a restrictive clause, and recommend future policy.

Having turned down the report, the regents substituted for it a resolution guaranteeing "constitutional rights" to students of all races and creeds. Their action was challenged by several student groups and the college daily newspaper, according to the article. Wisconsin's student board, one of the dissenting groups, met in special session and established an emergency committee on human rights. And a front-page editorial in the Daily Cardinal termed the regents' action "inadequate, narrow, and antiquated."

A somewhat milder plan at Northwestern University met with as little success. Northwestern's Interfraternity Council seemed reluctant for reform as Michigan's

I.F.C. It beat down a measure asking the administration not to admit any new fraternity which has discriminatory clauses. The vote was 23 to 2 against the measure. The Daily Northwestern, which played a key part in the anti-bias clause movement, commented in an editorial: "We're disappointed in the action of the I.F.C. But we still think the principle is sound. The only reform of discriminatory practices that will be effective is that approved by fraternities themselves. An anti-discrimination plan imposed on fraternities will meet with resistance, not success."

Others on campus were not so lenient with the I.F.C. Residents of Asbury Hall, Northwestern's international male dormitory, accused the council of preaching "doctrines of discrimination." The Asbury resolution declared: "If reforms are not within the power of the students, we feel that the administration should institute them by barring from student privileges those organizations that feel they must persist in upholding the doctrines of discrimination."

CANADIAN JEWS TO URGE GOVERNMENT TO SUPPORT PROPOSALS AT U.N. AFFECTING JEWISH RIGHTS

MONTREAL, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- The Canadian Jewish Congress will urge the Federal Government to give its support to current proposals before the United Nations in regard to genocide, the protection of civilians in time of war, the convention on the declaration of death of missing persons, the status of refugees and the Declaration of Human Rights, it was stated here today by Saul Hayes, executive director of the Congress.

"A problem has been created by the fact that millions of Jewish and other persons have died during the war without the fact of their death being legally established," Mr. Hayes said. "Congress has therefore sought to secure Canadian approval of an international convention on the declaration of death of missing persons, which will help hundreds of people to claim the property and assets of those whose whereabouts are unknown."

B'NAI B'RITH PLEDGES "UNQUALIFIED SUPPORT" TO PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S EMERGENCY PROGRAM

NEW YORK, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- "Complete and unqualified support" for the program laid down in President Truman's address Friday night and his subsequent State of Emergency proclamation was pledged today on behalf of the 350,000 members of B'nai B'rith by Frank Goldman, president of B'nai B'rith.

In a telegram to Mr. Truman, Mr. Goldman declared: "In this unparalleled hour when a confused world seeks guidance, you have given it guidance; your word will go out to the captive peoples everywhere and give them new hope, illuminating their dark night with the steadfast light of American determination and American leadership; and it will make clear to them, as you have stated, that while America's goal is not war, but peace -- that while we are willing to negotiate differences -- we will not yield to aggression; we will not appease evil."

AMERICAN TOUR OF ISRAEL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA WILL COST \$500,000, BERNSTEIN SAYS

TEL AVIV, Dec. 18. (JTA) -- The American tour of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, which will begin Jan. 7 and end two months later, will cost approximately \$500,000, Leonard Bernstein, noted American composer and conductor, reported here today.

Ninety-four members of the Orchestra will leave for the United States by air Dec. 27, Mr. Bernstein said. The first concert will be held in Washington, under the baton of Serge Koussevitsky. Mr. Bernstein expressed confidence that the Orchestra's American tour will be successful.

