

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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BEN GURION OUTLINES DEFENSE PROBLEMS TO PARLIAMENT; SEES NO CAUSE FOR WAR PANIC

JERUSALEM, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The defense problems faced by Israel in the present tense world situation were outlined here tonight before the Parliament by Premier David Ben Gurion, who also holds the post of Minister of Defense.

"It is not necessary to emphasize here that the security problem is the basic problem of our state, no less than of other states," the Premier said. "However, we face a double task in the event of a global conflict. We must simultaneously keep our eyes open to the possibility of a second round which our enemies openly announce. And the danger of such a second round increases with the approach of a possible global conflict.

"Our enemies strive not only to destroy Israel, but to annihilate all the inhabitants of the Jewish state," the Premier continued. Security is today the world's chief problem, Mr. Ben Gurion stated. "This does not mean that war is inevitable. However, it does mean that there is no escape from the rearmament race. Only the future can tell what the end of this race will be."

Emphasizing that Israel must help strengthen world peace, together with all nations which are "striving wholeheartedly for peace," Mr. Ben Gurion said: "Although in addition to the danger of a world war we face also the danger of aggression against us on the part of our neighbors, there is nevertheless no place for panic.

"Even with regard to our neighbors we should not suppose that we are on the eve of war. There is no necessity for such war. It is of prevention of a war that we must think, and since this is not in our hands, we must therefore prepare for any eventuality. It is our duty to be efficiently prepared, simultaneously to continue our efforts to preserve peace and to sign peace treaties with every one of our neighbors who desires it," the Premier pointed out.

ISRAEL PARLIAMENT GIVES CABINET VOTE OF CONFIDENCE ON ECONOMIC AND FISCAL POLICY

JERUSALEM, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The Israel Parliament today passed, by an overwhelming majority, a vote of confidence in the government's economic and fiscal policy.

A Mapam delegate, Berl Repetur, opposed a suggestion by the Mapai that the vote of confidence cover the program as a whole. He demanded that a separate discussion and vote be held on the possibility of a wage freeze. Premier David Ben Gurion intervened to insist that the vote be held on the policy as a whole.

Finance Minister Eliezer Kaplan, discussing the recently announced American loan of \$35,000,000 for the expansion of Israel's agriculture, assured the parliament that the loan had been granted without any political strings.

TWENTY-THIRD WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS SESSION WILL OPEN IN JERUSALEM ON JULY 11

JERUSALEM, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The twenty-third World Zionist Congress session will open in Jerusalem on July 11, the Jewish Agency executive announced today.

ISRAEL TRADE MINISTER CALLS FOR WAGE FREEZE; HISTADRUT TO EXAMINE ITS WAGE POLICY

JERUSALEM, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- A call for a national wage freeze to "halt the spiral of inflation" was voiced here today during a Knesset debate by Yaacov Geri, non-party Minister for Trade and Industry. Mr. Geri immediately made it clear that he was speaking for himself alone, not for the Cabinet.

The statement is viewed here as especially significant because the Histadrut will begin within a few days an internal discussion of its future wage policy and its general demands in new contracts. The discussion has been forced by the fact that union after union has demanded substantial wage increases in the face of the labor federation's announced policy of "holding the line."

It is reported that Golda Myerson, Labor Minister, and Pinhas Lubianiker, Agriculture Minister, both of whom are top leaders of the Histadrut, are seeking a formula which would preserve the present wage scale but would offer bonus payments for increased production. The formula is not expected to be acceptable, particularly not to the metal trades unions which is led by the left-wing Socialist Mapam.

ORTHODOX GROUP PLANS TO REVIVE "SHEMITTAH" IN ISRAEL; AGRICULTURE TO BE SUSPENDED

LONDON, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- Shemittah, the Sabbatical Year of the Biblical era when every seventh year was observed by a ban on agricultural activities and a cancellation of all debts, will be observed next year in all agricultural settlements in Israel maintained by the laborite members of the Agudas Israel Organization, it was reported here today at a meeting of the world executive of the Poale Agudas Israel.

After hearing a report on the preparations which are being made for the observance of Shemittah in Poale Agudas colonies in Israel, the executive decided to raise a special fund to purchase food for the settlers and forage for the livestock in the colonies during the Sabbatical Year.

The Sabbatical Year, as ordained in the Bible, was observed during the period of the Second Temple. It caused great hardship because of scarcity of food and the freezing of money credit. In the course of time, with the extension of the use of credit in business, the custom of cancelling debts was gradually abandoned. However, the practice of permitting the fields to lie fallow after they had yielded produce for six successive years, was observed. As late as 1888 the question of whether Shemittah should be applied to the new Jewish colonies in Palestine led to a lively argument among the Jews there. In the 20th century practically all Jews had ceased to observe the Sabbatical year.

1,245 RUMANIAN JEWS ARRIVE IN ISRAEL; OVER 200 PROCEED AT ONCE TO WORK VILLAGE

HAIFA, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- A total of 1,245 Jewish immigrants from Rumania arrived here today aboard the Rumanian transport, SS Transylvania. Immediately after disembarking, 45 of the newcomer families comprising 220 persons were transferred directly to an immigrant work village in the Galilee.

GERMAN YOUTHS PICKET MOTION PICTURE HOUSES IN PROTEST AGAINST ANTI-SEMITIC PRODUCER

HAMBURG, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- Members of Socialist youth organizations here today picketed motion picture houses in protest against the announced resumption of exhibition in the near future of films produced by Veit Harlan, producer of the anti-Semitic film, "Jew Süss."

The pickets distributed in front of the motion picture houses more than 10,000 copies of a pamphlet reading: "Veit Harlan, producer of the hate film, 'Jew Süss,' tries it again." The pamphlet urged that measures be taken against showing of films whose authors or directors damaged the reputation of democratic Germany.

JEWS IN TURKEY LACK FUNDS TO SUPPORT CHIEF RABBI; FACE DIFFICULTIES IN FINDING ONE

ISTANBUL, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The search for a new Chief Rabbi of Turkey to replace the late Rabbi H. Bodjerano, who died in 1931, has encountered new difficulties, it was reported here today.

A special committee, which worked six months on finding a new Chief Rabbi, finally put forward the name of Dr. Moisho Ventura, former Chief Rabbi of Alexandria, once a Turkish citizen. However, it has now discovered that the funds needed for supporting the Chief Rabbi and the Chief Rabbinate are not yet available. It is expected that a campaign will be launched soon to try to raise the necessary funds.

DUTCH GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONS POETESS TO WRITE ON FATE OF JEWISH WRITERS

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The Netherlands Ministry of Education, Arts and Sciences has commissioned Hanna Michaelis, a Jewish poetess, to write a literary and historical essay about the fate of Dutch Jewish writers and poets in the period from 1940-1945, when Holland was under Nazi rule.

Miss Michaelis, a native of this city and a staff member of the Nieuw Israelitisch Weekblad, last year published a volume of poetry in Dutch. Her assignment will include preparation of a biographical list, bibliography and anthology of the works of the writers under study.

AMERICAN SINGER IN ISRAEL NOT PERMITTED TO SING IN GERMAN; MINISTER EXPLAINS REASON

JERUSALEM, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- "The use of the German language in plays, films, operas, recitations and vocal recitations would antagonize a large section of the Israel population, who cannot forget that German is the language of the people who, a few years ago, brought disaster to one-third of the Jewish nation," Moshe Shapira, Minister of Interior, declared in Parliament last night.

Mr. Shapira's statement was in reply to a question from the floor as to why the government's censorship board forbade Kenneth Spencer, an American bass, from singing the German lyrics of Schubert, Mozart and Brahms at concerts. Minister Shapira emphasized that the "cultural values of Germany have not been suppressed and are still taught in Israel's schools." He added that the present ban is only on the German language.

ARGENTINE MINISTER TO ISRAEL RETURNS TO BUENOS AIRES FOR GOVERNMENT CONSULTATIONS

BUENOS AIRES, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- Pablo Manuel, Argentina's Minister to Israel, arrived here for consultations with his government. He was honored at a reception tendered him by the O.I.A., pro-Peron Jewish organization, in which several leading government officials, as well as members of Congress, took part.

PEGLER ATTACKS ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE AND ANTI-NAZI LEAGUE; WANTS CONGRESSIONAL PROBE

NEW YORK, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- Vitriolic attacks against the Anti-Defamation League of the B'nai B'rith and the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League are contained in a series of articles by Westbrook Pegler, distributed by the Kings Features Syndicate and published in numerous American newspapers.

Demanding a Congressional investigation of the Anti-Defamation League, Pegler says: "It is time to stop this spying on citizens by self-appointed vigilante outfits...and this keeping of 'dossiers' susceptible of abuse for blackmail and boycott. It is not good for any such organizations to be held in fear as though it were a Gestapo. Such fear inevitably becomes resentment and will explode.

"Unquestionably," Pegler continues, "the Anti-Defamation League had legitimate reason to exist when it was founded and for a long time afterward. There are many distinguished high-minded citizens in its membership. But such organizations, left to the management of professional, jobholding executives, have been known to slide off into the very practices which they were established to oppose."

Terming the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League "a smear-bund which stimulates friction between Christians and Jews," Pegler directs his fire especially at Professor James H. Sheldon, administrative chairman of the organization, and Isidor Lipschutz, well-known philanthropist who has contributed generously to the Anti-Nazi League and the Society for the Prevention of World War III. "The Anti-Nazi League," Pegler writes, "is a secret service maintained by Lipschutz to spy on Americans who have the effrontery to maintain their own ideas on American foreign policy."

In the same column Pegler also speaks of the "Frankfurter-Laski-Niles combination which planted Frankfurter on the Supreme Court, Alger Hiss in the State Department and David K. Niles in the White House."

J.D.C. TO HOLD ANNUAL CONFERENCE THIS WEEK; TO PLAN AID FOR JEWS THROUGHOUT WORLD

NEW YORK, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- More than 300 representatives of Jewish communities throughout the United States will gather here this week-end to attend the 36th annual meeting of the Joint Distribution Committee which will take place on Saturday evening, January 6, at the Hotel Commodore.

A statement issued today by Edward M.M. Warburg, J.D.C. chairman and recently elected general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, said that the conference will adopt a program for continued aid to hundreds of thousands of Jews in Europe, Israel and Moslem areas still in need of help. The delegates will also adopt a proposed budget for 1951 activities of the J.D.C.

"Highlighting the meeting's deliberations will be first-hand reports by Moses A. Leavitt, J.D.C. executive vice-chairman and one of the world's outstanding authorities on the problems of Jews overseas; and Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, newly-designated executive vice-chairman of the U.J.A. and for ten years J.D.C.'s overseas director-general," Mr. Warburg reported. Judge Maurice Bernon, chairman of J.D.C.'s National Council, will report on the domestic scene.

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