Ben Gurion to Present New Plan Today to Parliament for Caretaker Government

Jerusalem, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- Following the failure of Premier David Ben Gurion this weekend to conclude negotiations which would form either a stable coalition government with the Mapai and Religious Bloc, minus Interior Minister Moshe Shapira, or which would permit a temporary Mapai caretaker government until general elections can be held, it was reported today that Mr. Ben Gurion will present a brand new plan for Parliament’s approval tomorrow.

The proposal, it was learned, will call for the present coalition Cabinet to serve as a caretaker government until the elections, with the important condition that no party in the government need assume collective responsibility for all government decisions. Thus, each policy would stand or fall on its ability to secure a majority in Parliament, with the strong possibility that coalition members might be voting against government policy. Also, votes of "no confidence" would not affect the day-to-day work of the Cabinet since it is already operating without majority support.

Since such a proposal does not run counter to whatever Israeli Constitutional law exists, it is expected that if the proposal meets with Knesset approval, President Weizmann will not press for a Cabinet change during the transition period.

Mapai Charged with Playing "Game" of General Zionists

Addressing a Progressive Party meeting last night, Minister of Justice Pinhas Rosen charged that "knowingly or unknowingly" the Mapai Party is playing "the game of the General Zionists." He described that "game" as "a desire to form a coalition with the Mapai after the elections."

Turning to an analysis of the role of the left-wing Socialist Mapam Party, Dr. Rosen insisted that it could not participate in any coalition government because of its demand for Israeli neutrality in the international conflict. Neutrality, he added, is possible only for such countries as Switzerland which are not members of the United Nations.

Concluding a two-day national conference at Ramat Gan last night the Maccabi movement decided to affiliate with the General Zionist Party. A committee was appointed by the parley to arrange the details of a final merger agreement.

Meanwhile, the Cabinet, at its regular weekly session, heard reports from Premier Ben Gurion on his visit to President Weizmann Wednesday on the government crisis and reports from the Premier and Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett on the visit of Gen. Sir Brian Robertson, commander-in-chief of British Middle East forces. The Cabinet discussed arrangements to be made with the British owners of the Haifa refineries relative to oil supplies for Israel requirements. It gave its approval to a bill making obligatory two years of agricultural service for Orthodox girls exempt from military service on religious grounds.
U.S. OFFICIALS IN GERMANY PREPARE TO ISSUE LARGE NUMBER OF VISAS TO "INNOCENT" NAZIS

MUNICH, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- American officials have today predicted that they would soon be working on a tremendous backlog of visa applications from Germans who had been "involuntary members" of Nazi organizations. They will also speed up the issuance of American visas to "Volkdeutsche," or persons of German ethnic origin who lived in East European countries and are now residing in Germany.

About 10,000 Volkdeutsche have already been admitted to the United States, it was disclosed here by officials of the U.S. Displaced Persons Commission. However, 44,000 more will soon get their visas. Explaining that there is a shortage of industrial and farm labor in the United States, a spokesman for the D.P. Commission said that there were about 80,000 openings there at present and that many more are expected. Under the D.P. Immigration Act, a total of 346,000 displaced persons can enter the United States until June 30, 1951. So far about 230,000 have entered.

DR. PHILIP AUERBACH SUSPENDED AS HEAD OF BAVARIAN STATE RESTITUTION OFFICE

MUNICH, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- Bavarian Finance Minister Zorn has informed the state cabinet that Dr. Philip Auerbach has been suspended as head of the Bavarian State Restitution Office pending an investigation into the affairs of the office. To date, he said, the public prosecutor, who is conducting the investigation, has found no criminal evidence.

Action against Dr. Auerbach followed published charges of embezzlement and also that while a prisoner of the Nazis in the Auschwitz concentration camp, he secured preferential treatment for himself and was guilty of beating other prisoners.

Auerbach has brought a libel suit against Heinrich Junker, a Christian Democratic member of the Bavarian Parliament for declaring publicly that he had embezzled funds of the restitution office. He has also filed suit against Fritz Holstein, editor of "Die Tat" for making the concentration camp charges.

(In Brussels, the Belgian Attorney General was reported to have invited Belgian Jews who had been interned in the Gross-Rosen concentration camp to come forward to give evidence about the activities of Dr. Philip Auerbach, Bavarian restitution office head, during his internment at that camp. He reportedly was acting at the request of the Bavarian authorities.)

NAZI DECREES MAKE NO LAW IN ENGLAND, LONDON COURT RULES IN TRIAL ON JEWISH PROPERTY

LONDON, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- Hitler's decrees do not make law in England, Justice Wynn Parry of the High Court ruled here yesterday in an action involving ownership of a copyright expropriated by the Nazi regime from a Leipzig Jewish publishing house.

He restored to Max Hinrichsen, son of Dr. Henri Hinrichsen, former owner of the music publishing house of O.F. Peters of Leipzig, ownership of the copyright to "Rustle of Spring" by Sinding. The publishing house had been confiscated by the Nazis because the Hinrichsen family were Jews. Subsequently, the copyright in England was vested in the Comptroller of Patents who in turn licensed the British house of Novello and Company to publish the song.

Max Hinrichsen, as his father's heir, sought to publish the music here. He was sued by Novello who claimed ownership. After a 19-day trial the court ruled: "The courts of this country will not give effect so far as regards assets within their jurisdiction to the law of a foreign country which is confiscatory in policy." Hitler's decrees, he added, do not make law in England.
AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS OPPOSES REARMAMENT OF GERMANY; HEARS REPORT ON ANTI-SEMITISM

NEW YORK, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- Sharp criticism against the recent mitigation of the sentences of Nazi war criminals by U.S. authorities in Germany was voiced today at a session of the National Administrative Committee of the American Jewish Congress, attended by more than 150 members from all parts of the country.

The session adopted a resolution calling for the abandonment of plans for the rearming of Germany. "Rearmament of Germany," the resolution said, "will restore to physical and political power the very elements responsible for war and the murder of millions of helpless people." An appeal to Secretary of State Dean Acheson urging the abandonment of German rearmament plans was sent during the weekend by Dr. Israel Goldstein, chairman of the Western Hemisphere executive of the World Jewish Congress.

Dr. Gerhard Jacoby who has just returned to the United States after a 10-month mission in Germany reported at the session that "agressive anti-Semitism could flare up at any moment in Germany." The people, he said, are still basically anti-Semitic.

ISRAEL IS ALERT TO THE PRESENT INTERNATIONAL SITUATION, NESHSET LEADER REPORTS

NEW YORK, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- "Israel's future hangs in the balance because of the current international situation," Akiva Govrin, Israeli labor leader and chairman of the Labor Relations Committee of the Israeli parliament, declared here today, addressing a special conference called to aid the $10,000,000 Histadrut campaign in the United States. More than 1,500 delegates from all parts of the country participated in the conference which was convened by the National Committee for Labor Israel.

Emphasizing that Israel is the only fortress of democracy in the Middle East and is the greatest military force in that part of the world, Mr. Govrin said that the Jewish state must continue to be so "for the benefit of all those who believe in freedom and social justice." He pointed out that Israel is ready to conclude a peace treaty with the Arabs, but added that "no one should think that the Jewish state will beg the Arabs to sign such a treaty," since they still refuse to negotiate a peace pact.

"The present international situation," he said, "has made us very conscious of our future. We are straining every effort to strengthen our economy and security in the event of war. And the two things most vital to our security are the insetting of the exiles and the speedy economic development of the country."

Rep. Jacob E. Javits, addressing the conference, called upon the United States to make an official declaration that the Middle East is a strategic area "essential" to the security of this country. He also called for prompt American governmental aid to Israel and for the inauguration of a four-point program of Israel-American cooperation to bring security and economic development to the Middle East.

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF AMERICA APPEALS TO U.N. TO REJECT SYRIAN PROTEST ON EULAH

NEW YORK, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- The National Advisory Board of the Jewish National Fund today appealed to the United Nations to reject the protest note of the Syrian Government against the reclamation work carried out by the J.N.F. in the region of the Eulah swamp, on the border of Israel and Syria. The Syrian Government objected on the ground that the drainage of the 15,000-acre swamp would endanger the security of Syria.

The National Advisory Board consists of 100 Jewish communal leaders with constituencies in 40 states. Its purpose is to counsel the Jewish National Fund board of directors on broad matters of policy and to help in the mobilization of community-wide support of J.N.F. projects. Dr. Abraham Granott, world president of the J.N.F. in Jerusalem, addressing the newly constituted National Advisory Board, called for the implementation of the five-year program adopted by the Golden Jubilee Conference of the Jewish National Fund in Washington.
ISRAEL WILL FOREVER BE AN OUTPOST OF THE FORTESS OF FREEDOM, TRUMAN SAYS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- President Truman, in a message to the sponsors of Kfar Truman, a veterans settlement to be erected in Israel in honor of the President, expressed confidence that "Israel will forever be an outpost of the fortress of freedom." He expressed gratitude for the undertaking which will bear his name.

"I regard it as an honor to have my name associated with this project which is symbolic of the devotion to freedom and opportunity which has characterized the Jewish people throughout their history," the President's message said. It was read at a dinner here attended by 1,100 notables, including members of the Cabinet. The project was conceived by the Jewish National Fund as a tribute to President Truman in recognition of his support of Israel.

Dr. Abraham Granott, world president of the Jewish National Fund, paid tribute to President Truman. Israel's Ambassador Abba Eban outlined the aid rendered by Truman to Jewry before and after the establishment of the Jewish state. Vice-President Barkley, honorary chairman of the Kfar Truman undertaking, was presented at the dinner with a plaque hailing his "invaluable aid in the establishment of the new state of Israel" and his "untiring efforts in espousing the cause of the Jewish National Fund." The presentation was made by Dr. Harris J. Levine, president of the J.N.F. of America.

NEW ELECTIONS ARE WANTED IN ISRAEL, DR. NEUMANN REPORTS TO U.S. ZIONIST LEADERS

NEW YORK, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- "The people of Israel regard it as necessary in the interest of the state to create a more stable government at the earliest possible time," Dr. Emanuel Neumann reported here today following his return from a visit to Israel.

Addressing a meeting of New York Zionist leaders at the Waldorf Astoria, Dr. Neumann said that new parliamentary elections are being urged in Israel. The patching up of the present coalition once again neither enhances the prestige of the government nor obviates the necessity of new elections somewhat later, he declared. The General Zionist Party in Israel is steadily gaining strength and the Progresive Party there "is rapidly losing ground," he reported.

24 MEMBERS OF ISRAEL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA ARE SUFFERING FROM ILLNESS IN THE U.S.

DENVER, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- Twenty-four members of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, now touring the United States, have been incapacitated by influenza or exhaustion, a spokesman for the orchestra said today. The orchestra has 94 members.

The spokesman said that 18 members are suffering from the 'flu. Some have been left in hospitals in this city, Minneapolis, Kansas City and Des Moines. It is hoped that most of the ailing musicians will be able to rejoin the tour at Oakland where the next concert will be held.

PROF. LEMKIN, "FATHER" OF GENOCIDE FACT, NOMINATED FOR 1951 NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

OSLO, Feb. 25. (JTA) -- Prof. Raphael Lemkin, expert on international law and "father" of the Genocide convention, was one of 28 world personalities nominated today by the Norwegian Nobel Institute for the 1951 Nobel Peace Prize. Prof. Lemkin, who is Jewish, is attached to Yale University.

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