

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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ISRAEL PREPARES FOR NEW ELECTIONS; 30-MAN ALL-PARTY SUPERVISORY COMMISSION PROPOSED

JERUSALEM, March 4. (JTA) -- A 30-man all-party commission to supervise Israel's forthcoming general elections was proposed today by the Constitution and Law Committee of the Israeli parliament. The committee approved the text of a clause in the new election law providing for such a commission.

The supervisory body, according to this clause, would consist of 11 representatives of the Mapai Party, five of the Mapam, four each of the Herut and Religious Bloc, two of the General Zionists and one each of the Sephardim, Progressives, Communists and Nazareth Democrats. The committee is rushing its work to complete the draft of the election law for submission to the parliament at the earliest possible moment.

A ministerial committee of the Israeli Cabinet was set up last Friday to consider and clarify a number of questions in connection with the forthcoming elections. Minister of the Interior Moshe Shapiro, a member of the Hapoel Hamizrachi Party, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that he had resigned from membership on this ministerial committee since he considers appointment of the committee "political interference with the new elections."

Meanwhile, a split threatened a united front of the Religious Bloc in the elections. The Lamifneh, a group within the Hapoel Hamizrachi, the Orthodox Workers Party, opposed the party's inclusion in the Religious Bloc and urged that the party run on a separate ticket in the elections or with the Aduath Israel--extreme Orthodox--workers, if the latter made such a request. The dissident group further widened the gap between it and the other religious groups by going on record as approving compulsory service in religious settlements for women claiming exemption from military service on religious grounds, but it opposed drafting them into military units.

Premier David Ben Gurion had introduced an amendment to the law for military service for women providing that those claiming exemption on religious grounds should be required to do two years of compulsory service in agricultural settlements, military offices or social welfare agencies. The religious parties and the rabbinate are heatedly opposing this measure.

Premier Ben Gurion Defends His Stand on Military Service for Women

The Premier invoked the Bible and ancient Jewish history yesterday to support his position on military service for women. Speaking at a "passing out" parade of women Army officers held somewhere in Israel, Premier Ben Gurion said: "The Jews were among the first to recognize the equality of women. In ancient times the Jews had four women prophets and one, at least, commanded a Jewish army." He declared that "while women in military service in peacetime is necessary on military grounds, it also represents the highest recognition men can give women as equals."

Premier Ben Gurion told the new women officers that a woman, Mania Wilbushevit, had inspired the first Hashomer group in Palestine. (The Hashomer was the

first self-defense organization set up by the Jewish settlers in Palestine while the Holy Land was under Turkish rule.) He said that it would be a contempt of Israel's young womanhood if they were deprived of the right to participate in the country's defense.

True equality, he added, does not mean equality of rights but equality of duties. Man is on a morally higher plane than the animal because of his sense of duty and the highest duty is the soldier's supreme sacrifice. Women, he added, cannot be exempted. "Man is created in the image of God," he quoted, adding "but nobody can affirm that God is masculine." He said that women have a special function in the army, to contribute a motherly touch to the grim, manly atmosphere of military life.

PREMIER BEN GURION MAY VISIT U.S. IN MAY; WILL LAUNCH ISRAELI BOND DRIVE

NEW YORK, March 4. (JTA) -- Israel's Premier David Ben Gurion will visit the United States early in May to launch the \$500,000,000 Israel bond drive in this country, it was reported here today by the New York Herald Tribune.

The report said that the Premier of the Jewish state will remain here for about two weeks and will address a large meeting at Madison Square Garden in New York on May 10. He will also address meetings in Los Angeles and other cities. During his visit to this country, the Israeli Premier will be received by President Truman with whom he will discuss American grants-in-aid to Israel, the report stated.

HERUT CONVENTION WARNS AGAINST RUSSIA, BRITAIN AND ARABS; ADVOCATES FRIENDSHIP WITH U.S.

TEL AVIV, March 4. (JTA) -- The Herut Party concluded its second annual national conference at Nahanya with a demand for new parliamentary elections and a warning that Israel, "confronting three potential attackers - Britain, the Arab states and Soviet Russia" must make its primary task "the prevention of world conflagration."

The resolution warned that the threatening world conflict between the Soviet and its satellites and the free world menaced Israel externally and internally. It said that the British threat arose through Britain's control of three-fourths of the traditionally national soil of Palestine through the rule of King Abdullah of Jordan. The Arab threat lay in the repeated announcements by Arab rulers of a "second round" in the Palestine war. The Soviet threat, it added, lay in the danger of a Red Army invasion of the Middle East and Israel which would end Israel's sovereignty.

The people of Israel, it added, would fight any invader with all its military strength and with the aid of friendly powers struggling for freedom. In foreign policy, the party decreed, Israel must seek friendship of the United States and the Mediterranean powers, France, Italy and Turkey. It elected a 12-man central committee headed by Menachem Beigin.

ISRAEL ASKED FOR NO MILITARY TALKS WITH U.S. SPOKESMAN SAYS; U.N. OFFICIAL KILLED BY ARABS

JERUSALEM, March 4. (JTA) -- An Israel Army spokesman today denied reports that Israel had asked for military talks with the United States. A report that Israel had taken this move appeared in a New York newspaper.

The Cairo radio today reported the assassination of Khaled Hussein, member of the United Nations Relief and Work Agency for Palestine Arab refugees. The report said that he had been ambushed and shot dead in Nablus. Several days ago discontented Arabs attacked the U.N. food depot in Nablus and about 30 persons were wounded in the melee.

WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS POSTPONED UNTIL END OF JULY; FIVE MAJOR PLANS UNDER DISCUSSION

JERUSALEM, March 4. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency executive today again postponed the date of the opening of the forthcoming World Zionist Congress, this time to July 31, in order not to interfere with the Israeli national elections which will be held this summer. The following five major proposals were the subject of discussion today at the meeting of the executive:

1. A suggestion that a new Zionist program be worked out at the forthcoming Congress to take off where Dr. Theodor Herzl's Basle Program--which culminated in the establishment of a Jewish state--left off.
2. A plan for the establishment of relationships between the Israel Government and the Jewish Agency.
3. A plan for giving the Agency a legal status in the Jewish state and defining its scope and activities.
4. A proposal for the organization and composition of Zionist movements in the various countries outside Israel.
5. A suggestion on the composition of the Agency executive.

The executive today also decided to grant in principle special allocations to the Agudas Israel and Poale Agudas organizations from the United Jewish Appeal in the U.S. A special committee consisting of Agency treasurer Levi Eshkol and members Moshe Kol and Itzhak Raphael will decide the specific amounts of the grants. Other problems considered included: the activities of the national funds, the shekel, the Actions Committee and Zionist activities abroad.

GERMAN PARLIAMENT DISCUSSES PROPOSAL TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL AS HEIR TO JEWISH PROPERTY

BONN, March 4. (JTA) -- A proposal that the Government of Western Germany legally recognize the state of Israel as heir to Jewish heirless and unclaimed property was placed before the parliament here by Prof. Carlo Schmid, a Social Democratic deputy.

Financial Under-Secretary of State Hartmann, told the parliament that there were serious doubts as to whether such legislation was possible since the Federal Republic could not make decisions affecting matters of civil law abroad. If the unknown heirs were of Israeli nationality, he declared, legislation in Israel might help matters, but in the case of non-Israeli unknown heirs no legislation by any single state would suffice and an international agreement would be necessary. He proposed that the question of federal legislation concerning unknown heirs not of German nationality and not resident in federal territory be investigated by the parliament's legal committee.

DR. GOLDMANN ADVOCATES DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS WITH GERMANY FOR SETTLEMENT OF JEWISH CLAIMS

TEL AVIV, March 4. (JTA) -- Direct negotiations with the Bonn Government of Western Germany for a substantial cash settlement of Jewish claims for reparations, indemnification and restitution, were advocated here this week-end by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, head of the American section of the Jewish Agency and president of the World Jewish Congress.

Dr. Goldmann, who recently discussed the Jewish claims with American High Commissioner James J. McCloy in Frankfurt, said he would urge the Israel Government to authorize the world Jewish organizations to negotiate with the Bonn regime. He estimated that the yield on these claims might total one billion marks (\$250,000,000). He voiced the belief that the Jewish bodies would be in a better position to deal with the Germans than the Israel Government. He expressed opposition, however, to anything that would give the Germans "formal absolution."

HIAS CONVENTION ADOPTS \$3,160,000 BUDGET FOR 1951; URGES LIBERALIZATION OF IMMIGRATION

NEW YORK, March 4. (JTA) -- A 1951 campaign goal of \$3,160,000 was adopted here today for the HIAS at the annual meeting of the organization held at the Hotel Astor. Delegates from about 4,500 labor, religious and fraternal organizations supporting the HIAS attended the gathering.

The delegates adopted a resolution urging the U.S. Government to introduce legislation to liberalize the immigration law clause by permitting the full use of the 154,000 annual quota, through a system of pooling the unused portions of quotas of any one year to be utilized that year or during the subsequent year for eligible and desirable persons seeking to immigrate to the United States.

Another resolution approved the HIAS' plans for the expansion of services in Israel "with the least possible delay." The delegates expressed thanks to the U.S. Military authorities in Germany, to the U.S. Displaced Persons Commission, to the International Refugee Organization and to the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service of the Department of Justice for the co-operation they have rendered to the HIAS in its activities.

Samuel A. Telsey, president of the organization, stressed in his annual message to the convention the "plight of some 150,000 Jewish refugees living in Western Europe and looking for the opportunity to emigrate from the countries of their temporary domiciles." He reported that the HIAS program in Israel has been expanded during the past year, in rendering aid to a sheltering project and a loan formed for immigrants. Isaac Asofsky, executive director of the organization, reported that in 1950 the HIAS helped 18,371 Jews to leave Europe for homes in many parts of the world.

U.S. Senator Irving M. Ives, addressing the gathering, emphasized that "assistance to Israel at this critical time is vitally essential." He also urged "an early revision" of the U.S. immigration laws and the extension for another year of the present authorization for the admission of displaced persons to the United States.

PUBLISHERS OF ENGLISH-JEWISH PRESS IN U.S. PLEDGE SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL BOND ISSUE

NEW YORK, March 4. (JTA) -- A resolution pledging "wholehearted support" for the forthcoming Israeli bond drive in the United States was adopted here today at the annual convention of the American Association of English-Jewish Newspapers. The convention was addressed by Henry Montor who will direct the drive.

Philip Slomovitz of Detroit, president of the Association, pointed out the importance of the English-Jewish press to the advancement of world Jewry, asserting that English was the predominant language outside of Israel where Hebrew is principally spoken.

The convention mapped plans for the expansion of news and feature service to the 35 newspapers which are affiliated with the Association. Leo H. Frisch, treasurer, reported that at the initiative of the Association a program to standardize Hebrew and Yiddish religious and traditional terms into English is progressing. Three leading educators--Dr. Moshe Davis, Dr. Nelson Glueck and Dr. Abraham Neumann--were collaborating to bring about a standardization of terms, he said.

POPE AWARDS CITATION TO JEWISH NURSE STATIONED IN U.S. ARMY HOSPITAL IN MUNICH

NEW YORK, March 4. (JTA)-- The National Jewish Welfare Board today reported the award of a personal citation from Pope Pius XII to a Jewish U.S. Army nurse stationed in Munich. The nurse is Lt. Col. Janet Blech of Springfield, Mass., who has been a member of the Army Nurse Corps for 32 years. She received the citation for her work in the campaign to send 60 Vincentian Sisters working in a Munich hospital to Rome during the 1950 Holy Year.

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