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U.S. CREDITS WILL CHECK FOREIGN CURRENCY CRISIS IN ISRAEL

LONDON, Oct. 22. (JTA) -- The passage by the U.S. Congress last Saturday evening of the Mutual Security Appropriation Bill, which includes about \$65,000,000 in grants for Israel, has partly checked the "wave of alarm over foreign currency problems which is now sweeping Israel," the London Times reports today from Tel Aviv.

The report says that the economic difficulties which the Israel Government faces are more acute today than at any time since the foundation of the state. Officials of the Israeli Ministry of Finance are reported by the Times correspondent as stating that the crisis is now at its climax and is not likely to take a turn for the better until the end of November.

The officials explain that the present difficulties have been caused by last winter's drought, which is estimated to have cost the country between \$20,000,000 and \$30,000,000 -- almost the amount of foreign currency Israel lacks at the moment.

(The New York Times today reported from Tel Aviv that in a move to meet the country's continued financial crisis the Israel Government has imposed a "very brutal" limitation on import licenses and has refused to extend expired but unused credits except for absolute essentials. These measures have enabled the Government to fulfill its obligations to foreign creditors in an effort to maintain its credit. All obligations will continue to be fulfilled, officials said, the Times emphasized.)

WESTERN POWERS UNDECIDED ON INVITING ISRAEL TO JOIN DEFENSE PACT

LONDON, Oct. 22. (JTA) -- The British press today reports that the question of whether the Western Powers should approach Israel to join a Middle East defense arrangement as a founder is still being considered.

Some of the newspapers express the opinion that such a development would be "unwelcome to the Arab states and might frighten them off." On the other hand, they point out that to omit Israel from such a set-up "would be a slight to the most friendly state in the area." Some suggest that Israel might be included on the basis that each of the smaller powers would be associated separately with the central command and so would not have to cooperate with each other.

Reports that the Western Powers are prepared to approach various Arab states to join the defense pact were termed premature today by the Times here. It asserts that some Arab leaders, notably senior army officers, would favor such an arrangement, but that "the natural desire of the Arabs to hold together is stronger than any present fears for the security of the Middle East."

ISRAEL EXPECTS 120,000 IMMIGRANTS THIS YEAR; 40,000 FROM RUMANIA

TEL AVIV, Oct. 22. (JTA) -- Immigration plans call for the arrival in Israel of 120,000 immigrants this year, Eliahu Dobkin, Jewish Agency executive member, told the 11th annual Keren Hayesod national convention today. Over 180 delegates from all parts of Israel attended the parley, held in Mishmar Hasharon.

Mr. Dobkin revealed that among the 120,000 immigrants 40,000 will be from Rumania and the remaining thousands of Tripolitanian Jews who are leaving the country before it becomes an independent Arab nation on January 1, 1952.

Mr. Dobkin told the delegates that the last Zionist Congress had assigned 92 percent of the Jewish Agency's budget to immigration, absorption and settlement activities. The Youth Aliyah budget had been raised by 20 percent to 3,500,000 pounds, he added.

The Keren Hayesod has raised about half of the Zionist budget this year, he reported, adding that the budget is approaching the unprecedented total of 52,000,000 pounds. Speaking of Agency housing projects, he said he hoped the Israel Government would contribute some 16,000,000 pounds toward this program which includes a planned 6,000 houses to be erected this year by Amidar, the Agency-sponsored housing corporation.

In an analysis of the type of immigrant arriving in Israel now, Mr. Dobkin revealed that before the outbreak of World War II some 18 percent of the immigrants were persons of means while the proportion of businessmen and capitalists arriving in the country currently is less than one-quarter of one percent. He also indicated that 120,000 persons had been added to the agricultural population of the country recently.

CONFERENCE IN LONDON ASKS ISRAEL NOT TO IMPORT NON-KOSHER MEAT

LONDON, Oct. 22. (JTA) -- A conference of representatives of religious organizations in Britain today appealed to the Government of Israel not to import non-kosher meat. Represented at the parley were the United Synagogue, Federation of Synagogues, Union of Orthodox Congregations, the Orthodox group of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, Agudas Israel and Mizrahi.

The parley adopted a resolution, which was sent to Chief Rabbi Israel Brodie for further action, declaring that while the body is fully aware of the difficulties facing the Jewish state in acquiring food, it "views with deep concern" the importation of non-kosher meat into Israel. "This act, disregarding Jewish law, may endanger the right of schechita the world over," the resolution declared. The conference also expressed the hope that fundamental religious problems will not be affected by party politics in Israel.

ISRAELIS ARRIVE IN U.S. FOR STUDY UNDER STATE DEPT. ARRANGEMENT

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22. (JTA) -- Two Histadrut officials have arrived in the United States for a four-month period of study under the auspices of the Department of State's exchange of persons program.

Moshe Bar-Tal, official of the trade union department of the Histadrut, will study the labor movement and visit industrial centers and union locals throughout the country. He will observe arbitration methods and the structure and organization of American trade unions. Bezalel Schwartz, head of the cultural department of Histadrut, will study adult educational programs.

U.N. PALESTINE COMMISSION TO CONFER IN PARIS TODAY WITH ISRAELIS

PARIS, Oct. 22, (JTA) -- The United Nations Palestine Conciliation Commission is expected to meet here tomorrow with the Israeli delegation to initiate discussion on the proposals presented by the Commission to Israel and the Arab countries in an effort to reach a peace settlement in the Middle East.

The Israeli delegation, headed by Maurice Fischer, today indicated that it will continue to insist on a clear-cut declaration of non-hostility by the Arab states before turning to specific peace proposals. The "goodwill" statement submitted by the Arab delegates last week to the Conciliation Commission has been rejected by the Israelis as a basis for peace talks, and they consider it an indirect declaration of hostility.

FORRESTAL'S FAVORABLE VIEWS ON ISRAEL REVEALED BY ELATH

NEW YORK, Oct. 22, (JTA) -- The late Secretary of Defense, James V. Forrestal, who--as his diaries disclose--was in 1948 opposed to Jewish interests in Palestine, changed his mind a year later and expressed his admiration of Israel's military achievements, it was revealed in a statement by Eliahu Elath, former Israeli Ambassador to the United States, published in the New York Herald Tribune.

Ambassador Elath, who is now Israel's envoy to Britain, says that on January 24, 1949, Sec. Forrestal invited him to breakfast at his home where they had a long informal talk on Palestine affairs. "Mr. Forrestal expressed his admiration of Israel's military achievements, which he said proved the strength of our people's desire and need for independence. He asked many questions, indicating keen interest in the subject and desire to approach it objectively," Mr. Elath reveals.

A month later, on February 24, 1949, Sec. Forrestal telephoned Mr. Elath and congratulated him on his appointment as Israel's first Ambassador to the United States. "He added that since seeing me he had found his earlier misgivings regarding Israel had been largely dissipated as a result of his closer study of the facts," Mr. Elath states. "He said he would write to me shortly, but I never received the letter and soon afterward he fell a victim to the illness which was to cause his tragic death."

DR. SILVER SUPPORTS TRUMAN'S NAMING OF AMBASSADOR TO VATICAN

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22, (JTA) -- Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver of Cleveland was reported here today as supporting President Truman's nomination of the first United States Ambassador to the Vatican. Leaders of the Protestant church have criticized the President, declaring that the naming of an American envoy to the Vatican violates the American principle of the separation of church and state.

Dr. Silver was reported here as stating that the Vatican was an independent political state "whatever else it is and however small." He was quoted as declaring that "I see no reason why the United States should not have a diplomatic representative at the Vatican." The naming of General Mark Clark as Ambassador to the Vatican was opposed, among others, by President Truman's own pastor, Rev. Dr. Edward H. Pruden.

ACT OF BAVARIAN CHIEF RABBI CAUSES SPLIT IN GERMAN JEWRY

MUNICH, Oct. 22. (JTA) -- The executive of the Central Council of Jews in Germany has disassociated itself from Bavaria's Chief Rabbi Aaron Ohrenstein, it was disclosed here today. This action follows the recent decision by the executive to suspend all officials implicated in legal proceedings. Rabbi Ohrenstein is involved in the case of Dr. Philip Auerbach, former Bavarian Commissioner for Restitution, who is now under arrest.

As Chief Rabbi of Bavaria, it was noted, Rabbi Ohrenstein failed to comply with the executive's request to "refrain from exercising his office," and since his "conduct was incompatible with the traditions of the Jewish community," the executive felt compelled to take the disassociation step.

Rabbi Ohrenstein charges that the Council is interfering in the affairs of the Munich Jewish community. A similar statement was made by the Munich Jewish community which, in addition, rejected the Council's interference in matters "concerning only Bavarian Jewry."

Meanwhile, the Council welcomed the recent statement by Chancellor Adenauer and expressed the hope that his words will soon be translated into deeds. The Council also voiced support for Israel's claims for reparations from Germany.

TERRORIST CARRYING "BLACK LIST" OF AUSTRIAN JEWS ARRESTED IN VIENNA

VIENNA, Oct. 22. (JTA) -- Austrian police who arrested Franz Landsteiner, head of an illegal terrorist group, found on his person a "black list" of Austrian Jews, as well as explosives and Nazi literature.

It was the intention of Landsteiner's group to attack those listed in his "black book." In the interests of security, the police declined to divulge the names of the listed Jews.

GERMANS ADMITTED TO PHARMACEUTICAL FEDERATION; ISRAELIS PROTEST

LONDON, Oct. 22. (JTA) -- The Israeli delegation to the fourteenth general assembly of the International Pharmaceutical Federation unsuccessfully sought to block admission of Germany into the Federation on the grounds that "representatives of people who used women and children as guinea pigs for the aims of pseudo-science are not fit to be received into an international organization."

Dr. J. Kohlberg, president of the Israel Pharmaceutical Association, who headed his country's delegation to the Assembly, said he had invited the federation to hold one of its future conferences in Israel. Dr. Kohlberg left for the United States where he hopes to organize a Jewish pharmaceutical group, affiliated to the world body, with headquarters in Israel.

COMMUNIST AUTHORITIES REQUISITION SHANGHAI SYNAGOGUE BUILDING

HONG KONG, Oct. 22. (JTA) -- Jewish institutions in Shanghai are suffering further setbacks as a result of the mass emigration from that city of its Jewish population and the tightening of controls by the Communist authorities, it was reported here.

Recent arrivals here from Shanghai report that the Shanghai Synagogue--built at the beginning of this century--has been requisitioned by the government. The same fate has befallen the Shanghai Jewish School, also one of the oldest Jewish institutions in the city, the emigrants report.

At one time the school boasted an exceptionally high educational standard, but in recent years, owing to the declining Jewish population, it began to admit non-Jewish students and by 1950 most of the pupils were Chinese. The school has been taken over for use as a government institution.

NEW FRENCH RESIDENT GENERAL LAUDS JEWS OF MOROCCO

PARIS, Oct. 22. (JTA) -- In his first broadcast to the people of Morocco, General A. Guillaume, who recently was named resident-general, lauded the Moroccan Jews for their "surprising faculties of adaptation."

It is believed here that a period of great stress lies before this community, where Moslem nationalists are expected to intensify their activities while the Arab League campaigns for the removal of French influence from North Africa and the creation of independent Arab states.

Z.O.A. ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIPS IN STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM

NEW YORK, Oct. 22. (JTA) -- The Zionist Organization of America, through its New Jersey Region, has awarded three scholarships to Israel students who will pursue advanced work at U.S. universities, and one scholarship to an American student who will be enrolled in the Jewish Agency Leadership Institute in Jerusalem, it was announced today by Benjamin G. Browdy, president of the Z.O.A.

The four scholarships have been established in memory of the late Dr. Abraham Davidson of Washington, N.J. In the amount of \$1,500 each, they are for a one-year period. They were made possible through a bequest to the Z.O.A. by Dr. Davidson, who was a lifelong Zionist and benefactor of all major efforts for the rebuilding of Israel.

STRONG ZIONIST MOVEMENT NEEDED TO HELP ISRAEL, DR. GOLDMANN SAYS

BUENOS AIRES, Oct. 22. (JTA) -- Jews outside of Israel may get tired of helping the Jewish State if there is no strong Zionist movement, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, co-chairman of the Jewish Agency executive, declared here last night at a reception tendered to him by the Central Zionist Council here. He emphasized that Zionism now has enormous possibilities and responsibilities. Dr. Goldmann also addressed a huge meeting here of the United Jewish Campaign. He is leaving for New York by plane today.

LEADING ISRAEL EDITOR ARRIVES IN U.S. TO AID BOND DRIVE

NEW YORK, Oct. 22. (JTA) -- Gershon Agron, editor and publisher of the Jerusalem Post, arrived in New York from Israel. Formerly Director-General of Information for the Government of Israel, and for 25 years head of the largest English-language daily in the Middle East, Mr. Agron is here to undertake a nationwide tour in behalf of the State of Israel \$500,000,000 Independence Bond drive in the United States.

CENTENNIAL OF BIRTH OF NOTED JEWISH WRITER OBSERVED IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Oct. 22. (JTA) -- Several thousand persons attended a meeting last night marking the centennial of the birth of L.L. Peretz, father of modern Yiddish literature. Among the speakers at the meeting, which was held in the auditorium of Hunter College here, were Shmuel Niger, critic; and the poets Abraham Reisen and Hayim Grade.

CULTURAL CENTER IN ISRAEL DEDICATED TO U.S. JEWISH PHILANTHROPIST

TEL AVIV, Oct. 22. (JTA) -- A cultural center honoring the memory of the late Charles Cohen, United Jewish Appeal contributor, was dedicated yesterday at Ramat Amidar, in the presence of government officials, national institutions delegates and a large audience. Ramat Amidar is a new settlement inhabited by some 6,000 immigrants from 37 different countries.