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U.S. SEEKS TO SOLVE ARAB-ISRAEL PROBLEMS BY ECONOMIC CO-ORDINATION

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- President Truman's appointment yesterday of a co-ordinator of economic and technical aid for the Near East was considered here today as a move to bring about a solution, as speedily as possible, of Arab-Israeli problems, especially the problem of the Arab refugees from Palestine which will be one of the main issues discussed at the United Nations General Assembly now in session in Paris.

It was revealed here today that diminution of the Arab refugee problem will be one of the principal functions of Edwin A. Locke, Jr., the newly appointed co-ordinator. He will co-ordinate United States' and United Nations' programs for the resettlement of Arab refugees. It is expected that he will replace John Blandford who now heads the U. N. agency handling the Arab refugee problem.

The U. S. Government is moving to implement the mutual security program--under which Israel is to get about \$65,000,000 in grants-in-aid--as speedily as possible in the Near East to reduce the tension in that area and in the hope that co-operation will eventually be achieved between Israel and the Arab countries in a Middle East Command. Mr. Locke will be responsible, through the Secretary of State, to Mutual Security Co-ordinator W. Averill Harriman.

Mr. Locke, who was given the personal rank of Ambassador, will be empowered to call meetings of directors of the Technical Co-operation Administration in countries in the Near East and to work out with them the program envisioned in the Mutual Security Act for the resettlement of refugees and the strengthening of the Near East. The importance of his post is underscored by the fact that the President announced the appointment. Normally, such an appointment would have come from the State Department.

In announcing the appointment, President Truman said: "Substantial funds for economic and technical assistance in the Near East have been made available by this act. As a result we hope the economies of these states will be strengthened and that new levels of production in both agriculture and industry will be attained, bringing great benefits to the welfare and security of the peoples of this important area. I am confident that Mr. Locke's mission will inaugurate a new era of friendship and understanding between the peoples of the United States and the Near East."

Mr. Locke was a special assistant to the President, specializing in aviation problems, in 1946 and 1947. He worked for the Chase National Bank of New York from 1932 to 1940, afterwards going to Washington to join the advisory commission of the Council of National Defense, an early mobilization organization of World War II. Later he went to the War Production Board. In 1947 he returned to Chase National as a vice-president.

U. N. CONCILIATION COMMISSION RESUMES TALKS WITH ISRAEL, ARABS

PARIS, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- The United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine today resumed meetings with the Israeli and Arab delegations here. In the morning the U. N. body conferred with the Israelis and in the afternoon it met with the four Arab delegations.

Both parties presented their comments on the Commission's five-point proposals with regard to achieving permanent settlement of that Arab-Israeli major issues. It is understood that the Israeli comments dealt mainly with the armistice agreements and with compensation for abandoned property.

SYRIAN SPOKESMAN ATTACKS U. N. TRUCE CHIEF; SAYS HE FAVORS ISRAEL

LONDON, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- An official Syrian spokesman has launched a violent attack on Lt. Gen. William E. Riley, United Nations truce supervisor in Palestine, for allegedly favoring the Israelis, according to a Damascus Radio broadcast monitored here last night.

Gen. Riley is allowing the "Jews to do whatever they like," the spokesman said. He charged the truce supervisor with refusing to carry out the U. N. Security Council resolution on restoration of peace in the Huleh area and blamed him for the present state of affairs in the demilitarized zone. Gen. Riley "will have to answer for the presence of Israeli troops there. Riley is responsible for the position of the Arab refugees, for every ruined Arab house, for every slaughtered Arab child," the Syrian spokesman declared. "He does not stand by his responsibilities and intentionally overlooks Zionist aggression. He is not doing his duty," the Syrian further alleged.

Insisting that the holding of mixed armistice commission meetings is "futile" because "Riley wants them to fail," the spokesman stated that the General had "pressured" Syria to withdraw its complaints against Israel and was pressing the mixed commission to vote in favor of the Israelis. He reported that Syria had refused to enter into further negotiations with Gen. Riley until the Security Council resolution on the Huleh is carried out.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM OPENS 27TH ACADEMIC YEAR

JERUSALEM, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- The Hebrew University today opened its 27th academic year with a ceremony presided over by Dr. Werner Senator, administrative head of the University.

This year the University faces unparalleled difficulties including the fact that some \$4,200,000 will be needed for the academic year's operational budget in addition to the large sums required to finance the school's building program, which is so urgently needed because of the Arab Legion's continued denial of the use of the University buildings and research facilities atop Mt. Scopus. Great hardships are inflicted upon both teachers and students in that the University maintains classes and other facilities in 30 over-crowded buildings in various parts of the city.

Ben Zion Dinaburg, Minister of Education and Culture, who addressed the opening ceremony, brought the greetings of the Cabinet and Premier David Ben Gurion. He reported that the government was planning to introduce in the Knesset legislation aimed at strengthening institutions of higher learning.

ISRAEL OFFICIALS SEEK TO END SEAMEN'S STRIKE; GOODS PILE UP

JERUSALEM, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- Communications Minister David Pinkas, convened a meeting tonight of high officials of the Ministry of Communications, maritime experts and legal advisors to consider the current seamen's strike which has paralyzed Israel's merchant fleet and piled up thousands of tons of goods in the port of Haifa.

"I am doing everything possible to liquidate the strike and return the situation to normal within 24 hours," Minister Pinkas told the press today. Tonight's meeting of officials will be paralleled by a session of the Histadrut central committee which will consider ways and means of compelling the seamen to return to their vessels.

The strike of the seamen developed as a result of a dispute between their union and the Histadrut. The seamen insist upon the right to form a completely independent union with separate hiring offices, like other trades. At present the labor federation exercises direct control over the mariners.

RE-ELECTION OF DR. WEIZMANN AS ISRAEL PRESIDENT IS ASSURED

JERUSALEM, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- An overwhelming majority of the members of the Israel Parliament favor the re-election of President Weizmann, it became known here today after an informal meeting of leaders of the various parties represented in the Knesset. Under the law the Presidency must be filled within three months after the election of a new Parliament, and it is scheduled to take place next Monday.

The only parties which may offer opposition candidates are the right-wing Herut and the Communists. However, both parties are caucusing separately tomorrow to decide on their respective courses of action. With the support of the Mapai and the General Zionist Party, Dr. Weizmann's election is assured regardless of possible rivals.

Immediately after the election next Monday, Speaker of the Parliament Joseph Sprinzak and the leaders of the various parties will journey to Rehovoth to announce the election to Dr. Weizmann. It is known that Mr. Sprinzak would like the President to take his oath of office on the day following the election, but since the law allows the President seven days after election for this purpose the oath will be administered on a day when the state of Dr. Weizmann's health permits.

COMMUNIST DEPUTY CHARGES "ATROCITIES" AGAINST ARABS IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- An uproar broke out in Parliament today when Communist deputy Meir Wilner charged the authorities with committing "atrocities" against the Arab population and demanded that the Knesset give immediate consideration to the situation of the Arab minority problem.

Wilner's charges roused a storm of protest from all parts of the Knesset. Speaker Joseph Sprinzak called the Communist deputy to order, but he refused to be silenced until he had completed his speech, despite the uproar. After Wilner ended his remarks, Z. Argov, chairman of the Knesset Security and Foreign Affairs Committee, said that his committee would consider the charges and report back to Parliament.

The session also heard Finance Minister Eliezer Kaplan announce that the government would soon submit next year's budget to Parliament, together with an amended income tax scale.

U.S. IS URGED TO BRING ABOUT DIRECT ISRAEL-ARAB PEACE TALKS

ATLANTIC CITY, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- The American Government was urged today to pursue "a vigorous policy" of seeking to bring about direct peace negotiations between Israel and the Arab states. The request was voiced at the opening session here of the 31st annual convention of the Mizrahi Organization of America in an address by Dr. Pinkhos Churgin, president of the organization.

President Truman, in a message to the convention, praised the plan of the American Mizrahi Organization to establish the first religious university in Israel. An educational effort which will combine the lessons of the Prophets and scientific discoveries of our own generation can make a significant contribution to the universal well-being, the President said in his message.

Dr. Churgin, addressing the 1,000 delegates, said that no effort to create a stable democratic pattern in the Middle East can possibly succeed without formal and positive amity between the Arab states and Israel. "Face-to-face negotiations, so long sought by Israel and rejected by the Arabs, offer the most certain way to achieve a harmonious balance," he declared.

The Mizrahi president criticized the American Jewish Committee and said that its recent resolution opposing the granting by Israel of a special status to the World Zionist movement represented "an unprecedented effort on the part of a single organization to dictate to the Government of Israel and one which seeks to establish the American Jewish Committee as arbiter of the heart and soul of American Jewry."

In a plea for unity within Israel, Dr. Churgin said that political leaders there can render a great service to the cause of Zionism if they adhere to a policy of not raising any issues where none exist and by steering clear of controversies which only create dissension. Dr. Churgin urged the convocation, in Israel, of representatives of all Jewish communities throughout the world to discuss problems concerning the maintenance of Judaism in lands outside of Israel.

American Jewish leadership was urged by Dr. Churgin to reduce all activities in new philanthropic projects, to concentrate on aid to Israel and to end the "tragic necessity" of maintaining thousands of immigrants in uninhabitable transit camps in the Jewish state.

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Jewish Agency executive, addressing the convention, warned of tendencies toward revised American Jewish isolationism in respect to Israel. Such tendencies, he said, have developed since the last World Zionist Congress. He emphasized that Jewish unity is now more than ever endangered by the Iron Curtain which divides not only the world but also the Jewish people. Another threat, he pointed out, was the gap that might develop between the Israeli and non-Israeli segments of the Jewish people.

Mrs. Lewis Elected President of Mizrahi Women

ATLANTIC CITY, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- Mrs. Joshua L. Lewis of New York was today elected national president of the Mizrahi Women of America at the closing session of the 26th annual convention of the organization. Mrs. Bessie Gotsfeld of Tel Aviv was elected honorary national president.

The convention also elected a national board of 55 members and adopted a number of resolutions pledging maximum aid to Israel especially in the support of welfare institutions.

WORLD SEPHARDIC BODY TO OPEN HEADQUARTERS IN PARIS, N.Y., JERUSALEM

PARIS, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- The World and European offices of the recently formed World Federation of Sephardic Communities will be established here, while a headquarters will be opened in New York for the Western Hemisphere and one in Jerusalem for Israel and the surrounding region, it was announced here today by Ascher Benroy, president of the Federation.

The European office, which will bear responsibility for North Africa, will be headed by Neville Laski, the New York office will be under Simon Nissim, and the directorship of the Israel office will be shared by Eli Eliashar and Behor Shitreet, Israeli Minister of Police. All four men are vice-presidents of the organization.

The first responsibility of the new executive, Mr. Benroy said, is the establishment of the three offices on a sound financial and administrative basis. He stressed that this must be done without competing in any manner with other Jewish organizations because the constitution of the Federation dedicates it to co-operation with all other Jewish agencies.

The new executive board includes E. Hagermeli, J. Nitzani, A. Abbass, A. Hassine, D. Arditi, Bar Haim, Zaky Chelouche, S. Sitton and A. Ganon, all of Israel; Dr. David de Sola Poole, David Cardozo and Vitalis Nahmias, of the United States; and J. Akarib and Z. Semoss of Britain. Obadiah Camhy was named secretary general and M. Habib and D. Sebag Montefiore will serve as co-treasurers.

ORT TRADE SCHOOL IN NEW YORK TO CELEBRATE TENTH ANNIVERSARY

NEW YORK, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- The 10th anniversary of the ORT Trade School here, which is providing tuition-free vocational training for refugees arriving in the United States, will be celebrated this month, it was announced today by the American ORT Federation.

More than 5,000 persons have attended the school during the ten years of its existence, the announcement said. At various times there have been former lawyers, judges, government officials, rabbis and business men. While city public schools all have entrance restrictions, the ORT school has no special entrance requirements. Immigrants from 22 countries are now enrolled in the school learning a trade with which to make an economic beginning in the United States.

The school maintains classes in drafting, jewelry making, machine shop and radio-television. Entrance is not limited to age, and one can find in the classes students aged between 15 and 70. The chief support of the school is the membership of the American and European Friends of ORT, an organization of new Americans who arrived in this country with some financial means.

MALBEN ESTABLISHES NEW HOME FOR AGED IN ISRAEL ON J. D. C. FUNDS

TEL AVIV, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- A new home for the aged was opened at Pardesia, near Nathanya, today by Malben, the Joint Distribution Committee-financed organization for rehabilitation of the sick, aged and handicapped immigrants. The new home will handle 100 recent immigrants.

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