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ISRAEL CABINET DRAFTS STATEMENT ON GERMAN REPARATIONS CLAIMS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 30. (JTA) -- The Israeli Cabinet today drafted the government's statement on its position concerning reparations from Germany. The statement will be presented to the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee Tuesday and to the full Knesset Wednesday.

A meeting of representatives of all parties in the government coalition and of all Ministers will be held before the Knesset committee session on reparations. The Cabinet also considered the worsening border situation and heard reports by Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett on the situation at the United Nations and by Ambassador Abba Eban on relations with the United States Government.

BEN GURION MISUNDERSTOOD BY AMERICAN ZIONIST LEADERS, CELLER SAYS

NEW YORK, Dec. 30. (JTA) -- Israeli Premier David Ben Gurion has declared that his statements concerning the bankruptcy of American Zionist leaders which have caused a furor in American Jewish circles were taken out of context and that consideration of his full speech would reveal neutralization of the effect of the extracted portions, Rep. Emanuel Celler today told a press conference here.

"Returning from a tour of Israel, the Congressman quoted the Premier as having said that his remarks about American Zionist leadership were "perhaps a mistake" and that he would be more careful in the future to avoid expressions which might be misunderstood. Commenting on the economic situation of Israel, the Congressman said that it was "brightening," adding that at the present time Israel was building more houses and factories than Italy and France combined.

ARAB STATES UNOFFICIALLY APPROVE PLAN FOR SETTLEMENT OF REFUGEES

LONDON, Dec. 30. (JTA) -- The governments of the Arab states have unofficially approved a \$250,000,000, three-year plan for settlement of the Palestine Arab problem, Sir Henry Knight, British member of the advisory council of the United Nations Relief and Work Agency for Palestine Arab Refugees, told a Foreign Office press conference this week-end. The Arab League, the British official said, has agreed to recommend its acceptance by the Arab states.

Under the plan presented by John Blandford, Jr., American chairman of the refugee agency, United Nations members - the Western Powers - would provide the funds needed for the operation. The Arab states would be called on to provide land for refugee resettlement schemes and labor for building homes for the refugees.

ANOTHER ISRAELI SETTLER SLAIN BY ARABS ON NORTHERN BORDER

TEL AVIV, Dec. 30. (JTA) -- A Jewish member of Kibbutz Dan, in northern Israel, was shot and killed by Arab infiltrators Friday night while seeking to recover a herd of cows stolen from the settlement's barns, it was revealed here tonight by a military spokesman. He also announced that a protest had been lodged with the Israel-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission on the incident.

The Jew was shot when a party of settlers tracked the infiltrators but were ambushed by them. The body of the murdered man was not recovered that night, but turned over to the Israeli authorities the next morning by Syrian officers.

Meanwhile, the Mixed Armistice Commission this week-end condemned as "a grave breach" of the general armistice agreement the slaying of two Israeli fishermen on Lake Kinneret last week by Syrian troops. The American chairman of the commission, Col. Samuel Taxis, voted with the Israeli members to condemn the slayings.

NEW RIGHT-WING PARTY FORMED IN ISRAEL BY FORMER STERNISTS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 30. (JTA) -- A new right-wing party, known as "Eytanim," was formed here after a mass meeting called by Dr. Israel Sheib, former deputy leader of the Stern Group. The party consists mainly of former Sternists and dissatisfied members of the Herut.

The new party will strive to re-establish the dynasty of King David in a State of Israel which will have its historic boundaries, and will seek to build a Third Temple. It was also stated that the new movement will seek the elimination of the party system in the country and the overthrow of the present regime. Also, "Eytanim" calls for the nationalization of foreign companies which now exploit Israel's natural resources.

JEWISH AGENCY, U.J.A. OPPOSE FURTHER SEPARATE DRIVES IN U.S.

JERUSALEM, Dec. 30. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency and the United Jewish Appeal are opposed to any more separate fund drives in the United States in behalf of Israel, including one by a group of American Orthodox rabbis, an Agency spokesman announced here. He added that the Agency is ready to discuss the question of assistance to Agudas Israel agricultural settlements for the coming year of Shemittah, during which the fields are permitted to lie fallow.

The government announced increases in the price of vegetables, sugar and other items today. The Ministry of Welfare also announced that it had distributed about 100,000 items of clothing to disaster victims in 56 Maabarot.

TRADITIONAL CROSS COUNTRY RUN IN ISRAEL HELD IN HONOR OF MACCABEES

TEL AVIV, Dec. 30. (JTA) -- The traditional cross country torch run in honor of the Maccabees who rose in revolt against the Graeco-Syrians more than 2,000 years ago, was held today.

Runners started from Modiin, birthplace of the revolt, and carried their torches to Rehovot, home of the President of Israel, where a youth parade was held. From there they proceeded to Jerusalem and thence to Tel Aviv, where school children paraded through the streets with lit candles and torches. In cities and towns along the way, Chanukah candles were lit from the torch ignited at Modiin.

JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS TRY TO STAY EXECUTION OF TWO IRAQI JEWS

NEW YORK, Dec. 30. (JTA) -- American Jewish organizations this week-end took steps to try to save the lives of two Iraqi Jewish youths condemned to death by Iraqi courts on charges of having bombed the American Information Center in Baghdad and a synagogue in the same city.

The American Jewish Committee announced that its representatives had discussed the trial of the two youths with the State Department. The Committee pointed out that the conviction of the youths was based on a "confession" wrung from one of them by torture and later repudiated by him in open court. It also listed a number of other irregularities involved in the trial.

The American Jewish Congress last night appealed to Prince Abdul Illah, Regent of Iraq, to stay the execution. In a message to the Regent, Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the Congress, pointed out that the reported confirmation of the death sentences by the Iraqi Supreme Court had "caused grave anxiety here."

(In London, meanwhile, the World Jewish Congress has submitted additional documentation concerning the Baghdad trial to the British Foreign Office. A. L. Easterman, political director of the W. J. C., voiced the hope that the British Government would find it possible to prevent the carrying out of the executions.)

FLORIDA KU KLUX KLAN DENIES RESPONSIBILITY FOR MIAMI BOMBINGS

MIAMI, Florida, Dec. 30. (JTA)-- The Florida Ku Klux Klan last night disavowed the recent bombings of Jewish, Negro and Catholic homes and institutions. At a full Klan meeting held around a burning cross, Klan speakers criticized the recent wave of terrorism and Bill Hendrix, Florida Grand Dragon of the organization, said that the Klan had not been involved in the planting of dynamite at Jewish synagogues, a Catholic church and Negro homes.

Benjamin R. Epstein and Arnold Forster, national director and chief legal counsel, respectively, of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, who are here investigating the bombings, this week-end expressed the opinion that "while racial and religious prejudice underlies the outrages, the same criminals are not involved in all incidents." Although the A. D. L. officials doubted that a "concerted conspiracy" existed, they said that the "pattern of violence derives from basic ingrained racial and religious prejudices that must be eradicated."

Attorney General J. Howard McGrath said this week-end that every F. B. I. facility is being utilized to the "fullest extent" in investigating the terror bombings in Florida. He said the "investigation is in progress and every facility of the F. B. I., its field offices, and its laboratory is being utilized to the fullest extent."

LONDON POLICE ASKED FOR PROTECTION AGAINST ANTI-JEWISH HOOLIGANS

LONDON, Dec. 30. (JTA) -- London police have been asked to provide additional protection to Jewish youths in the borough of Hackney at night, it was reported today.

During the last few months, a number of attacks have been made on members of Jewish youth organizations in this area by bands of hooligans. The Hackney Council plans to send reports of the attacks to the Home Secretary.

PROF. MARTIN BUBER ACCEPTS UNIVERSITY OF HAMBURG AWARD

NEW YORK, Dec. 30. (JTA) -- Professor Martin Buber, noted Jewish philosopher and scholar, today announced that he had accepted the annual Goethe Prize which the University of Hamburg recently awarded him and that he had specified that the monetary award attached to the prize should go "for the furtherance of works and undertakings in Israel serving the cause of a new national-supernational humanity." Prof. Buber announced his decision in the following statement, issued through the Jewish Telegraphic Agency:

"I have been asked from so many sides about my attitude toward the Goethe Prize which the University of Hamburg has awarded me that I feel induced to make some public statement concerning it.

"The Rector of the University of Hamburg, Professor Bruno Snell, has communicated to me that the prize, which was founded recently 'for the furtherance of supernational feeling and humanitarian striving in the spirit of Goethe,' has been awarded to me in recognition of my scholarly work, and above all, of my 'activity in the spirit of a true humanity' as 'an exemplary cultural activity which serves the mutual understanding of men and the preservation and continuation of a high spiritual tradition.'

"I recognized immediately that here is an expression of a genuine inner struggle in the life of a people. That such a struggle existed in the German people even at the time of Hitler, though it did not then come to public knowledge, is witnessed not only by many brave acts for the protection of Jewish life and property but also by a series of actual martyrdoms of which I have knowledge. Now this struggle has become a public one which is being fought out between humanity and anti-humanity in the public opinion of Germany itself. How unsparing the self-criticism practiced on the side of the first (humanity) is, may be witnessed by the following excerpt from a letter of a leading German theologian, which is only one of many statements of this kind that I have received: 'The monstrous blood-guilt of my people toward Israel lies on me daily as a heavy burden. That only by an unaccountable miracle I escaped the death that threatened me because of my attitude, does not alter this in any way.'

"Under these circumstances the question which the award of the Prize and the motivation for the award posed for me was simply this: whether through an intransigent refusal I should declare to the fighters for humanity that I cast them together with their extreme adversaries and even with the mass-murderers themselves and thereby reject them, or whether I should through accepting recognize and strengthen them in their fight. I have chosen this second way and have elucidated my reason for so doing by emphasizing two things in my answer to the University of Hamburg: first, that the new humanity 'arising out of the anti-human Chaos' must prove itself 'in the inner struggle of each people' in which it arises and, second, that I see in the University of Hamburg's act of awarding the prize a manifestation which is more than personal, and a symbolic confession and accept it as such.

"I have designated the monetary award that goes with the Prize for the furtherance of works and undertakings in Israel serving the cause of a new national-supernational humanity."

MIZRACHI MID-WEST PARLEY PLEDGES SALE OF \$10,000,000 IN ISRAEL BONDS

CHICAGO, Dec. 30. (JTA) -- The three-day mid-western convention of the Mizrahi Organization concluded here today with the adoption of a resolution proposed by the national organization for the sale of \$10,000,000 in Israeli bonds by the religious Zionist organization in 1952. The parley, which was attended by 200 delegates from 16 states in the mid-west, also adopted the national budget of \$2,500,000 for next year.

Dr. Pinkhos Churgin, president of the Mizrahi Organization, a major speaker at the week-end's deliberations, attacked Premier David Ben Gurion's criticism of American Zionist leadership as "bankrupt." He called Ben Gurion's statement a "retarding factor" and insisted that the Israel Government's "apathetic attitude" has discouraged many American scientists, engineers and technicians who had offered to go to Israel.

After hearing Rabbi Mordecai Kirshblum, national vice-president, speak on the proposed Bar-Ilan University in Israel, which the Mizrahi is building, the delegates pledged an initial contribution of \$1,000,000 in 1952. Rabbi Kirshblum said that the institution would be the only religious Hebrew university training facilities for engineers, scientists, doctors, dentists, nurses agriculturalists, chemists and many other specialized professions.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY IN JERUSALEM HOLDS 21ST COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

JERUSALEM, Dec. 30. (JTA) -- The 21st graduation exercises of the Hebrew University were marked here this week-end, with the new Minister of Education, Prof. Ben Zion Dinaburg, in attendance. The largest number of degrees in the University's history was conferred.

These included 103 degrees in the humanities, 48 in science, 18 in agriculture and 16 doctorates. The University to date has awarded 11,077 master's degrees and 103 doctorates. Moshe Schwabe, Rector of the University, declared in an address that despite the lack of proper premises (the University facilities on Mt. Scopus are inaccessible because the road leading to it is in Arab Legion hands), normal instruction has been carried out. He also cited the lack of books, foreign exchange and adequate housing for the students.

WIDE-SPREAD INTEREST AND ENROLLMENT IN HEBREW COURSES CITED

NEW YORK, Dec. 30. (JTA) -- A widespread interest and increased enrollment in the study of Hebrew in American colleges and universities was reported here this week-end by Professor Abraham I. Katsh of New York University, who was re-elected president of the National Association of Professors of Hebrew in American Institutions of Higher Learning at the Association's second annual convention here. In his annual report to 206 instructors and Professors of Hebrew, gathered at the meeting, Professor Katsh pointed out that 232 colleges, universities and theological schools are now teaching Hebrew as a Semitic or modern language. He added that 8,503 students are enrolled in 587 courses taught in the schools.

BRANDEIS FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES \$50,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS

NEW YORK, Dec. 30. (JTA) -- Scholarships totalling \$50,000 and enabling 100 Jewish youths from communities throughout the country to engage in an intensive program of leadership training in American-Jewish communal affairs, were announced at a Reunion Institute here this week-end, sponsored by the Brandeis Youth Foundation. Louis Levine of Leominster, Massachusetts, president of the Foundation, made the announcement in a message to the Institute.

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1951