JACOB LANDAU, FOUNDER OF JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY, DIES IN N.Y.

NEW YORK, Jan. 31, (JTA) -- Jacob Landau, founder of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and its managing director until his retirement last July, died suddenly today in a New York hotel following a heart attack. He was 59 years old.

A native of Austria, he studied at the University of Vienna and participated actively in the Zionist student movement there. In 1917, he--with the help of a small group of friends--established the world's first Jewish news agency at The Hague, primarily to serve as a channel in presenting the Jewish case to the world. The agency, then known as the Jewish Correspondence Bureau, reached a wide audience on both sides of the war front as well as in neutral lands and succeeded in creating a strong body of sentiment in favor of Jewish claims.

After World War I, Jacob Landau, in association with Meir Grossman, re-established the agency in London as a world-wide news service under the name of Jewish Telegraphic Agency. Offices were established in Paris, Warsaw, Berlin and New York. The Palestine Telegraphic Agency, now the Israel News Agency, was established in Jerusalem. JTA news was carried by the major world news agencies.

Mr. Landau transferred his headquarters to New York in the early twenties and New York became the central point of the JTA system which was subsequently extended to Latin America and South Africa. The agency soon acquired the status of a primary source of Jewish information for the general press as well as for the Jewish press and community.

As managing director of JTA, Mr. Landau's duties took him to all parts of the world and resulted in close associations with leading statesmen in many countries, including the late President Masaryk of Czechoslovakia, Aristide Briand of France and General Jan C. Smuts of South Africa. Mr. Landau succeeded in securing the support and participation of many outstanding Jewish personalities for the JTA.

The JTA was the world's major source of information on the 1929 riots in Palestine and on the Hitlerite persecution of the Jews in Germany from 1933 to 1940 when the Nazis banned its operations there. The JTA first revealed to the world the systematic extermination of the Jews by the Nazis during World War II.

During World War II, Mr. Landau took an active part in organizing and launching the Overseas News Agency, a general news agency devoted to strengthening the
Allied position and the democratic front throughout the world. The ONA, which he served as managing director, worked in close association with the JTA until their separation in 1949.

Funeral services are being arranged for Sunday from the Riverside Memorial Chapel.

LOUIS P. ROCKER, JTA PRESIDENT, PAYS TRIBUTE TO LANDAU

NEW YORK, Jan. 31. (JTA) — Louis P. Rocker, president of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, issued the following statement on the death of Mr. Landau: "The JTA mourns the untimely passing of Jacob Landau who until recently served as its executive head. Mr. Landau founded the JTA in 1917 and continued actively in its direction until his recent retirement from the service. He developed the JTA and its subsidiary services and has rendered a distinguished service in the field of Jewish news and to the Jewish community as a whole."

DR. GOLDMANN CLARIFIES STAND ON USE OF GERMAN REPARATIONS FUNDS

NEW YORK, Jan. 31. (JTA) — Dr. Nahum Goldmann today denied that at his press conference yesterday on the issue of reparations from Germany he said that a small percentage of the claims received by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany would be reserved for welfare purposes of German-Jewish victims of Nazism still living in Germany. He also denied saying that a token amount might be reserved for the purpose of some of the organizations represented in the Conference.

"What I did say was that a minor part should be used to help German-Jewish victims of Nazism residing outside Israel, while the major part should be used for work in Israel," Dr. Goldmann said in his statement today.

SPECIAL EXCHANGE RATE TO BE SET FOR DOLLARS CONTRIBUTED TO ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Jan. 31. (JTA) — A special mixed commission of representatives of the Israel Government and the Jewish Agency is working out a special dollar-pound exchange rate for funds raised by the Agency and the national fund-raising institutions abroad, a Jewish Agency spokesman revealed here today. He expressed the hope that the commission would reach agreement next week.

He also announced that the Zionist Actions Committee would meet in Jerusalem March 13 and that the question of reparations from Germany and the appointment of a new Agency comptroller have been placed on the agenda. He revealed that the reports of Dr. Emil Schmorak, former comptroller, and of an Agency commission—both of which deal with Agency administration and finances—would be ready for publication within ten days, but he added that the final decision on a publication date would be made by the praesidium of the Actions Committee, which will meet here February 6.

ARMISTICE UNIT ACTS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS ON ISRAEL-JORDAN BORDER

JERUSALEM, Jan. 31. (JTA) — Measures aimed at improving relations along the Israel-Jordan borders and at curbing infiltration across frontiers were adopted here today at a meeting of the Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission.

It was decided that local military commanders and police representatives of both countries would meet on the armistice line daily to discuss every incident right on the spot. Orders will also be issued to troops to avoid red tape and delay in returning any stolen property recovered by the police units of either nation. During the period when this arrangement is tested a mobile MAC delegation will participate in meetings of local commanders.
TRIPOLITANIAN JEWISH COMMUNITY LIQUIDATED; ONLY 1,300 JEWS REMAIN

JERUSALEM, Jan. 31. (JTA) -- The completion of the Tripolitania immigration and the virtual liquidation of the Tripolitania Jewish community was announced here today by Itzhak Raphael, Jewish Agency immigration director. The arrival of 60 immigrants from Tripoli yesterday marked the end of organized immigration.

Mr. Raphael revealed that over 31,000 Jews came to Israel from the North African country in the past two years. Only 800 wealthy Jews who have been unable to liquidate their assets remain, together with some 500 aged and sick Jews who have no relatives in Israel and will receive care provided by the local community and the Joint Distribution Committee.

The Agency official denied reports that immigration from Hungary would decrease. He said that only 3,500 immigrants had arrived in Israel from all countries his month and that only 3,000 would arrive next month. He attributed this drop to a number of factors: the normal decrease during the winter months; an unexpected decrease from Rumania, from which only 2,000 of an anticipated 6,000 arrived this month; and the fact that some North African immigrants need more medical care before setting out on the journey to the Jewish State. He also expressed hope that Rumanian immigrants will increase in number in the next few weeks.

At a meeting of the Agency yesterday, Mr. Raphael reported on the general immigration picture, with special stress on the Tunisian situation. The Agency decided to take steps to hasten immigration from countries where political developments threaten the local Jewish communities. This problem will be placed before the Agency-government immigration coordination board.

JEW ASKS TURKISH PARLIAMENT FOR REDRESS OF DISCRIMINATORY TAX

ISTANBUL, Jan. 31. (JTA) -- A Turkish Jew who was the largest single victim of the discriminatory "tax on capital" imposed in Turkey in 1942 has applied to the Turkish National Assembly for redress. This is the first time in Turkish Parliamentary history that a Jew has applied to Parliament to obtain his rights.

The applicant is Leon Tarantao who owned a large factory and who was taxed 2,000,000 Turkish pounds. He is presently trying to recover this tax. The Turkish press is generally very critical of his action.

TUNISIA UNREST IMPERILS 100,000 JEWS, DR. GOLDMANN REPORTS

NEW YORK, Jan. 31. (JTA) -- More than 100,000 Jews in Tunisia are imperiled by political unrest now sweeping that country, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Jewish Agency executive, declared today.

In a statement issued here, he declared that reports received from Agency emissaries in Tunisia "leave no doubt as to the urgency of the situation." The statement added that plans for "accelerating the emigration of Tunisian Jews are now being drawn up by the Jewish Agency."

Even before the recent outbreak of fighting between the Arabs and the French, Dr. Goldmann said, the Jews of Tunisia had been on the "critical list of Jewish communities whose present plight and uncertain future entitle them to high priority among those being moved to Israel." The Jewish Agency had originally planned to move Tunisian Jews to Israel at a more gradual pace, he declared.
BIG POWERS TO HOLD FULL-SCALE DISCUSSION ON MIDDLE EAST

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31. (JTA) -- A full-scale discussion of problems of the Middle East will be held by Secretary of State Dean Acheson with the British and French Foreign Ministers in London or Paris within the next two weeks, it was learned today.

IMPROVED RELATIONS BETWEEN POLICE AND PUBLIC SOUGHT IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Jan. 31. (JTA) -- The establishment of a public organization to improve relations between the police and the public was advocated in the Knesset today by the chairman of the Internal Affairs Committee of Parliament.

He also asked Parliament to grant top priority to the construction of a central prison at Ramleh because of the "terrible congestion" in the existing jails. The government's proposed capital developments budget was referred to the Parliamentary Finance Committee for study.

(The Associated Press today reported from Tel Aviv that a number of judges in Israel angered at the Minister of Justice, have announced a "precautionary strike" during which they will not impose any sentences. The judges complained about a recent speech in the Knesset by Justice Minister Dov Joseph, who said that "Israeli courts are too lenient in sentences, some of which are an insult to the law."

JEWISH AGENCY REPORTS EXPANSION OF ITS ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT

JERUSALEM, Jan. 31. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency today announced that since the arrival of Dr. Emanuel Neumann from the United States to take over direction of the Agency's economic department here, the department has enlarged the scope of its activities, particularly in the field of investments. The announcement added that Dr. Neumann was leaving today for London and the United States and would return to Israel early in March.

The announcement revealed that Dr. Neumann has conferred with Premier David Ben Gurion, Finance Minister Eliezer Kaplan, Trade and Industry Minister Dov Joseph and other high government officials, as well as with officers of the government-sponsored Investment Center to coordinate the Government and Agency campaigns to encourage investment in the Jewish State. He also conferred with leading industrialists and has worked out plans for the mobilization of capital abroad.

Arrangements have been completed for the establishment of 15 vocational schools in Israel, Dr. Sidney Marks, executive director of the Zionist Organization of America, revealed here today on the eve of his return to the United States.

He disclosed that three of the schools will be opened in Jaffa, with the cooperation of the women's section of the Israeli General Zionist Party; two schools for ceramics and needle work will be located in Jerusalem; a machine repair school at Pardess Hannah; two carpentry schools at Kfar Glickson and Gedera; a welding and mechanical school at Beit Itzhak; a school for leather trades at Magdiel; an electrical institute at Nitzanim; and a beauticians' school at Haifa. In addition, arrangements were concluded for the establishment of schools for teaching tapestry work and radio mechanics and a business administration college.
J.T.A. News  -  5  -  2/1/52

300 JEWS IMPRISONED IN IRAQ CONCENTRATION CAMPS, JEWISH AGENCY SAYS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 31. (JTA) -- Approximately 300 Jews are imprisoned in concentration camps in Iraq, a spokesman for the Jewish Agency reported here today. He said that about 125,000 Iraq Jews arrived in Israel during the last two years. Approximately 10,000 Jews are still in Iraq, he estimated.

(In New York, police were alerted today by an anonymous warning that a bomb had been planted in the Iraqi Consulate here to explode at 9:18 A.M. in retaliation for the hanging of two Jewish youths in Baghdad. Letters containing similar warnings were received by New York newspapers. The letter was signed "Magen Haam," an organization the existence of which is not known in this country. No explosion occurred at the Consulate.)

$2,616,000 FOR ISRAEL BONDS RAISED AT EDDIE CANTOR DINNER IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Jan. 31. (JTA) -- A total of $2,616,000 in Israel bonds was sold here tonight at a dinner tendered to Eddie Cantor, noted Jewish actor, on the occasion of his 60th birthday. More than 1,700 guests attended the affair at the Hotel Commodore. Admission was by purchase of $1,000 or more in Israeli bonds.

The actual cost of the birthday dinner was defrayed by a group of Mr. Cantor's personal friends, enabling all of the $2,616,000 realized from the sale of the bonds to go for the economic development of Israel, it was announced by Rudolf G. Sonneborn, president of the American Financial and Development Corporation for Israel, which directs the sale of Israel bonds in the United States.

Tribute was paid to Mr. Cantor for his many humanitarian activities by Vice-President Alben W. Barkley. In behalf of the Israel bond drive, Vice President Barkley presented Mr. Cantor with a gold relief plaque of a map of Israel. The plaque bore the following inscription: "In tribute to Eddie Cantor - his life has been a noble testament of devotion and self-sacrifice for the Jewish people and all mankind. His towering achievements for Israel have been an inspiration and a beacon to all American Jews. On his 60th birthday we acknowledge a deep debt of gratitude to and warm affection for a truly great human being, whose boundless energy has enriched all American life, regardless of race, creed or color."

David Goltein, Acting Israel Ambassador to the United States, hailed Mr. Cantor as a "builder of Israel." He presented to Mr. Cantor an engraved cable from Prime Minister David Ben Gurion of Israel which read: "People are gathered here in Israel from the ends of the earth to rejoice in your sixtieth birthday. They have with good reason taken you to their hearts, because your heart is so rich in humor and humanity. Wish you long years so you may continue to dispense both humor and humanity as generously as before and thus witness the growth of a productive Israel to which you have devoted such efforts."

LAST ISSUE OF "ZIONIST REVIEW" OF BRITAIN APPEARS TODAY

LONDON, Jan. 31. (JTA) -- The last issue of the Zionist Review, official publication of the Zionist Federation of Britain, will appear here tomorrow. The 35-year-old publication will be replaced by a new magazine entitled "Jewish Observer and Middle East Review." It will be edited by Jon Kimche.
CONGRESS GETS RESOLUTION OF CONCERN OVER FLORIDA BOMBINGS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31. (JTA) — A resolution expressing Congress' concern over the recent series of anti-minority bombings in Florida was introduced into the House of Representatives today by Congressman John F. Kennedy. The resolution, addressed to President Truman, was referred to the House Judiciary Committee.

The resolution would express the desire of the House that the President investigate fully the acts of terrorism in Florida, and that he utilize all means at his disposal to prosecute those who committed the acts and to prevent the recurrence of such incidents.

WORLD-WIDE OSE ACTIVITIES REVIEWED BY DELEGATION IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Jan. 31. (JTA) — An impressive picture of OSE activity in the field of Jewish health work in Israel, North Africa, Latin America and other parts of the world was presented at a press conference here today by Abel Shaban, noted South African Jewish leader and head of an OSE delegation which arrived in this country for talks with the J.D.C., Jewish Agency and other central Jewish organizations engaged in relief and rehabilitation work.

Mr. Shaban reported that the OSE now maintains 188 institutions in which more than 73,000 persons received medical aid last year. He reviewed the work of some of these institutions and said that the purpose of his delegation is to acquaint American Jewry with the world-wide activities of the OSE, which has been in existence for 40 years.

Emphasizing that the budget of all OSE institutions amounts to more than $1,000,000 a year, Mr. Shaban said that part of it is covered by the Government of Israel and by the larger Jewish relief organizations. He lauded the J.D.C. for the financial aid it has given to the OSE for a number of years, and added that he expects further interest on the part of the J.D.C. in strengthening the OSE.

Dr. Joseph Shatkai, Israeli member of the OSE delegation, reported at the press conference on the role which the OSE health institutions play in helping in the absorption of newcomers to the Jewish State. Most of the children arriving from Moslem countries are in need of medical care, he said, adding that the Ministry of Health in Israel greatly appreciates OSE work in this field. Prof. Jose Matusewitch of Buenos Aires, another member of the delegation, reported on the OSE work in Argentina with particular emphasis on the Jewish nursing school maintained there by OSE.

U.S. AMBASSADOR, MEXICAN FOREIGN MINISTER ATTEND ISRAEL RECEPTION

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 31. (JTA) — Foreign Minister Manuel Tello of Mexico, U.S. Ambassador William O'Dwyer and other dignitaries were among the guests of the Israel Consulate here at a reception tendered by Dr. Adolfo Fastlicht, honorary consul of Israel in Mexico. Earlier, Foreign Minister Tello received Dr. Fastlicht in his office and discussed various matters concerning Israeli-Mexican relations.

RASSCO CORPORATION FORMED IN LOS ANGELES TO AID ISRAEL HOUSING

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 31. (JTA) — The Rassco Development Company of Los Angeles was formed here this week to aid the Rassco Corporation of Israel in the development of a housing project in Nahariya, Israeli seaside resort town. The Los Angeles company was formed in response to an appeal issued at a reception here in honor of Isaac Imber, a vice-president of the Israeli corporation.