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ISRAEL CABINET DISCUSSES ECONOMIC SITUATION; KAPLAN SOUNDS WARNING

JERUSALEM, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- For the second successive week the Israel Cabinet devoted an entire session to the country's economic problems. Also, as occurred last week, the Cabinet met in a separate session to discuss other matters, including preparations for the negotiations with the Germans and current developments in the Middle East as well as specific Israel-Arab relations.

Speaking before a group of representatives from kibbutzim from all parts of the country, Finance Minister Eliezer Kaplan today warned of the dangers confronting the Israeli economy and the state itself if it cannot reach economic independence, which he defined as the ability to produce all that it needs.

He asserted that in order for the country to achieve economic independence within the next eight to ten years, special efforts must be made to attract capital investments, credits must be controlled, wages must be tied to production and the standard of living must be lowered.

Meanwhile, the price of bread rose eight percent this week-end and white flour went up five percent as a result of the withdrawal of a portion of the government bread and flour subsidy. The new prices will also reflect increased labor costs and profits.

EBAN URGES FRENCH JEWS TO BACK REPARATIONS TALKS WITH GERMANY

PARIS, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- Abba S. Eban, Israel's chief delegate to the United Nations General Assembly, which is currently meeting here, today urged the heads of the major Jewish organizations in France to support Israel's policy of negotiating directly with the Germans for payment of its reparations claims. Ambassador Eban made his plea at a meeting with the heads of the organizations which for the past few weeks have been debating this point without reaching a decision.

The Israeli diplomat pointed out that the Israel Government and its representatives in the U. N. had repeatedly warned against the granting of sovereignty to Germany before it had rehabilitated itself and made amends. However, he added, "we do not see any contradiction between this attitude and that of being willing to treat with Germany on reparations. Germany has certain world obligations which it must meet before it is returned to complete sovereignty and this is definitely one of them."

Later, Mr. Eban addressed a meeting of French Jewish leaders launching a united appeal for Israel. The 1952 goal of French Jewry will be 360,000,000 francs, three times as much as last year's quota. In his address to the fund-raising meeting, Ambassador Eban paid tribute to the American Jewish community for its financial efforts in behalf of the Jewish State.

S. JEWISH LEADERS PLEDGE TO SELL \$200,000,000 IN ISRAEL BONDS

MIAMI BEACH, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- A resolution to sell \$200,000,000 in Israel bonds in the United States in 1952 was adopted here today at a National Planning conference for Israel, sponsored by the Israel bond campaign organization. Over 100 leaders of the campaign from various parts of the country attended.

Vice President Alben W. Barkley, the featured speaker, declared that he was convinced that were Israel given the tools and the resources it would "quickly emerge as a great tower of strength for those ideals and principles of human liberty and human dignity which are the cornerstones of our great republic. In helping Israel to help herself, we are helping ourselves and fortifying the defense of democracy everywhere."

Henry Morgenthau, chairman of the Board of Governors of the Bond Drive, asserted that "the Israel bond issue is the greatest single instrument for the economic future of the country. It is also the most significant symbol of the will of the people of Israel to make their own way and gain a position of economic independence as quickly as possible." Other speakers included Secretary of the Interior Oscar Chapman, Federal Judge Luther W. Youngdahl, Yaacov Shapiro, member of the Israeli Parliament, and Henry Montor, chief executive officer of the bond drive.

One of the highlights of the conference was the presentation of a gold plaque to Joseph Cherner of Washington who, with the purchase of a total of \$750,000 in Israel bonds, is the single largest holder of these securities in this country.

MAPAM CIRCLES BEGIN HUNT FOR ISRAELI REPORTED MISSING FROM PRAGUE

TEL AVIV, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- Mapam circles in this country have begun inquiries into the disappearance of Mordechai Oren, a leader of the left-wing Socialist Party, who has not been heard from in four weeks after his arrival in Prague. Oren, who was a representative to the Berlin Trade Union Conference sponsored by the Communists, is known as a supporter of the Cominform.

Although it was reported here today that Israeli legations in Eastern Europe had begun investigating the whereabouts of Oren, the Israeli Foreign Ministry said it had no information concerning the reported arrest. Mapam leader Dr. Moshe Sneh stated that the report was unfounded.

An account of Oren's disappearance published by the newspaper Maariv said that he left Paris for Prague four weeks ago after hearing that a cousin of his, Shimon Oren, had been arrested in Prague during a purge of the Czechoslovak Foreign Trade Ministry. Shimon Oren was formerly a deputy trade attaché at the Israel legation in Prague.

Members of Kibbutz Mizra, where Oren lives, insist that his disappearance is connected with a family tragedy. Some members of the settlement assert that he will return soon.

VATICAN ENVOY ARRIVES IN ISRAEL; REPORTED ON SPECIAL MISSION

TEL AVIV, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- Gustavo Gesta, a special envoy of the Holy See, arrived in Israel this morning with a Vatican diplomatic passport. It was reported that his visit is connected with a special mission from the Vatican.

CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE TO JEWISH PROPERTY REPORTED IN CAIRO

LONDON, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- Considerable damage was done to Jewish property in Cairo during last week's riots, incomplete reports reaching here from Egypt said. Some Jewish-owned buildings and shops were destroyed by the rioters.

EGYPTIAN KING CONSIDERED TO COMMAND MIDDLE EAST DEFENSE FORCES

LONDON, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- King Farouk of Egypt may be the first Commander-in-Chief of the combined Western-Egyptian forces in the Suez Canal area under the Western-sponsored Middle East Defense Command, the Sunday Chronicle reported today. The newspaper said that this point would be included in the proposal Britain intends to make to Egypt after the restoration of order in that country.

Several other London newspapers today reported similar possibilities. They suggested that the new British proposals would offer the withdrawal of all but a token British force from the Canal zone area, handing over its defense to Egypt.

ARAB DELEGATE AT U.N. DENIES SYRIA THREATENED ISRAEL WITH WAR

PARIS, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- Syrian delegate Ahmad Shukeiri denied during the week-end that he had threatened Israel with destruction, as charged in an Israel note to the United Nations Security Council. The Syrian delegate said that the Israel complaint to the Council was full of "misquotations."

Shukeiri said that Israel's existence was "anyway melting away" and that there was no need for a war to achieve the new state's downfall. He set the date for the Jewish State's collapse as 1955, when, he said, the United Nations will have to "appoint a Jewish commissioner" to administer the country, since it would be liquidated "economically and politically." He carried his prediction one step further by expressing the opinion that the U.N. Commissioner would recommend the setting up of a "free and independent Palestine, where Moslems, Christians and Jews would be equally represented."

ISRAELI KILLED BY SYRIANS WHILE ACCOMPANYING U.N. OBSERVER

TEL AVIV, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- A Jewish settler in the Lake Huleh region was shot and killed yesterday when he and a United Nations truce observer were fired upon from ambush as they approached the Syrian border in search of a party of Israeli fishermen believed kidnapped by the Syrians. The U.N. observer, who was unhurt, had been called to the scene after a search party from the Jewish settlement of Kfar Houlatat found two empty fishing boats on the eastern shores of Lake Huleh.

The three fishermen, like the murdered man, were members of Kfar Houlatat. They disappeared while fishing on the lake Friday. The latest reports from the settlement today said that contact had not yet been established with the Syrian forces in the area.

Israeli troop patrols along the Jewish State's borders killed 12 Arab infiltrators, wounded two others and captured 46 during the past two weeks, a military spokesman announced here today.

ISRAEL CONTRIBUTED \$95,000 WORTH OF SUPPLIES TO KOREAN CAMPAIGN

PARIS, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- Israel and Lebanon are the only Middle East countries that have made contributions to the United Nations campaign in Korea, U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie reported this week-end.

Israel gave \$63,000 worth of medical supplies to the U.N. forces in Korea while Lebanon contributed \$50,000 worth of goods. Israel also turned over about \$32,000 worth of citrus products to the U.N. in Korea.

CONFERENCE ON JEWISH CLAIMS AGAINST GERMANY NAMES PRAESIDIUM

NEW YORK, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- A five-man praesidium has been chosen to direct the day-to-day activities of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, it was announced here today. Its members are Jacob Binstein, Frank Goldmann, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Dr. Israel Goldstein and Adolph Feld. Dr. Goldmann will be the presiding officer of the praesidium.

The praesidium was chosen by the executive committee of the Conference and is to maintain close consultation with the European members of the executive. It was charged with the responsibility of taking all steps necessary for conducting negotiations in behalf of the Conference in cooperation with the representatives of the Government of Israel.

The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany is composed of representatives of American and overseas Jewish organizations. At a meeting of its policy committee in New York on January 20, the Conference pledged its full support of the claims of the Government of Israel against Germany. It also announced its intention "to press for full satisfaction of all other Jewish material claims against Germany, including the claims of individuals for restitution and indemnification and of organizations with respect to heirless and unclaimed property."

\$2,000,000 SPENT BY J. D. C. FOR MATERIAL FOR MALBEN INSTITUTIONS

NEW YORK, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- The Joint Distribution Committee spent more than \$2,000,000 during 1951 in countries outside of Israel to meet the needs of thousands of aged, ill and handicapped immigrants in the Jewish State, it was reported today by Moses A. Leavitt, J. D. C. executive vice-chairman. The J. D. C.'s Malben budget for 1951 on behalf of "hard core" newcomers to Israel--was \$8,000,000. This year the J. D. C. will spend nearly \$10,000,000.

To build and equip Malben's network of 85 tuberculosis sanatoria, hospitals, clinics, dispensaries and other institutions in Israel, J. D. C. agents have scoured the world's markets for structural steel, cement, timber, electrical wiring and pipe. For Malben's "Village for the Blind"--a unique community in which 100 sightless family-heads have been helped to become self-supporting--J. D. C. has purchased dried sea-grass from Hong Kong, used by the blind to stuff mattresses; raffia from Madagascar and rope yarn from India for weaving mats.

The J. D. C. has bought specially-equipped bicycles in Great Britain for use in physical therapy centers; sponge in Tunisia for its custodial care centers; and kegs of nails in the United States for its carpentry project, one of a dozen rehabilitation schemes aimed at training handicapped immigrants for lives of usefulness and self-support, the report said.

ORT RATIFIES \$1,000,000 PACT WITH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

NEW YORK, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- The board of directors of the American CRT Federation today announced that it had ratified the ORT agreement with the Joint Distribution Committee by which the latter agreed to support vocational training programs in Europe, North Africa and Iran up to \$1,000,000 during 1952.

In a special resolution, the directors noted that the warm cooperation between the O. R. T. and the J. D. C. for the past five years has resulted in "maximum effectiveness and the absence of duplicating fund-raising activities" with concomitant benefits to American Jewry and those overseas who are the beneficiaries of its generosity. However, the meeting took note of the fact that no American philanthropic dollars have been assigned to the O. R. T.'s school network in Israel in the J. D. C. pact.

U.S. ARMY BARS JEWISH WORKERS FROM BASES IN MOSLEM COUNTRIES

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- Maj. Gen. G. L. Nold, Deputy Chief of Army Engineers, told the Senate Preparedness Subcommittee that the Army considers it undesirable to hire American Jews to work on bases in North Africa because Jewish construction workers might offend the Arabs.

For this reason, some 20,000 unemployed construction men in New York were by-passed for such jobs in Morocco and elsewhere. The New York State Employment Service said it would not screen out Jews, while officials in Minnesota cooperated with the Army's request, Gen. Nold said.

Chairman Lyndon B. Johnson of the subcommittee charged that the Army permitted construction costs to increase by letting a New York contractor advertise in places as far away as Alaska for workers for a job in Turkey although plenty of eligible workers were available in New York. The New Yorkers, however, were considered by the Army to be undesirable because many were Jewish. A result of the situation has been extra cost to the government in recruiting workers in inland cities and paying their transportation to New York and other East Coast ports.

IMMIGRATION BILLS NOW BEFORE CONGRESS TERMED "NUREMBERG LAW"

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- American immigration legislation was described today by Displaced Persons Commissioner Harry N. Rosenfield as "America's Nuremberg Law" in an address before the Bethesda Chevy Chase Jewish Forum. The Commissioner warned that the McCarran-Walter immigration bills now before Congress "would make it possible to expel people who have been living here for 50 years, without giving a reason."

He described the National Origins Act as a "Nuremberg" law and called it "racist, un-American and vicious." Of the McCarran-Walter legislation now before Congress, Mr. Rosenfield said: "Men of good will should stand up and fight it." He said he would call it the "omnibus anti-immigration law." He warned that the McCarran Bill would pass before the end of this session.

REPRESENTATIVES OF 60 GROUPS IN MIAMI AREA MEET TO END TERROR

MIAMI, Florida, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- Representatives of 60 leading organizations of all faiths and racial backgrounds met here this week-end in a community-wide effort to better racial and religious group relations in the wake of the recent terror bombings of synagogues, Negro homes and a Catholic Church in the Miami area. Among the leading citizens represented in the group is E. Herman Fisher, president of the Coral Gables Jewish Center.

In an introductory statement, the organizing committee for what is proposed as a Dade County Council on Community Relations said that the name of Miami had fallen into "ill repute" because of the bombings and attempted bombings. "As a result of acts such as bombings, Miami has experienced a public reaction of shame and a determination that these events shall not occur again and that the community must work at eliminating many possible causes of unrest and disharmony," the statement declared.

B'NAI B'RITH ACTIVITIES REVIEWED AT EXECUTIVE PARLEY IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- President Frank Goldman of B'nai B'rith reported today at the annual meeting of the organization's executive committee that B'nai B'rith is expanding its activities on behalf of the armed services of the United States and the general defense effort, making progress on a program of aid to Israel, and rehabilitating lodges in Europe.

Mr. Goldman said the contributions of the B'nai B'rith to the armed services included the shipment of books to Korea and to patients in veterans hospitals, the donation of blood by B'nai B'rith members, purchase of 406 major items of equipment for military and veterans hospitals, and other services.

A rehabilitation center for disabled veterans of the Israel Army has been functioning for several weeks and will be completed in the coming months, Mr. Goldmann reported. The project includes a training school and workshops. He also reported the completion of negotiations for the purchase of a site in the suburbs of Jerusalem for the construction of a childrens' home costing \$200,000 and the purchase of the former Swiss Consulate in Jerusalem for use as a Hillel Foundation for the Hebrew University.

The B'nai B'rith president said that efforts have been made to rehabilitate the B'nai B'rith organizations in countries where 12 new lodges have been established, including France, Belgium, Sweden, Switzerland, Luxembourg, and the United Kingdom. New lodges were organized in Mexico, Ecuador, Chile, Argentina, Rhodesia, and Australia. Guests at the meeting included Prof. Abraham H. Fraenkel, president of B'nai B'rith in Israel and Jack Morrison, president of B'nai B'rith in Great Britain.

LANDAU BURIED IN NEW YORK; RABBI NEWMAN DELIVERS EULOGY

NEW YORK, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- More than 300 people today participated in the funeral services held for Jacob Landau, former managing director of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, who died here last Thursday at the age of 59. Mr. Landau was buried at the Old Montefiore Cemetery of the Verband--the Jewish National Workers Alliance.

Rabbi Louis I. Newman, of Temple Rodef Sholom, delivered the eulogy. He emphasized the role which Mr. Landau played in developing the Jewish Telegraphic Agency into a world-wide Jewish news agency.

Messages of condolence were received by the family from leaders of various Jewish organizations in the United States and abroad, including Mayor S. Z. Shragal of Jerusalem, Israeli Minister of Interior Moshe Shapira, Director of Information Moshe Perlman and president of the Israeli Journalists Association Joseph Heftman. Senator Herbert H. Lehman sent a message of condolence from Washington.

The Jewish Morning Journal and The Day, two Yiddish daily newspapers here, today carried editorials pointing to Mr. Landau's activities in linking the Jewish communities throughout the world through the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. A similar article appeared in the Tel Aviv newspaper Haboker, written by Joseph Heftman, editor, who recalled how Mr. Landau, together with Meir Grossman, founded the JTA in London after World War I.