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ISRAEL'S GRAVE FINANCIAL SITUATION DEPICTED IN SUPREME COURT

JERUSALEM, Feb. 11. (JTA) -- The extent of the grave financial crisis facing Israel was bared in the Supreme Court here today when a representative of the Finance Ministry, appearing in a case before the court, testified that Israel's currency was only backed by two percent of its value in foreign currency.

The Finance Ministry official stated that the Treasury held only 2,000,000 pounds in foreign currency as coverage for 100,000,000 pounds of currency in circulation. He said that when the Jewish state was established in May, 1948, the entire currency in circulation was backed by foreign exchange holdings and that some two years later, in the summer of 1950, the currency in circulation was supported to the extent of 45 percent.

ISRAEL SENDS DELEGATION TO PARIS TO DISCUSS REPARATIONS POLICY

TEL AVIV, Feb. 11. (JTA) -- Three Israeli representatives--one of them an official of the Foreign Office--left this morning for Paris to meet with Israel's Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett and with the American Jewish leaders who arrived there yesterday for consultations on the forthcoming negotiations with Germany on Jewish reparations claims.

The Israeli representatives took with them a large quantity of documents pertaining to Israel's claim against Germany as well as a list of commodities and materials Israel will seek to obtain from Germany as part of the reparations. The Israeli delegation may proceed from Paris to London where an international parley on the Jewish claims against Germany is scheduled to take place within a few days.

The American Jewish leaders who are now meeting in Paris with Foreign Minister Sharett on methods of coordinating the Israeli claims with those of Jewish groups outside of Israel are: Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Jacob Blaustein, Frank Goldman, Adolph Held and Moses A. Leavitt - all members of the praesidium of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany. They will proceed from Paris to London after the conclusion of their consultations with Mr. Sharett.

Ehud Avriel, director of Premier Ben Gurion's office, returned here today from Paris where he participated in a conference of Israeli diplomats in connection with the reparations claims on Germany. Present at the conference were Foreign Minister Sharett, the Israeli Ministers assigned to London and Paris, and Israel's Ambassador in Washington, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Jewish Agency, attended the parley.

GERMANS PESSIMISTIC ABOUT ABILITY TO PAY REPARATIONS TO JEWS

NEW YORK, Feb. 11. (JTA) -- A survey of public opinion in Germany has revealed that most Germans would like to pay off Jewish claims against Germany but few of them think the West German Government can afford it, it was reported here today from Bonn by the New York Times.

The report said that while the announcement by the Federal Government that it wished to negotiate a settlement of the Jewish restitution problem has been approved, West German Government leaders insist the treasury has not the money to make good.

It added that "German editorial comment on this subject has been marked by a tendency to place restitutions below western defense, care for German refugees, equalization of war burdens and care for relatives of those who were involved in the July 20, 1944, plot against Hitler."

The report also stated that Dr. Nahum Goldmann is expected to arrive there shortly at the head of a delegation representing Jewish organizations abroad and the State of Israel in response to an invitation by the Federal Government. "A Bonn spokesman denied a report the conference would take place in Brussels in March," the report said, adding that "Dr. Goldmann is expected in Bonn in the next few weeks."

(The government, politicians and people of Austria show a "conspicuous lack of concern" over the losses suffered by Jews in Austria during the Nazi era, Dr. F.L. Brassloff, assistant legal advisor of the World Jewish Congress, said in London today. His statement was made in the course of a discussion on the reparations question at the Austrian Labor Club.)

EINSTEIN APPROVES OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH GERMANY ON JEWISH CLAIMS

PRINCETON, N. J., Feb. 11. (JTA) -- Prof. Albert Einstein today told a Jewish delegation here that he can understand the decision of the Israel Government and of Jewish representative groups in the United States to seek reparations from Germany.

Receiving a delegation of the World OSE Union composed of Israeli, Argentine and American doctors, Prof. Einstein, who has been honorary chairman of the OSE Union since its establishment in 1923 at a world conference held in Berlin, said that he is in sympathy with the feelings of Jews throughout the world on the reparations issue, but "in international relations and in politics one has to act in accordance with logic and facts, and not upon emotions, even though these may be overwhelming."

Prof. Einstein displayed great interest in reports which members of the delegation gave him on the sanitary and health conditions of Jews in Israel, in the Moslem countries and in other places where the OSE is active. He was especially pleased with the fact that the OSE is working among children of the new immigrants in Israel. He was also interested in the living conditions of Jews in Latin American countries.

The delegation, which conferred with Prof. Einstein for about two hours, included Dr. J. Shatkai and Dr. N. L. Wolfe, chairman and director, respectively, of the OSE in Israel; Prof. J. Matusevich, president of the OSE Federation of South America, and Dr. Leon Wulman, executive director of the American Committee of OSE.

CHIEF JUSTICE OF ISRAEL SUPREME COURT ANSWERS MINISTER'S CRITICISM

JERUSALEM, Feb. 11. (JTA) -- A letter from Dr. Moisha Smoira, the Chief Justice of the Israeli Supreme Court, objecting to criticisms of the Israeli courts by Justice Minister Dov Justice was today brought to the attention of Parliament by its praesidium. The letter by Dr. Smoira to the Knesset praesidium was written in behalf of the entire Israeli judiciary.

The Chief Justice complained that Minister Joseph's criticisms of the judiciary for the handling of the some 400 Israelis rounded up by the police after the January 7 demonstrations and riot in front of the Knesset would "undermine the public's confidence and respect for judicial authority." The Minister had asserted that the courts were too lenient. The letter insisted that the Minister's criticism was not in a "respectful and honorable form."

Dr. Smoira pointed out that the letter was addressed to the praesidium of the Knesset because Dr. Joseph's criticisms were voiced in Parliament and because the judges could not "ascend a public dais" to answer them. It said that the judges did not interpret Minister Joseph's words as personal criticism, but as an attack on the judiciary, which the judges consider much more serious.

1,000 TURKISH JEWS ASK TO QUIT ISRAEL TO RETURN TO TURKEY

ISTANBUL, Feb. 11. (JTA) -- A number of Turkish Jews who have returned here from Israel reported today that about 1,000 other Turkish Jews have applied to the Israeli authorities for exit permits in order to return to Turkey.

The immigrants who have returned here complain of the difficulty in obtaining suitable employment in Israel, the shortages of food and lack of housing and the alleged discrimination of the Israeli authorities against Sephardic Jews in favor of the Ashkenazic Jews. The returnees also say that Turkish Jews are unwilling to settle on the land in Israel, adding that those who originally come from the provinces adapt themselves better to life in Israel than Jews from Istanbul.

Meanwhile, it has been noted here that a number of immigrants who returned from Israel have found it impossible to start life anew and have set out once again for the Jewish State. It is estimated that about 2,900 of the 34,000 Turkish Jews who left for Israel in the past three years have returned--mostly in recent months.

ISRAELI MINISTER RESIGNS FROM TEL AVIV MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

TEL AVIV, Feb. 11. (JTA) -- David Pinkas, Minister for Communications, last night resigned his post on the Tel Aviv municipal council, after 20 years service on that body. Minister Pinkas, who resigned because he found that holding both jobs involved too much work, was replaced on the council by Moshe Magid, treasurer of the Israeli Mizrachi Organization.

VETERANS OF HAGANAH HOLD ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, Feb. 11. (JTA) -- Eighty members of the national council of Veterans of the Haganah, the Jewish underground defense organization of the British mandate era which became the Israel Army of Defense, are now holding their annual conference in Tel Aviv. A major problem being considered is how to make new immigrants to Israel more security-minded.

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CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ISSUES REPORT ON ARAB-ISRAEL RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11. (JTA) -- The House Foreign Affairs Committee today issued a special report on Arab-Israel relations submitted by Rep. Jacob K. Javits, of New York, who recently visited the Jewish state as member of a Congressional group which studied conditions in various countries abroad.

The report said that Israel would accept a place in the projected Middle East Command "without question and without delay" were it not for the refusal to participate of the Arab States and the resulting reluctance of the United States, Great Britain, France and Turkey to invite Israel to join. "It is important to keep the people of Israel assured that their interests will not be jeopardized by the Middle East Command and that in due course there will be a place for Israel in it," the report emphasized.

"Peace as contrasted with the present state of armistice between Israel and the Arab states seems unlikely for some time," the report said, "but planning and working in terms of the Near East region on the part of Israel, the United States, the United Nations and other interested parties will establish more favorable conditions for peace than have existed."

The solution of the Arab refugee problem, the report stated, "should be based on resettlement of the refugees in underpopulated areas, notably like those in Syria, Iraq, and Jordan, including the purchase of lands for this purpose when necessary. To this effort Israel can be expected to contribute materially but the cooperation of the surrounding Arab states is essential."

Another conclusion of the report was that "U. S. Government aid to Israel and the Arab states should be based upon the test of performance by each participating country in contributing to the security, economic development, and strengthening of free institutions in the Near East region and should emphasize as soon as practicable a regional development program."

ISRAEL AMBASSADOR IN U.S. ANALYZES TENSIONS OF MIDDLE EAST

NEW YORK, Feb. 11. (JTA) -- The situation in the Middle East, and the tensions prevailing there now, are analyzed by Ambassador Abba Eban of Israel in an article in the current issue of Columbia University's "Journal of International Affairs."

Mr. Eban points out that Israel saw the Middle East, "where three continents converge," as a potential force of conciliation in international conflicts. But before it could assume this role, the Middle East "must strive to live in peace and mutual tolerance within itself."

Offering Israel as an example to the rest of the Middle East, Mr. Eban said that although it was "open to the scientific and technical impulses of the West," yet it was "firmly attached to its own national civilization, born in the heart of the East." He added that, although Israel's population contains elements from the Occident and the Orient, "it is not alien to either."

ISRAEL PARLIAMENT CELEBRATES THIRD ANNIVERSARY

JERUSALEM, Feb. 11. (JTA) -- The Israel Parliament today celebrated its third birthday. It was officially opened three years ago on the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Shvat with the swearing in of the first deputies and the election of Dr. Chaim Weizmann as the first President.

179,000 JEWISH CHILDREN IN NEW YORK GET NO JEWISH EDUCATION

NEW YORK, Feb. 11. (JTA) -- Of the 240,000 Jewish children of school age in New York City only 61,000 or about 25 percent are attending a Jewish school, it was revealed here yesterday at the First Greater New York Assembly on Jewish Education.

The Assembly, held under the auspices of the Jewish Education Committee of New York in cooperation with 60 communal organizations, was attended by more than 2,500 delegates. The gathering voted to establish the Assembly on an annual basis, and approved the continuance of a survey of Jewish education in New York City currently in progress under the aegis of the J. E. C. with the support of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York.

Justice Maximilian Moss, of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, addressing the delegates, stressed the fact that the Jewish community owes each child within its ranks a Jewish education. "It is our two-fold responsibility to create enough Jewish education facilities to care for every Jewish child, and to instill within him the knowledge and the character traits which Judaism can offer and which we can contribute to American democracy," he declared.

INTERMARRIAGE FAVORED BY 28 PERCENT OF CHICAGO JEWISH STUDENTS

CHICAGO, Feb. 11. (JTA) -- The results of a survey conducted by the Hillel Foundation at the Northwestern University among 210 Jewish undergraduate students were made public here today. They reveal that 28 percent of the boys and 17 percent of the girls answered affirmatively to the question "would you marry a non-Jew?"

Twenty-one percent of the boys and 28 percent of the girls considered themselves Zionists; 16 percent of the boys and 11 percent of the girls said they had no religious affiliation; 75 percent of the students openly identified themselves as Jews.

ALLIANCE SCHOOL GRADUATES 230 CHILDREN SAVED FROM BLINDNESS

NEW YORK, Feb. 11. (JTA) -- A special school in Casablanca operated by the Alliance Israelite Universelle for children threatened by blindness from trachoma has graduated its first class of 230 children, it was announced here today by the American Friends of the Alliance.

The school, the only one of its kind, was created several years ago by the Alliance for children afflicted with trachoma. While the children receive an elementary school education they receive treatment for the eye disease and are saved from blindness. The complete cure of every member of the graduating class has instilled a feeling of optimism among the other student-patients, the Alliance announcement said.

DR. LEE FRIEDMAN RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEW YORK, Feb. 11. (JTA) -- Dr. Lee M. Friedman, noted Jewish historian, was re-elected president of the American Jewish Historical Society at its 50th annual meeting held yesterday at the Jewish Museum here.

Other officers elected are: Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach, of Philadelphia, honorary president; Professor Jacob R. Marcus, of Cincinnati; Professor Alexander Marx, of New York; Professor Abraham A. Neuman, of Philadelphia; Capt. N. Taylor Phillips, of New York, and Dr. David de Sola Pool, of New York, vice-presidents; Professor Salo W. Baron, of New York, corresponding secretary; Dr. Joshua Bloch, of New York, recording secretary; Dr. Maurice Jacobs, of Philadelphia, treasurer and Leo Huhner, of New York, curator.

NEW DISCOVERIES IN FIGHTING HEART DISEASE MADE BY JEWISH DOCTORS

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 11. (JTA) -- Three members of the staff of Mt. Zion Hospital have presented findings which may lead to one of the most significant discoveries of the year in the fight against heart disease.

The three - Dr. Meyer Friedman, Dr. Ray Rosenman, and Dr. Sanford Byers - all members of Mt. Zion's Harold Brunn Institute for Cardiovascular Research, presented their findings before the Western Society for Clinical Research in Carmel. Dr. Friedman is head of the Institute.

As a result of the findings of the Mt. Zion scientists, effective treatment of arteriosclerosis, and possibly its prevention, may be found to lie in the discovery of some method of taking the punch out of cholic acid, or of flushing it out of the system. Investigations of these possibilities are already under way.

JEWISH DOCTOR DEVELOPS TINY CONTACT LENS FITTING PUPILS ONLY

NEW YORK, Feb. 11. (JTA) -- The development of a tiny plastic lens that can be fitted directly on the eyeball to replace eyeglasses as well as the old-style contact lenses was described here by Dr. William Feinbloom at a special meeting yesterday of the Brooklyn Optometrical Society.

Dr. Feinbloom, who has been working with contact lenses in research and practice for 27 years, said that the pupil lens which he developed, and which weighs less than a drop of water, should improve the vision of many near-sighted, far-sighted and astigmatic persons. He reported that in tests on 215 patients, the lenses corrected faulty vision of 93 percent of the subjects.

BOYS DESECRATING PHILADELPHIA SYNAGOGUE PLACED ON PROBATION

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 11. (JTA) -- Eleven boys, aged seven to 14, were placed on probation when arraigned in Juvenile Court here on charges of desecrating the Benjamin F. Teller Memorial Synagogue. Their parents were ordered to pay the damage, estimated at \$1,000.

Two leaders of the Jewish community have been appointed by Mayor Joseph S. Clark Jr., to the nine-man City Commission on Human Relations which will launch an investigation this week into the juvenile anti-Semitic wave here. They are Leon C. Sunstein, honorary president of the Allied Jewish Appeal, and Nathan L. Edelstein, national secretary of the American Jewish Congress.

ALBERT SCHIFF HONORED FOR 40 YEARS SERVICE IN ZIONIST MOVEMENT

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Feb. 11. (JTA) -- A forest of 30,000 trees will be planted on Jewish National Fund land in Israel in honor of Albert Schiff, New York industrialist, in recognition of his 40 years of service in the Zionist movement, it was announced here last night at a testimonial dinner given Mr. Schiff. Over 1,000 guests attended.

Mr. Schiff, chairman of the finance committee of the J.N.F., is also treasurer of the Zionist Organization of America and a member of the Board of Governors of the Israel bond drive organization in this country. A citation from the entire Zionist movement in the U.S. was presented to Mr. Schiff by Mendel N. Fisher, executive director of the J.N.F. The citation was signed by Dr. Harris J. Levine, J.N.F. president.