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DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY, INC. 231 West 58th Street, New York 19, N. Y.

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VOL. XIX No. 83 - 34th year

Tuesday, April 29, 1952

ISRAEL CABINET APPROVES DOCUMENT GRANTING STATUS TO JEWISH AGENCY

JERUSALEM, April 27. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet today approved the text of a document granting special status in Israel to the World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency. A Cabinet spokesman explained that the government will submit the text of the document to the Israel Parliament for approval, after which the government will be able to sign a charter for the Jewish Agency.

A special ministerial committee composed of Premier David Ben Gurion and the Foreign and Interior Ministers will edit the final draft which has been agreed to by leaders of the Jewish Agency. The edited text of the status is expected to be submitted to Parliament next week, immediately after it reconvenes. However, a government spokesman cautioned that circumstances might develop to delay presentation of the document to Parliament.

Explaining the proposed charter for the Jewish Agency, a government spokesman said that the Agency would become a legal body entitled to work in Israel under a specified law. It will be able to buy and sell property in Israel. It will, among other things, be exempt from taxation under conditions stipulated in the charter.

The Jewish Agency issued a communique announcing that Berl Locker, chairman of the Agency executive, and its treasurer, Levi Eshkol, today reported to the executive on the negotiations with the Israel Government regarding the status.

Israel Cabinet Hears Reports on Economic Aid from U.S.

JERUSALEM, April 28. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet today heard reports by Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett and Finance Minister Eliezer Kaplan on measures undertaken in the United States and Britain for improving the financial situation of the Jewish State.

A government spokesman also revealed tonight that the Cabinet considered telegraphed reports from Minister of Trade and Industry Dov Joseph and S. S. Hoofien, manager of the Israel National Bank, both of whom are now in the United States on economic missions. The spokesman expressed confidence that government efforts to improve the situation would be "fruitful" and that the food supply would continue without interruption. "The situation is not as bad as it is described by the papers," the spokesman added.

The Cabinet also worked on the general outline of a development budget of from 80,000,000 to 90,000,000 pounds. The budget will be met with portions of the American grant-in-aid, with various loans and by government notes. The projects financed by the development budget will get under way as income becomes available.

LOCUST INVASION CAUSES ONLY SLIGHT DAMAGE IN SOUTHERN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, April 28. (JTA) -- Only slight damage was caused in Southern Israel by the locust invasion yesterday, it was reported here today. The locusts were driven off Israel territory last evening by strong westerly winds. Experts of the Ministry of Agriculture today surveyed various sections of the country which were invaded by the insects in order to establish whether they laid eggs there.

A meeting of the Cabinet today heard a report on the locust invasion and established that at present the swarms do not constitute any real danger for the country's crop. The Cabinet approved the measures taken by the Ministry of Agriculture in fighting the locusts.

MAPAM-COMMUNIST ANTI-GOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATION FAILS IN HAIFA

HAIFA, April 28. (JTA) -- No more than about 500 persons today participated in a demonstration against the new economic policy of the Israel Government called by the pro-Communist Mapam Party and by the Communist Party.

The participants were addressed by a number of speakers who urged them to demand increased food rations. No incidents took place during the demonstration. A similar demonstration in Tel Aviv last week attracted several thousand persons.

ARAB STATES MAY RE-EXAMINE THEIR STAND ON PALESTINE REFUGEES

LONDON, April 28. (JTA) -- A report reaching here today from Cairo say that leaders of the Arab states are contemplating a meeting to re-examine their position on the Palestine Arab refugees.

Another report said that Gerhard Mertins, veteran of the German air invasion of Crete and battalion commander during the Nazi 1945 offensives in western Europe, is now teaching specially selected Egyptian units the art of parachute jumping and attack.

The report added that German officers serving with the Egyptian Army are preparing a memorandum on re-training and re-equipping the Egyptian military with a view to adapting it to the German Army's system of 1933. The central feature of this system was to train small groups of less than company strength to handle a few modern available weapons in preparation for the time when the group's size can be expanded.

HOSPITAL FOR TB PATIENTS, DEDICATED TO DANISH KING, OPENED IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, April 28. (JTA) -- A new hospital for tuberculosis patients was opened here today ten miles north-west of Jerusalem in a building which served at one time as an Arab military training school.

The hospital was dedicated to the late King Christian of Denmark. The opening ceremony was conducted by Dr. Joseph Burg, Israel's Minister of Health, and the Minister of Denmark in Israel. The Danish Government and the Jewish community of Denmark have furnished the funds to complete the hospital in which 250 patients will be treated, half of whom will be children. Approximately 100 children are already hospitalized there.

GERMANY TO MAKE CONCRETE REPARATIONS OFFER TO ISRAEL IN JUNE

BONN, April 28. (JTA) -- Official circles here today indicated that the West German Government intends to make a concrete offer to Israel on reparations payments approximately one month after the London conference on Germany's debts is resumed in the middle of May.

The delay in submitting a concrete offer to Israel, it was explained, results from the necessity of the West German Government's investigating thoroughly its financial ability to pay. Such careful review is only possible when taken in conjunction with the London conference, officials here emphasized.

West Germany's Minister of Justice Dr. A. Dehler, informed the "Axis Victims League" in New York that a federal indemnification law "will not be passed in the near future," since it is intended that the present provincial regulations will remain valid. However, he explained that "an additional federal law has been made part of the legislative program" of the German Government and is being prepared by a special Bundestag committee on reparations. This "frame law" is to make up for the severities in the existing laws, he stated.

BONN OFFICIALS VISIT LAST JEWISH DP CENTER IN GERMANY; DISCUSS AID

MUNICH, April 28. (JTA) -- Fochrenwald, the last Jewish displaced persons center in Germany, was visited yesterday by officials of the West German Government's Foreign Ministry and by representatives of other Ministries.

Several measures to aid the inhabitants of the camp were discussed by the German officials, following talks with leaders of the camp and representatives of the Joint Distribution Committee. It was decided to build a school in the camp and to improve the center's medical facilities. Special financial assistance for the camp's inhabitants was also promised.

(A photograph showing Leni Riefenstahl, one-time friend of Hitler, watching the massacre of Jews by German soldiers in the Polish village of Konsky in September 1939, was published this week in the German "Illustrated Weekly," several days after a German court acquitted her of charges of being a Nazi, the Chronicle reported in London. The photograph was taken 12 years ago by a German Army corporal who says that Fraulein Riefenstahl had watched the Germans mow down 30 Jewish men, women and children with machine guns after the victims had spent four hours scratching out graves with their bare hands.)

The city of Mannheim has commissioned the German sculptor Gerhard Marks to design a monument to the victims of the Nazis. The south German city has appropriated 60,000 deutschemarks for the project and intends to dedicate the monument next November 16, Germany's national day of remembrance for the dead.

INDEMNITY FOR VICTIMS IMPRISONED BY NAZIS SOUGHT IN AUSTRIA

VIENNA, April 28. (JTA) -- Socialist deputies today introduced a bill in the Austrian Parliament providing for payment of compensation to persons imprisoned by the Nazis. The bill stipulates that the payments be limited to those who were sentenced to prison terms by courts or who were detained by the police for "political, racial or religious reasons," but does not apply to persons put into Nazi concentration camps without trial. The Catholic People's Party is strongly opposed to the measure.

HELD REPORTS ON JEWISH DEMANDS AT THE HAGUE REPARATIONS TALKS

NEW YORK, April 28. (JTA) -- "We will never accept the German offer that the reparations to Israel and other Jewish communities be tied to the external debt talks now going on in London," Adolph Held, chairman of the Jewish Labor Committee and member of the five-man praesidium of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, declared here in a speech outlining the background of the German-Jewish reparations talks at The Hague.

Addressing a meeting of the Workmen's Circle, Mr. Held said that the Israeli and Conference delegations "did not come to the Germans hat-in-hand" but came at the invitation of the West German Chancellor, Dr. Konrad Adenauer. "We were not placing a price tag on the lives that had been lost. We could not. But we could, and did place a minimum price tag on the damage to property, on the loss of business establishments, jobs, educational opportunities, cultural institutions and on resettlement of refugees in Israel," Mr. Held reported.

"It was becoming increasingly evident that the Communist opposition and campaign of vilification against the negotiations stems from the fact that the State of Israel has requested one-half billions of dollars from East Germany as its share in the settlement of refugees in Israel," Mr. Held declared. "Despite the united front of the Communists and Neo-Nazis, the European labor movement, buttressed by the Social Democrats within Germany itself, has given full endorsement to the one billion dollar claim against West Germany by the State of Israel and the one-half billion dollar claim against West Germany by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims being made in the names of the heirless and survivors of Nazi persecution."

Mr. Held revealed that he had held a series of conferences with leading European labor leaders including those of Great Britain, France, Belgium and Germany. He said that he found "the widest latitude of sympathy and support" for the claims against Germany. "It was encouraging," he reported, "that the European labor movement had recognized the justice of the demands and without compromise supports them."

B'NAI B'RITH AIDS VICTIMS OF MISSOURI AND MISSISSIPPI FLOODS

WASHINGTON, April 28. (JTA) -- B'nai B'rith's flood relief committees are extending direct relief to victims of the current catastrophe in the Missouri and Mississippi River valleys, it was reported here today. The report said that the Supreme Lodge of the B'nai B'rith has made financial grants for this aid, enabling the committees to bring food, clothing, medicine and other supplies to Jewish and non-Jewish families affected seriously by the flood.

Dr. Abe Greenberg, of Omaha, is representing the Supreme Lodge for flood relief purposes. In Kansas City, Daniel Brenner is chairman, and Mrs. Hy Kornbleet is co-chairman of the BB flood committee. Dr. Greenberg reported that the Supreme Lodge Fund is assisting 25 Jewish families in Council Bluffs, Ia., who were hard hit by the flood. Mrs. Kornbleet heads a group which is bringing direct relief to 20 non-Jewish families in Wolcott, Kans., near Kansas City. Other families and individuals are being aided by the B'nai B'rith flood committee in the numerous small communities in the area.

At St. Joseph, Mo., the B'nai B'rith lodge is sponsoring a canteen to serve the needs of the many rescue workers in that stricken section as they work to reduce the catastrophic effects of the receding flood waters. B'nai B'rith members in Medicine Hat, Can., aided by special funds, are joining in community efforts on behalf of the hard-hit flood victims there, the report said.

VICE-PRESIDENT BARKLEY SAYS ENTIRE FREE WORLD HAS STAKE IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, April 28. (JTA) -- "Not only the American people, but the entire free world has an important stake in a politically and economically strong Israel," Vice-President Alben W. Barkley declared tonight at the opening of the 1952 campaign of the Zionist Organization of America for State of Israel bonds at a dinner meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria.

"Israel is a sister democracy ready to stand by us as a staunch and devoted ally," the Vice-President said. "That is why not only the American people, but the entire free world has an important stake in the achieving of a politically and economically strong State of Israel." Drawing a parallel between the ideals of the United States and Israel, he declared that "the people of Israel are building our kind of country."

"We are interested in Israel," Mr. Barkley continued, "not only from the physical and financial standpoint--as important as they are and as good as this investment in their bonds is--but our greater interest is in its spiritual resources. Our democracy, our greatness, our economic power, are all built upon the spiritual stamina and courage and determination of our people. And Israel, too, is building a nation based on the same spiritual and moral guarantees."

Declaring that "this thriving four-year-old, the State of Israel, is a new frontier in the world struggle for freedom," the Vice-President added that "we here in America can be proud that we are leaders of the battle to establish Israel as a strong member of the freedom-serving family of nations." He hailed the people of Israel for their "record of sacrifice and determination," and said "their character provides the best surety for their economic commitments."

"They have shown the vision and courage which makes them able to enjoy freedom and liberty," he continued. "They showed it, in the first place, in their determination to escape intolerance, to escape slavery; and they showed it in their determination to endure whatever hardships may be incumbent upon them to make Israel not only a homeland for the Jews but a free, self-governing, self-respecting nation of a self-respecting people."

Benjamin G. Browdy, president of the Zionist Organization of America, characterized the \$500,000,000 State of Israel bond drive as "a great new force for the economic upbuilding of Israel" which in the period of one year "has already become the most important source of financial aid for the Jewish homeland." He emphasized that the major task of American Zionists in 1952 was the fulfillment of the Z. O. A. pledge to sell a minimum of \$100,000,000 in Israel bonds.

\$595,000,000 SPENT BY U. I. A. AGENCIES IN ISRAEL SINCE 1948

NEW YORK, April 28. (JTA) -- In the four years since the establishment of the State of Israel, United Israel Appeal agencies, with the aid of American Jews, spent a total of \$595,000,000 for a large-scale program of relief, rehabilitation and resettlement, Rudolf G. Sonneborn, U. I. A. national chairman, reported today to a board of directors meeting.

"The chief aims of our program," he said, "have been to bring as many needy and persecuted Jews to Israel as quickly as possible and to create for them a productive context in which they could find jobs and security. Positive achievements during the past four years are, in a very great measure, the product of American Jews' support of the nationwide United Jewish Appeal campaign, of which the U. I. A. is the major beneficiary."

PALESTINE ECONOMIC CORPORATION REPORTS 100% INCREASE IN INCOME

NEW YORK, April 28. (JTA) -- The Palestine Economic Corporation, oldest American investment agency in Israel, announced today that its net income before taxes in 1951 represented an increase of nearly 100 percent over the previous year's income.

In an interim annual report, the F. E. C. revealed that its net income before taxes last year totaled \$519,815--exclusive of undistributed income of wholly-owned subsidiaries--as compared with a total of \$263,187 in 1950.

Z. O. A. SENDS EQUIPMENT FOR THREE TRADE SCHOOLS IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, April 28. (JTA) -- Equipment machinery for three complete trade schools in Israel, the first of a chain of technical training schools to be established by the Zionist Organization of America, left for Haifa today on the steamer Akko of the America-Israel Line. The steamer also carries tons of food in bulk collected by the Z. O. A. and destined for distribution by the General Zionist Women's Organization in Israel.

The equipment shipped is for the setting up of a beauty culture school donated by the Southwest Z. O. A. Region and will be located in the building of the General Zionist Women's Organization in Haifa; an automobile mechanic school donated by the Eastern Pennsylvania Z. O. A. Region to be located on the coastal plain near Hedera and a needle trade school donated by the Philadelphia Z. O. A. which will be set up in Jaffa-Tel Aviv.

A carpentry school is now in the process of being assembled by the Westchester Z. O. A. Region. Other equipment for training schools including schools for electrical wiring, leather goods, radio mechanics, machine shop and welding are being provided by various regions and districts throughout the country for early shipment to Israel.

ISRAELI-AMERICAN JEWISH MUSIC COMPOSER'S COMMITTEE FORMED

NEW YORK, April 28. (JTA) -- The organization of a "Composer's Committee for Israel and American-Jewish Music" was announced here today by Prof. A. W. Binder, who just returned from a seven-week stay in Israel. The committee will function under the auspices of the American Fund for Israel Institutions and will arrange for the exchange of music between the two Jewish communities.

Prof. Binder, who is Professor of Liturgical Music at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion and who was a guest lecturer at the Hebrew University during his visit, praised the development of music in the Jewish State and lauded the intense interest of the people in it.

JEWS IN LONDON OBSERVE ANNIVERSARY OF WARSAW GHETTO REVOLT

LONDON, April 28. (JTA) -- The ninth anniversary of the revolt of the Warsaw Ghetto was observed here last night at a memorial meeting arranged by the World Jewish Congress at the Wyndham Theatre in honor of the heroes of the revolt. Principal speakers included the British Minister of State Selwyn Lloyd and former Minister of State Hector McNeil.

Mr. Lloyd emphasized that the noblest memorial for the Jewish martyrs of the Warsaw Ghetto would not be one cut of stone, but the creation of conditions which would make the repetition of mass-annihilation of Jews impossible. Mr. McNeil said that Germany would go a long way in persuading the democratic world of her earnestness and determination to recapture her honor if she quickly made a reasonable settlement for such goods and services which the Israelis and the Jewish people could use.