

J T A DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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

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VOL. XIX No. 172 - 34th year

Thursday, September 4, 1952

SECRETARY OF STATE UNAWARE OF VISA PRACTICE LABELING JEWS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3. (JTA) -- Secretary of State Dean Acheson said today that he knew nothing about a practice by the Visa Division of the State Department which requires the identification of Jews as such on visa applications.

The Secretary made this reply when asked at his press conference today if he could comment on protests addressed to him by members of Congress and Jewish organizations. The protests were based on the specific listing of Jews by the Visa Division which makes no similar designation of members of other religious faiths. The Department previously made known that replies were being drafted to letters on this topic addressed to Mr. Acheson.

The labeling of Jews as such by the Visa Division of the State Department was condemned by the Cleveland News in an editorial yesterday. "There is nothing in the new McCarran Immigration Act to require it, but our blundering State Department is forcing aliens seeking to enter this country to designate whether they are Jews," the paper wrote. "What's the purpose? This is wholly contrary to American principles, the Constitution and the spirit of the law."

The paper said that "Rep. Frances Bolton of Cleveland has done the country a service by pointing out the State Department's very irregular procedure in this matter. She is correct in calling this a 'misrepresentation' of the McCarran Act. There is, she says, no Jewish 'race' and therefore there is no logical or lawful reason for forcing Jews to reveal their religion."

ISRAEL PROTESTS TO U. N. AGAINST SYRIAN THREAT OF "SECOND ROUND"

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 3. (JTA) -- Israel protested today to the United Nations Security Council against threats by Syria to open a second round of war against Israel. A letter from Abba Eban, head of the Israeli delegation at the U. N., to the president of the Security Council which was made public here tonight contained a sharp protest on two threats against Israel by Col. Shishakley, military dictator of Syria.

Ambassador Eban's letter drew attention to a speech by Col. Shishakley on Aug. 15 to a graduating class of Syrian Army officers named after Suleiman el Kurdi, who was killed in the Palestine fighting. Shishakley declared: "We are swearing, and we will not break this oath, that our swords will not be sheathed until our slain comrades will be pacified by the liberation and the cleansing of the land which they loved and which they sanctified and drenched with their blood."

Mr. Eban also asked the Council president to take note of Shishakley's interview with the Cairo daily El Ahrām of Aug. 16 in which we said "there is no room in the Middle East for two peoples - the Arab people and the Jewish people. Either the Arab

people will be thrown into the Arabian Desert or into the sea," the Syrian leader asserted, "or the foreign Jews must return to their countries of origin all over the world. There is no other solution to the problem."

The Israeli diplomat reported that Israel had made a strong protest against these statements to the chief of staff of the U.N. truce organization in Palestine, Gen. William E. Riley. He asked that the text of today's protest be circulated to all members of the Security Council.

GERMAN-ISRAEL PACT WILL BE SIGNED ON TUESDAY, BONN ANNOUNCES

BONN, Sept. 3. (JTA) -- The German reparations agreements with Israel and the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany will be signed in Luxembourg next Tuesday, a spokesman for the West German Government announced here tonight.

ISRAEL CABINET TO DISCUSS GERMAN-ISRAELI REPARATIONS PACT TODAY

JERUSALEM, Sept. 3. (JTA) -- The Israel Government will begin the final phase of its work on the reparations agreement hammered out by Israeli and West German delegations when the Cabinet starts consideration tomorrow of the pact which was completed last week.

Hope was expressed in government circles that the West German Cabinet, which was scheduled to consider the pact today, would approve the draft before the Israel Cabinet met. The Knesset Foreign Affairs Committee is scheduled to meet in Tel Aviv Friday to take final action on the pact. At that session Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett will outline the 50-page agreement for the committee members.

On Sunday, Mr. Sharett will submit to the Cabinet a list of government officials and businessmen who will make up the Israel Government purchasing agency in Germany for goods to be supplied to the Jewish State as reparations. The Cabinet is expected to take positive action on the establishment of the agency at tomorrow's meeting.

An official spokesman tonight said that neither the date nor the place of the signing of the reparations pact have yet been fixed since the terms of the agreement are still under consideration.

SECRETARY OF STATE WISHES NEW EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT "EVERY SUCCESS"

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3. (JTA) -- Secretary of State Dean Acheson today wished the new Egyptian Government "every success" in a statement on "encouraging developments in Egypt." He emphasized that relations between the United States and Egypt remain most friendly and cooperative.

"I am hopeful that in the interest of our two countries these relations, as well as those between Egypt and all the nations of the free world, will be increased and strengthened. We look forward to an era in which new areas of cooperation and mutual benefit can be brought into being."

U. N. PALESTINE COMMISSION MEETS; DISCUSSES ARAB-ISRAEL PROBLEMS

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Sept. 3. (JTA) -- The United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine today met behind closed doors and discussed various problems concerning Israel-Arab relations. One of the problems under discussion was the unfreezing of Arab accounts blocked by Israel and the release of Jewish accounts in Arab states.

AGUDAH TO SEEK WORLD EXEMPTION OF WOMEN FROM MILITARY SERVICE

LONDON, Sept. 3. (JTA) -- The European executive of the Agudas Israel movement will propose a clause exempting women "from any service of a military character on grounds of conscience," for inclusion in the international Covenant on Human Rights which is currently being drafted by U.N. organs, the London office of the movement announced today.

The decision to take such action was adopted at the recent meeting of the executive at which H. A. Goodman, leader of the Agudah, reported on his discussions with leading Israeli rabbis on the subject. The precise terms of the clause are being discussed by Agudah representatives with the Human Rights Division of the U.N. The Agudists, who will seek British Foreign Office and State Department support for the proposal, point out that a 1951 report by the U.N. on women in public service revealed that only two or three of the 50-odd member states draft women into their armed services.

INVESTORS IN ISRAEL SEEK EXEMPTION FROM PROPERTY TAX LAW

JERUSALEM, Sept. 3. (JTA) -- Dr. Emanuel Neumann, head of the Jewish Agency's economic department, today urged Finance Minister Levi Eshkol to exempt foreign investors in Israel from the property tax law, a draft of which has been submitted to the Knesset. Heading a delegation of the Foreign Investors Association, Dr. Neumann based his objections on the promise to exempt new enterprises in their first five years of operation.

Dr. Neumann pointed out that "levying taxes on new plants might scare off new investors, which Israel needs so badly." Mr. Eshkol has promised to consider the matter further and to make an announcement on the subject shortly. Under the projected law, foreign investors would be exempted from part of the tax, but the investors group is pressing for complete tax exemption until they are well established and their investments "begin to yield fruit."

ISRAEL'S TRADE DEFICIT GROWING, GOVERNMENT OFFICE REPORTS

TEL AVIV, Sept. 3. (JTA) -- The Israel trade deficit was 34 percent higher for the first five months of 1952 than for the parallel period of 1951, it was revealed here today in reports of the government Statistics Office.

Imports requiring the expenditure of foreign currency for the same period were 42 percent greater than for the corresponding period of 1951. Imports for the January-May period of 1952 totalled 52,600,000 pounds--some 10,000,000 pounds over last year--while exports declined from 10,300,000 pounds to 9,500,000.

SWISS-ISRAEL TRADE BANK IN GENEVA INCREASES ITS CAPITAL

GENEVA, Sept. 3. (JTA) -- The formalities involved in increasing the capitalization of the Swiss-Israel Trade Bank from 1,030,000 Swiss francs to 2,036,000 were completed at an extraordinary meeting of the company's board here today. The new issue was oversubscribed. The bank's assets at the end of last July stood at 1,865,883,000 Swiss francs.

2,200 HOUSES OF WORSHIP ESTABLISHED IN ISRAEL DURING YEAR

TEL AVIV, Sept. 3. (JTA) -- About 2,200 new synagogues--permanent and temporary--were established in Israel in the course of last year, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Z. Warhaftig reported today, addressing a convention of synagogue representatives.

AUSTRALIAN JEWS PROTEST AGAINST INCREASED ADMISSION OF GERMANS

SYDNEY, Australia, Sept. 3. (JTA) -- Alarmed at the increased immigration of Germans to this country which brings many Nazis into Australia despite the official screening, the Executive Council of Australian Jewry today sent a protest to the Australian Government and requested an audience for Jewish leaders with members of the Cabinet on this subject.

The Council also advised its affiliated bodies to organize protest meetings against the immigration agreement between Australia and Germany. The Jewish community is deeply shocked by the agreement signed recently in Bonn by Australian Immigration Minister Harold Holt which provides for the admission of 10,000 German families next year and an even larger number for each of the following four years, beside the 12,000 who arrived here recently. The 54,000 member community views with alarm the growth of the German element in Australia which threatens shortly to swamp the Jews by numbers alone.

SENATE SEEKS TO ELIMINATE RACIAL PROPAGANDA DURING ELECTIONS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3. (JTA) -- Sen. Guy M. Gillette, chairman of a Senate Elections Subcommittee, today said that legislation is being prepared which would help to eliminate from election campaigns material defaming racial and religious minorities.

The Senator explained that, while the Subcommittee would not recommend any measure curbing free speech, it hoped to fix the responsibility for anti-Semitic and other biased propaganda sent out on behalf of various candidates without their consent. The Senator said he knew of a number of instances in which candidates claimed they knew nothing of scurrilous matter circulated in their behalf by professional hate-mongers. It was explained that the legislation under consideration would make it unlawful to distribute such material on behalf of a candidate without his previous knowledge and consent.

A general report is being prepared by the Subcommittee, Sen. Gillette said, that will contain the facts about the injection of religious bigotry into political campaigning. He made known that he has asked all candidates for the Senate to subscribe to a "code of fair practices." The code pledges the avoidance of "personal vilification, character defamation, whispering campaigns, libel, slander, or scurrilous attacks on any candidate." The Elections Subcommittee will announce, prior to the November election, the names of those who sign the pledge.

NINE-POINT PROGRAM OFFERED AT NATIONAL JEWISH YOUTH PARLEY

NARROWSBURG, N. Y., Sept. 3. (JTA) -- A nine-point program designed to strengthen and extend existing services geared to meet the needs of youth were today proposed to the National Jewish Youth Conference here by its chairman, Seldon M. Kruger of Newark. The conference, which is being attended by representatives of 325 national and local Jewish youth organizations, is sponsored by the National Jewish Welfare Board.

The program calls for a re-evaluation of current programs for youth and young adults, creation of new services for young people, intensive efforts to bring into the social life of the communities the youth of minority groups, better vocational guidance, better education in preparation for military service, real guidance by adults in developing moral, ethical and democratic values, and other points.

SIXTY-FIVE AMERICANS SAIL FOR ISRAEL; 42 RECEIVED FELLOWSHIPS

NEW YORK, Sept. 3. (JTA) -- Sixty-five Americans who are going to Israel under the auspices of the World Zionist Executive and the Jewish Agency for Palestine to participate in special low-cost Hebrew language study courses, in a training program for American Jewish community youth leaders or to settle there permanently, sailed for Haifa today aboard the S/S Nassau.

The largest contingent is made up of 42 Americans and Canadians who have been awarded fellowships by the World Zionist Executive for a year's training and study in Israel prior to assuming posts of leadership in their home communities.

The fellowship winners, travelling under the auspices of the Jewish Agency's Youth and Chalutzit Department, will spend six months studying at the Youth Leadership Institute in Jerusalem and six months at practical work in various agricultural settlements. The group was selected from more than 100 candidates submitted from nine youth organizations in the U.S. and Canada which represent all Zionist parties as well as Zionists with no party affiliations.

Travelling with them aboard the Nassau are ten American college graduates and professionals, the vanguard of a group of 26 who have enrolled in the "Ulpan," an intensive five-month course in the Hebrew language, hitherto restricted to immigrants but now open to tourists and other visitors from abroad. Nineteen other passengers, travelling under the auspices of the Aliyah Department of the Jewish Agency in New York, plan to remain permanently in Israel.

8,634 JEWISH CHILDREN IN MONTREAL ATTEND PROTESTANT SCHOOLS

MONTREAL, Sept. 3. (JTA) -- A total of 8,634 Jewish children are enrolled in 54 of the 72 Protestant schools in the Montreal vicinity, it was established here following an educational survey.

In the suburban town of Outremont, Jewish children formed the majority of the enrollment in the Protestant schools. On the other hand, two Protestant schools which had a majority of Jewish students prior to 1929, were closed altogether in Montreal as a result of the migration of the population. The new Van Horne School which opened here last year has an enrollment of 1,703 children of whom 1,107 are Jewish.

In the Jewish parochial or day schools, operated by the United Talmud Torah, Jewish People's Schools, Jewish Peretz Schools, Adath Israel Congregation as well as Yeshivot, nearly 3,000 Jewish children receive their secular and religious education.

CANADIAN LABOR CONVENTION FOR ISRAEL DECIDES TO HELP CHALUTZIM

OTTAWA, Sept. 3. (JTA) -- The national convention of the Canadian Association for Labor Israel concluded here today with resolutions pledging to support the emigration of Jewish youth from Canada to Israel, and the encouragement of financial support for Israel. The convention also decided to stimulate Canadian investments in Israel. Dr. S. B. Hurwich of Toronto was elected national president of the organization.