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NEW IMMIGRATION LAW NOT "RACIAL," MCCARRAN ASSERTS

NEW YORK, Dec. 25. (JTA) -- Anticipating strong public opposition to the new immigration law which he "fathered", Senator Pat McCarran last night issued a statement denying that the law contains racial bias, as charged by President Truman, and emphasizing that he will fight opponents of the law "with the last ounce of my energy." The law, which became effective yesterday, provoked much criticism in this country and abroad.

"Beneath the wave of racial and religious bigotry which these opponents of the Immigration and Naturalization Act are attempting to arouse in America, the rock of the truth is that the act does not contain one iota of racial or religious discrimination," Sen. McCarran said in his statement.

The Senator claimed that "under the new law, at no time and in no way, is the factor of race, or color, or creed, or sex, or nationality made the basis of any discriminatory ruling as to whether any person can enter the United States, or can live here, or can become an American citizen." He added that the sole principle which guided him in preparing the new immigration law was "the best interests of the United States of America."

Abuses President Truman's Commission on the "McCarran Law"

Senator McCarran was especially abusive in referring to the forthcoming report which is to be issued within a few days by the special commission appointed by President Truman to evaluate the new law's operation and to recommend changes. The Senator said:

"The American people are going to have to withstand a propaganda blast against the new act, in the form of a report by the President's Commission on Immigration and Naturalization. This is an organization which has been operating by a misuse of emergency funds appropriated for defense purposes."

"Although the new act itself provides for a joint Congressional committee to conduct a continuous study and evaluation of our immigration policies, the President appointed his own commission during the election campaign to incite racial and religious groups for political purposes. I have pointed out that the President's commission is to issue its report within a week after the act goes into effect. In fact, the commission will have only five working days in which to examine the law in operation. But that will not stop the President's commission from issuing a report which will constitute a sharp and probably bitter attack on the new law."

Senator McCarran went out of his way to charge three members of the President's Commission which is studying the new immigration law with being

associated with "Communist front" organizations. The three are: Harry Rosenfield, former member of the Displaced Persons Commission; Earl G. Harrison, former U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Commissioner; and Clarence Fickett, leader of the American Quakers.

Mr. Rosenfield promptly issued a statement denying the charge. The other two members of the President's Commission could not be reached for comment because of the Christmas holiday.

Americans Released from Israel Army under McCarran Law

TEL AVIV, Dec. 25. (JTA) -- An estimated 60 Americans serving in the Israeli armed forces were released from service before the McCarran-Walter Immigration Act went into effect in the United States yesterday, it was reported here today.

Releases were granted to all those who applied for them, it was learned. Americans serving in foreign armies after the act went into effect were automatically deprived of their American citizenship, unless they received special dispensation from the Secretaries of Defense and State. The number of Americans who chose to remain in the Israel services and forfeit their citizenship is not known.

ARAB DEFEAT AT U.N. ANALYZED BY EBAN; ISRAEL'S VIEW EXPLAINED

NEW YORK, Dec. 25. (JTA) -- The political defeats suffered by the Arab states at the United Nations General Assembly session which just concluded may well mean the end of the perennial Arab attempt to place the Palestine issue before the United Nations, Abba Eban, Israel's chief delegate to the U.N., declared here yesterday.

Reviewing Palestine developments at the U.N., Ambassador Eban told a press conference that though the resolution calling for direct peace talks between the Israelis and the Arabs had been defeated, the debate in committee and the fact of the situation had "created a great volume of opinion for direct settlement." He added that the "vacuum created by U.N. inaction" is expected to be filled by the powers interested in the Middle East.

He also expressed the opinion that on the whole the U.N. session could be termed "successful from Israel's point of view" despite the defeat of the direct talks proposal. He noted that the fate of this resolution was of less significance to Israel than the defeat of a Philippine resolution which would have again placed the U.N. on record as favoring the internationalization of Jerusalem.

The Arab attempt at raising the internationalization issue was a failure, he said, asserting that the general sentiment in the U.N. was to find an effective way of securing accessibility to the Holy Places. There was also a wave of opinion in the U.N., he stressed, for resettling the Arab refugees in the Arab countries.

Speaking of Israel's tactics in the U.N. vis-a-vis the Arabs, he said that Israel had originally planned to remain on the defensive, but when the Arabs indicated clearly that they would pursue an aggressive course, Israel diplomacy went on the offensive. While he would not say that the Palestine Conciliation Commission was virtually extinct, Ambassador Eban said that the General Assembly's failure to enlarge or give the Commission new instructions showed the trend.

NEW FIVE-PARTY COALITION GOVERNMENT IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Dec. 25 (AP) — The new coalition government in the short history of Israel began its work today after receiving the vote of confidence from Parliament yesterday. The new government, originally composed of the Mapai, General Zionism and the Agudat Israel, was widened yesterday by the entrance of the Mizrachi and the Herut parties.

The return of the Mizrachi party to the government was a new negotiation between the Mapai and the religious parties which began in September when the Agudat party withdrew from the government over the issue of religious schools and national service. With the entrance of the Mizrachi party into the government, the new coalition now consists of the Herut, Mapai, Communists and the Agudat.

Breaking its own record for the further broadening of the coalition, Premier David Ben-Gurion named two Mizrachi leaders Dr. Joseph Burg and Meir Shapira as ministers of Posts, Telegraph and Telephone and Minister of Agriculture, respectively.

Z.O.A. URGES TO AMEND THE RESOLUTION ON ZIONISTS IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Dec. 25 (AP) — Bernard Brody, former president of the Zionist Organization of America and the Jewish Agency executive, in a statement issued today in connection with the formation of the new coalition government in Israel, urged the Zionist Organization of America to rescind the resolution of identification with the Government adopted at the last ZOA convention, on the ground that "it will tend to alienate the two Zionist groups in Israel and tends to undermine the coalition with the new coalition government."

Mr. Brody suggested that a new ZOA convention be called at the earliest possible date. "The resolution adopted by the organized Zionists of this country to officially recognize the Government resolution adopted at the last Zionist Convention, and which was adopted in the course of many years, has tended to alienate the two groups in Israel from the membership of the Zionist Organization of America and has caused friction among Zionists in Israel."

Dr. Irving Miller, president of the Zionist Organization of America, sent cables of congratulation to the new Israel Government coalition to Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion, Dr. Eliezer Ben-Zion, president of the World Organization of Jewish Communities in Israel. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver called Dr. Ben-Gurion the "first president of the Jewish people" and said that General Zionists have joined the new government. "The new government is the future of Israel and the Zionist movement," he said.

ISRAELI BOND DRIVE LEADERS MEET WITH PREMIER BEN GURION

JERUSALEM, Dec. 25 (AP) — Leaders of Israel bond drive leaders, headed by Henry M. Kissinger, who has been in Israel since his differences of opinion over the operation of the new government, today conferred all morning with Premier David Ben-Gurion. The meeting, which dealt with various matters including relations between the Jewish community and the new government, are expected to continue for two more days.

David Ben-Gurion, who expressed confidence that differences of opinion between the Jewish community and the new government will be ironed out. Yesterday Mr. Kissinger met with the Americans at which most of the members of the new government were present.

ISRAEL LEGATION EMPLOYEE ARRESTED IN WARSAW; "CONFESSES" GUILT

JERUSALEM, Dec. 25. (JTA) -- Arieh Lerner, an employee of the Israel legation in Warsaw, has been arrested and has "confessed" that the legation has been engaged in anti-state activities and espionage in Poland, it was learned here today. Polish-born Lerner was hired by the legation a year ago and disappeared several days ago.

Polish intelligence agents, it was learned, have been interrogating every Jew who visits the legation. The legation protested this practice months ago, but the Polish authorities denied that they were interfering with visitors. The practice continued, however, according to these reports, and a Jew named Ushak who has relatives living in Haifa was arrested recently and also "confessed."

JEWISH AGENCY TO START TRANSFER OF JEWS FROM HONG KONG

JERUSALEM, Dec. 25. (JTA) -- The immigration to Israel of the 600 to 700 Jews from all parts of the world who are now in Hong Kong will begin in a month, a Jewish Agency spokesman told newsmen today. Preparations are already under way to move them from Hong Kong in groups of 50 each month.

The spokesman reported that immigration continues from Bulgaria, via Italy, and that an average of 70 Bulgarian Jews arrive in Israel each month. Air transportation for immigrants from Persia will be inaugurated for the winter to replace overland travel which cannot be resumed via Turkey until next spring.

Also, the spokesman said the Agency had appealed to the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, which meets in New York Sunday, to allocate \$250,000 a year from German reparations payments due it for the establishment and maintenance of a spiritual memorial to the martyred Jews of Europe.

ISRAEL PRESIDENT EXTENDS CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO CHRISTIANS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 25. (JTA) -- Israel President Isaac Ben Zvi today issued a Christmas message to Israeli citizens of the Christian faith, extending his "heartfelt greetings and good wishes." The message added: "May they all enjoy a merry Christmas and may the new year see the further development of goodwill and friendship among all sections of our population. A happy New Year to all of them."

Some 2,000 Christians living in Israel today crossed the Israel Jordan frontier to attend Christmas mass in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and at the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. Every pilgrim was allowed to take one dinar in Jordan currency into the Arab country for expenses during the pilgrimage.

In his first public appearance at a press luncheon, the President yesterday urged that more newspapers be established in Jerusalem and dwelt on the necessity for peaceful relations among Israel's parties in the face of external dangers and internal difficulties. Berl Coralnik, Jerusalem correspondent of the JTA, presided at the luncheon which was tendered by the Jerusalem Journalists Association.

GERMAN-ISRAEL REPARATIONS PACT TO BE RATIFIED IN FEBRUARY

LONDON, Dec. 25. (JTA) -- The German-Israel reparations pact will not be ratified before early in February, as a result of the constitutional crisis in West Germany, the Jewish Observer, organ of the British Zionist movement, reported today.

The Observer said that the "Israel Government has now been informed that Chancellor Dr. Adenauer intends to bring the reparations agreement before the Bundestag during the second week of January. This would enable him to have the agreement with Israel ratified by early February."

ISRAEL MISSION IN GERMANY FLOODED WITH OFFERS OF GOODS

COLOGNE, Dec. 25. (JTA) -- A considerable variety of goods are being offered Israel by many German corporations which are flooding the Israel "purchasing mission" here with catalogues and letters offering goods for Israel's choice as reparations payments from West Germany.

Dr. A. Yachil, deputy head of the mission which will select the goods and services to be provided Israel, today said that nearly every branch of German industry whose products Israel would desire as the reparations payments has already offered its goods. The Bonn Government will pay for what is chosen, within the general payments framework.

The senior members of the mission are not expected to arrive at its headquarters here until after the German Bundestag ratifies the reparations pact. The vanguard of the Israeli staff arrived two weeks ago.

WAR CRIMINALS FREED IN GERMANY IN CHRISTMAS AMNESTY

BONN, Dec. 25. (JTA) --- Nazi Field Marshal Wilhelm List and 123 other German war criminals serving sentences imposed by United States Courts were freed today by a Christmas amnesty order.

Field Marshal List was sentenced to a life term for war crimes against civilians in Southeastern Europe. He was freed on a medical parole. The others included 16 "minor" war criminals and 107 Germans convicted of killing Jews and similar offenses.

FOUR NAZI DOCTORS SENTENCED FOR ATROCITY EXPERIMENTS ON JEWS

PARIS, Dec. 25. (JTA) -- Two German doctors charged with using Jews and gypsies in Nazi camps as guinea pigs in poison gas experiments have been sentenced to life imprisonment by a French military tribunal in Metz. The two are Dr. Eugen Haagen and Dr. Otto Bickenbach.

Two other German doctors, who succeeded in escaping to Germany, were sentenced in absentia to death by the same court. They are Prof. August Hirt and Dr. Helmut Ruhl. Dr. Otto Bong, tried on the same charges, was acquitted.

JEWS IN GERMANY DEMAND REINSTATEMENT OF CAMP HEAD

MUNICH, Dec. 25. (JTA) -- Jewish DP's living in the German Foehrenwald Camp today demanded the reinstatement of H. Dokal, administrator of the center, who was recently relieved of his duties. Herr Dokal had shown himself sympathetic to the needs of the DP's.

MEMBER OF ISRAEL'S ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION ARRIVES IN U. S.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25 (JTA) -- Professor Samuel Sambursky, director of the Israel Research Council and a member of Israel's Atomic Energy Commission arrived in the United States for a four month visit of scientific and research institutions at the invitation of the U. S. State Department.

His visit is part of the "Leadership Program" sponsored by the State Department which has been responsible for the visit to this country of a number of experts in various fields. Prior to his arrival in the United States, Professor Sambursky represented Israel at the recent UNESCO conference held in Paris. Professor Sambursky, who was one of the early pioneers of scientific research in Palestine holds the position of Associate Professor of Experimental Physics at the Hebrew University.

WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION STARTS CONTEST FOR HEBREW STUDENTS

NEW YORK, Dec. 25. (JTA)-- An essay contest for Hebrew students throughout the world between the ages of 13 and 22, was announced today by the Department for Torah Culture and Education of the World Zionist Organization.

The contest, with a round trip to Israel as first prize, calls for an essay of from 300 to 3,000 words in length on any one of the following subjects: Judaism and problems related to the birth of Israel; the relationship between society and the state according to the Sefer Dvorum; parallels between the victories of Israel in the time of Joshua and in our own times; the Return to Zion at the time of Ezra and in our own times; the Prophets and Psalms applied to Israel's problems today; specific links to the birth of the Jewish State in the Sanhedrin and in Rambam; the people, the Torah and the land of Israel according to Yehuda Halevi; Jerusalem in Jewish prayers.

The essays must be written in Hebrew. They will be judged on the basis of thought content and originality and the author's age will be taken into consideration. The panel of judges consists of Chief Rabbis Herzog and Uziel of Israel; Moshe Shapiro, leader of Hapoel Hamizrachi and Rabbi J. L. Maimon, leader of Mizrachi; Rabbi Zev Gold, head of the Department for Torah Culture and Education, and Zalman Shazar, member of the Zionist Executive. The deadline for entries is the beginning of the Hebrew month of Adar which corresponds to February 15, 1953.

PINCHAS GRAUBARD, JEWISH FOLKLORIST, DIES IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Dec. 25. (JTA) -- Pinchas Graubard, noted Jewish folklorist, died here today, at 58. He came to the United States in 1940 from Poland where he was born. He was the author of two books, one of them on Palestine, where he lived in 1911, working on the land. He returned to Poland in 1912.

FOUNDER OF SWEDISH ZIONIST ORGANIZATION DIES AT 70

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 25. (JTA) -- Leon Lapidus, veteran Zionist and one of the founders of the Swedish Zionist Organization, died here today at the age of 70. The founder of the Herzlia Publishing Company in Sweden, Mr. Lapidus was vice-president of the Swedish section of the World Jewish Congress.