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JEWISH AGENCY POSTPONES ZURICH CONFERENCE ON SOVIET ANTI-SEMITISM

LONDON, March 5, (JTA) -- The postponement of the international Jewish conference against Soviet anti-Semitism which was scheduled to take place in Zurich next week was announced here today by the Jewish Agency, which arranged the parley. The announcement reads:

"In view of recent developments, the Jewish Agency has decided to postpone the Zurich Conference for a few weeks. All organizations invited to the conference will be advised as to the date of the future meeting. A meeting of the Jewish Agency executive will be held in Jerusalem on Sunday."

EISENHOWER DEPLORES SOVIET ANTI-SEMITISM; AVOIDS COMMENT ON STALIN

WASHINGTON, March 5, (JTA) -- President Eisenhower told a press conference today that he could not tell if the death or incapacitation of Premier Stalin would alter the "anti-Semitic situation" in the Soviet Union.

The President said this in response to a question which asked if he expected a worsening or improvement in the "anti-Semitic situation" in Russia in view of "what seems to be the inevitable change in Russian leadership." Mr. Eisenhower replied that, of course, he could not tell what would happen but that he found Soviet action against the Jewish people to be deplorable and heartbreaking.

He pointed out that, in a way, it was depressing for one like him who had so much experience with the Nazi horror camps of World War II. He said that Jews in Europe were reduced to almost nothing in the German camps. Of the current situation, he said he found it rather depressing, adding, as an afterthought, that it was even worse than depressing--it was heartbreaking.

The President admitted that he was frankly puzzled as to whether his saying anything about Soviet anti-Semitism would help the situation or make it worse. Despite this, he indicated that the United States and the free world deplored Soviet anti-Semitism and hoped for some way to end it, although he made no specific recommendations.

The question of what effect Premier Stalin's condition might have on Soviet policy was discussed by President Eisenhower this morning at a meeting at the White House with Jess Moss, National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans. This meeting took place immediately before the press conference at which Mr. Eisenhower spoke out on the subject. Mr. Moss told reporters after talking with Mr. Eisenhower that he was not at liberty to divulge what the President told him.

(In Moscow, Chief Rabbi Jacob Schleifer today proclaimed a day of fast and prayers for Stalin. Spiritual heads of other faiths have issued similar proclamations.)

BRITAIN WILL NOT ARM ARABS AT ISRAEL'S EXPENSE, CHURCHILL SAYS

LONDON, March 5. (JTA) -- Prime Minister Winston Churchill today assured the House of Commons that Britain would be careful in supplying jet planes to the Middle East not to alter "appreciably" the balance between Israel and the Arab States. The statement was cheered.

The Prime Minister, who said that the number of jets to be supplied the Middle East states was small, reviewed the situation between the Arab states and Israel and pointed out that the four-year-old war is in a state of precarious truce--not peace. Britain must therefore be "very careful" not to alter the balance of power, he said.

WEST GERMAN LOWER HOUSE PASSES ISRAEL PACT IN FIRST READING

BONN, March 5. (JTA) -- The West German Bundestag (Lower House) yesterday passed the first reading of the German-Israel reparations agreement and, without debate, referred the measure to committee. It has already been passed by the Upper House.

When the bill was presented to the Bundestag, Chancellor Konrad Adenauer told the deputies that it was Germany's "holy" duty to recompense the Jews for their sufferings. He added that there was no reason why payment of reparations should interfere with traditional Arab-German friendship. He also denied that payment would violate neutrality in the Arab-Israel conflict, pointing out that none of the goods going to Israel was in the nature of armaments or munitions.

German sources today confirmed that Lebanon told Bonn that the reparations pact with Israel would not bring on an economic boycott of Germany. The Lebanese Government, it is understood, has told Bonn that it will conclude a trade agreement with it as soon as the reparations treaty is out of the way.

ISRAEL BUDGET FOR CURRENT YEAR TO BE DISCUSSED BY PARLIAMENT

JERUSALEM, March 5. (JTA) -- The Israel Government today served formal notice on Parliament that it will introduce next Monday its budget for the 1953-54 fiscal year. The new budget of 216,330,000 pounds is about 20 percent greater than last year's. After the formal presentation of the budget by Finance Minister Levi Eshkol Monday, the Knesset will hold a ten-hour debate on it.

The largest single item in the budget, an allocation of 42,000,000 pounds for the Defense Ministry, reveals a three million pound reduction from last year's expenditure of 45,000,000 pounds. The education budget is up from 13,706,000 to 17,130,000 pounds, while the allocation for the police also has been increased, from 10,251,000 to 13,990,000 pounds. Allocations for health services have been increased from 9,174,000 pounds last year to 12,500,000 pounds next year.

The government anticipates income tax revenues of 65,500,000 pounds compared with 47,000,000 pounds last year. Customs duties are expected to yield 23,000,000 as against the 19,000,000 brought in in 1952-53. Taxes on fuel are expected to bring in 20,000,000 pounds, almost twice as much as last year, while luxury taxes will total 21,000,000 pounds.

U. N. WILL SPEND \$100,000,000 ON ARAB RELIEF THIS YEAR

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., March 5. (JTA) -- The United Nations will spend \$100,000,000 on Near Eastern projects for the benefit of Arab refugees, it was learned today. John E. Blandford, Jr., whose resignation as head of the U. N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees becomes effective Saturday, said construction would start this summer on the largest project--an irrigation plan for 20,000 families whose farms will get water from the Jordan's Yarmuk River.

TEL AVIV MEETING DEMANDS MOSCOW PERMIT JEWISH EMIGRATION

TEL AVIV, March 5. (JTA) -- A large mass meeting was held here last night to protest the Soviet anti-Jewish drive and to urge world-wide support for the demand that Russian Jews be permitted to emigrate from the Soviet Union.

Sponsored by white collar groups, including representatives of teachers, writers, doctors, architects and others, the rally was organized around the slogan of "Jewish Unity Against Jewish Hatred in Russia." In an appeal to white collar workers and professionals throughout the world, speakers at the meeting declared that "our fight is yours." They also rejected the "foul trick of differentiating between Jews and Zionism, since Zionism is the greatest expression of a nation's desire for its existence."

JEWISH WAR VETERANS IN BRITAIN PROTEST SOVIET ANTI-JEWISH DRIVE

LONDON, March 5. (JTA) -- The Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women of Britain today protested the Communist anti-Jewish and anti-Zionist campaign.

In a statement of policy, the veterans group warned that "perilous consequences" are "bound to ensue" from the Prague trial and the charges against the Moscow doctors. The statement declared that no Jew is safe "if to be Jewish can be made part of a criminal indictment against an individual." It also stated that "if it is a crime to be a Zionist then it may be but a short step to the assumption that all Jews at heart are Zionists and therefore criminals."

AMERICAN CATHOLIC ORGAN DENOUNCES SOVIET DRIVE AGAINST JEWS

DETROIT, March 5. (JTA) -- The Soviet drive against Jews was condemned by the Michigan Catholic in an editorial calling on the Catholics of America to voice their indignation over "this latest Soviet atrocity."

"The recent wave of anti-Semitism that has broken out in the Iron Curtain countries horrifies every decent person," the editorial says. "Our sympathy is intensified, for one reason, because many of its current victims, who survived Hitler's pogroms, now are undergoing a second siege. It is bad enough that the Soviet tyrants should persecute those who offend their masters by holding unorthodox opinions. Those who cling to deviationist views in religion, politics or economics have at least the theoretical chance of recanting or at least simulating external conformity. But even this slim hope of escape is denied the Jew. He cannot apostatize from his race. He cannot divest himself of his Jewishness."

The paper emphasizes that "there is no truth whatsoever in the weird explanation now being advanced by some of our professional anti-Semites. One of these home-grown hate-mongers has come forward with the thesis that there is actually no real persecution of Jews in the Soviet countries. This is merely a ruse, he says, to arouse sympathy for Jews in the western nations and to gain them greater freedom to plot on behalf of Soviet Russia. This wicked lie," the paper continues, "is merely a new twist to the ancient detraction that would identify all Jews with Communism."

LIGHT RAINS IN NEGEV MAY SAVE PORTION OF PARCHED CROPS

TEL AVIV, March 5. (JTA) -- The light rains which have been watering the parched fields of the Negev for the past few days may be able to save a goodly portion of the crop, agricultural experts here stated today.

THREE-DAY NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR ISRAEL OPENS TODAY IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, March 5. (JTA) -- A three-day national conference to consider methods of meeting the new political developments affecting Israel through greater aid to that country will open here tomorrow at the Mayflower Hotel. Designated as the National Leadership Conference, the meeting, sponsored by State of Israel Bonds, will be attended by 400 key American Jewish leaders, at sessions extending through Sunday.

The central purpose of the conference will be the mobilization of the American community behind Israel's program of industrial and agricultural growth as one of the most effective means of answering the attacks on Israel and the Jews by the countries in the Communist orbit.

Jewish leaders at the conference will undertake an intensive evaluation of Israel's economic progress during 1952. At a special session devoted to Israel Bond campaign problems, they will develop plans for mobilizing the full support of Americans for the 1953 campaign for these bonds which are the central source of investment capital for the development of Israel's industry and agriculture, the construction of roads, harbors and railways, and the development of a nation-wide irrigation system.

Among the principal speakers who will address the Conference are: Senator Robert A. Taft, Majority Leader of the United States Senate; Senator Herbert H. Lehman; Dr. Dov Joseph, Minister of State of Israel; Abba S. Eban, Israel Ambassador to the United States; Dr. Nelson Glueck, president of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion; Theodor Kollek, Director-General of the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem, and Henry Morgenthau, Jr., chairman of the Board of Governors of the Israel Bond organization.

"VOICE OF AMERICA" CHIEF SAYS BROADCASTS TO ISRAEL WERE INEFFECTIVE

WASHINGTON, March 5. (JTA) -- Reed Harris, acting chief of the Voice of America, yesterday defended his action in eliminating Hebrew language broadcasts in a clash with Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy at the McCarthy inquiry into the Voice of America.

"I am sure the Israelis need nothing from us to make them anti-Soviet," Mr. Harris said. He explained he had recommended eliminating the Hebrew broadcasts because they were found "least effective."

Mr. Harris said that even in December, when Soviet anti-Semitism reached a high point, he got only 16 letters from Israel as a response to the Voice Hebrew operations. The American Embassy in Israel reported on January 9 that the Hebrew broadcasts failed to arouse interest, he stated.

American Correspondent Slanders Israel at Detroit Talk

DETROIT, March 5. (JTA) -- Jewish leaders here have condemned an anti-Israel address before the Detroit Economic Club this week by George A. Weller, foreign correspondent of the Chicago Daily News.

In the course of his address on "What is Our Future in the Middle East and the Significance of the Anti-Zionist Drive of the Soviets," Mr. Weller, supported Jordan charges that Israel had destroyed many Arab villages and had defied the United Nations authorities. Mr. Weller's major theses were that "Russia's anti-Semitism is due to the one-sided United States stand toward Israel" and that "the Arabs no longer trust us."

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER ADDRESSES MESSAGE TO AMERICAN JEWISH YOUTH

WASHINGTON, March 5. (JTA) -- President Dwight D. Eisenhower today called on "young Americans of the Jewish faith to renew their study and their application of the ideals that belong equally to the traditions of America and to the ancient teachings of the Jewish religion" in a message to the National Jewish Youth Conference.

The President sent the message on the occasion of the nationwide observance of the Jewish Youth Week, which begins on March 20. The National Jewish Youth Conference is sponsored by the National Jewish Welfare Board and represents 311 local and national Jewish youth organizations with a total membership of more than 300,000.

"The organized assault upon these ideals which we witness in our time makes all the more urgent our appreciation of those truths stated--in different language but with the same meaning--both in the Old Testament and the founding documents of our nation," the President said. "Freedom of religious worship, freedom of discussion, rule by the majority and respect for the minority, mutual understanding and trust among peoples of diverse faiths and traditions--these principles define the way of life cherished by all free peoples.

"For these principles to endure, they must be deeply understood and loved especially by our youth, both as individuals and as members of such organizations as the National Jewish Youth Conference. They summon us all to live the lives of good citizens and good neighbors at home, in the school, and in the community at large. They are born of--and they testify to--an unshakable belief in God and in the right to freedom of all men.

"Dedication to these basic beliefs by you, the young of our free country, is our surest source of strength for the future. I know that the National Jewish Youth Conference is devoted to this truth. I know that, with the wise counsel of the National Jewish Welfare Board, this year's observance of Jewish Youth Week in the United States will inspire you all to new awareness of the great role you must play in the saving of freedom."

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE COMPLETING STUDY ON U.S. JEWS

NEW YORK, March 5. (JTA) -- Defense organizations have done a great deal to find out what non-Jews think of Jews, but very little has been done to ascertain the feelings of American Jews toward themselves and their non-Jewish neighbors, Dr. John Slawson, executive vice-president of the American Jewish Committee, said today. To meet this need, the Scientific Research Department of the AJC is completing a comprehensive study of Jewish attitudes which is expected to be ready for publication shortly, he announced.

Intensive interviews with over 200 Jewish families in Trenton, New Jersey, were used to collect the data on which the study is based, Dr. Slawson reported. "Our aim," he declared, "was to find out what Jews themselves thought of anti-Semitism, Israel, intermarriage and social relations with non-Jews, religious observance and Jewish education for their children, and of many other topics related in some way to their Jewishness. We also wanted to discover to what extent these views were shared by their children.

"It is well known," Dr. Slawson stated, "that anti-Semites form invidious, stereotyped images of the Jew which they use to bolster their prejudices. Not so well known is that many Jews also tend to think of Jews as a completely homogeneous group. The tremendous range and diversity of American Jewish opinion and behavior are not always realized. It was in an effort to explore the range of these diversities that this study was conceived."

