

J T A DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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

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VOL. XX No. 48. - 35th year

Wednesday, March 11, 1953

U.S. ZIONISTS TO CONFER ON GROWING ANTI-ZIONIST TREND IN WASHINGTON

JERUSALEM, March 10. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency executive at its session today recommended the calling of a national conference of American Zionists immediately in connection with the growing anti-Zionist trend in American foreign policy.

The decision was taken after listening to reports by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the American section of the Jewish Agency, and Rose Halprin and Dr. Israel Goldstein, American members of the Agency executive. The reports established that pro-Arab elements in the United States are gaining influence in Washington to the detriment of Israel.

The Jewish Agency executive also decided that Zionist political activities in the United States should be conducted through the American Zionist Council in which all Zionist groups in America are represented. A program expanding the activities of the American Zionist Council was recently agreed upon at a meeting of American Zionist leaders in New York.

The Agency's executive also discussed the question of tightening the selection of immigrants to Israel. However, the matter will come up for final consideration before the immigration coordination board of the Agency and the Israel Government, which will discuss it next week. Premier David Ben Gurion will preside.

PREMIER BEN GURION REPORTS ON ISRAEL'S SECURITY AT CLOSED MEETING

JERUSALEM, March 10. (JTA) -- Premier David Ben Gurion, in his capacity of Defense Minister, today reported on security matters to a closed meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. The committee also heard Gen. Mordecai Makleff, Army Chief of Staff.

An Israeli border policeman was killed today in a clash between Israeli forces and a band of armed infiltrators found on Israel soil near Kalkilya, in Central Israel. After the fight, the Arabs fled to the Jordan-held "triangle" area. Israel lodged a protest with the Mixed Armistice Commission.

TURKEY, FRANCE DISCUSS MIDDLE EAST DEFENSE WITH ARAB PARTICIPATION

PARIS, March 10. (JTA) -- Leaders of the French and Turkish Governments today discussed prospects for establishing a Middle East defense command with the participation of the Arab League states.

French Premier Rene Mayer met with Turkish Prime Minister Adnan Menderes and Foreign Minister Fuat Koprulu. The group later conferred with Foreign Minister Bidault on Middle East problems.

BRITAIN TO APPOINT SPECIAL MINISTER FOR MIDDLE EASTERN AFFAIRS

LONDON, March 10. (JTA) -- The British Cabinet is considering the appointment of a minister to be responsible for Middle Eastern affairs, it was reported here today. Selwyn Lloyd, Minister of State, has been mentioned for the post.

It was also announced that the British Government will advance the Jordan Government 1,250,000 pounds (\$3,450,000) as the first year's financial assistance toward the Jordan Government's proposed five-year plan to carry out the economic development of the Arab state. The announcement of the loan was made in Commons last night by Anthony Nutting, Foreign Undersecretary.

Forty percent of the loan will be interest-free and will be used for development projects. The remainder will be a grant under the terms of the British-Jordan alliance. It will be used to balance Jordan's current budget.

ISRAEL FINANCE MINISTER PLEDGES REDUCTION IN INCOME TAX

JERUSALEM, March 10. (JTA) -- A considerable reduction in income tax, including the exemption from taxation of up to 70 percent of the cost of living allowances granted white collar and industrial workers, in Israel, was promised today by Finance Minister Levi Eshkol when he formally presented the new 216,000,000 pound budget to Parliament and reviewed the economic progress of the country.

Discussing the year-old anti-inflationary measures of the government, Mr. Eshkol said that despite some increases in prices with attendant difficulties, the inflationary spiral had been halted. He pointed out that except for foreign currency controls virtually all other economic controls had been abolished. He held out no hopes for an early end to currency controls, insisting that the government must accumulate a minimum foreign exchange reserve before it can take such action.

He estimated the country's national income last year at 800,000,000 pounds, but pointed out that the foreign trade deficit alone amounted to 127,000,000 pounds. However, he stated, Israel's foreign currency commitments had not increased last year and a number of short term obligations had been turned into medium and longterm loans, thus relieving some of the pressure.

New investments of all sorts--including capital from abroad--had totalled 250,000,000 pounds last year, Minister Eshkol revealed. But, he indicated that this figure was still far short of what Israel needed.

The only solution for Israel's trade deficit, he asserted, was to increase the production of both agricultural and industrial goods for export. He reported that both branches of the economy had advanced during the past fiscal year and that in certain foods, such as potatoes, Israel was now self-sufficient. In such export crops as citrus fruits, bananas and grapes there had also been increased production.

The citrus growers association today revealed that citrus exports thus far in the season had already surpassed last year's shipments. A total of 3,373,000 cases have been shipped and there is hope of reaching the 4,000,000 mark, it was revealed.

BONN PREDICTS APPROVAL OF ISRAEL REPARATIONS PACT NEXT WEEK

BONN, March 10. (JTA) -- The Israel-West German reparations pact will be passed in final form next week, Bonn government sources predicted today. The treaty has been approved by the Upper House of the German Parliament and has passed its first reading in the Lower House.

PANIC MOUNTING AMONG JEWS IN POLAND, JEWISH IMMIGRANTS REPORT

TEL AVIV, March 10. (JTA) -- Panic has been mounting among Polish Jews since the Prague trial and was heightened by the Soviet Union's rupture of diplomatic relations with Israel, a group of immigrants arriving here from Poland said today.

The party included 23 persons, most of whom are old people. Two of the group are children. One immigrant reported that he had burned all his Hebrew books, fearing that they might be used to "prove" that he was a "cosmopolitan." He reported that other Jews had done likewise, and that even active Jewish Communists now regretted that they had not registered for immigration to Israel.

Several of the immigrants expressed the opinion that Poland would continue to permit small numbers of Jews to leave for Israel, and that it would use that opportunity to rid itself of non-productive elements. The immigrants said that they had been allowed to take with them only small objects and that such items as gold rings, watches and fountain pens had to be left behind.

JEWISH REFUGEES WILL BE MOVED FROM BERLIN TO INTERIOR OF GERMANY

BERLIN, March 10. (JTA) -- Some 530 Jewish refugees from Soviet Germany will be flown out of West Berlin to camps in Westphalia, Hesse, Wuerttemberg and Baden, it was announced here today. Most of the refugees, half of whom come from East Berlin, want to leave Germany.

Meanwhile, the trickle of Jewish refugees across the border from East Germany continues, with 52 arriving here in the past three days. The Mayor of West Berlin, Ernst Reuter, is scheduled to fly to New York this week-end.

COMMUNISTS "PURGE" JEWISH MEMBER FROM AMSTERDAM CITY COUNCIL

AMSTERDAM, March 10. (JTA) -- Dr. Bernard S. Polak, a Dutch Jewish physician and Communist member of the Amsterdam City Council and the North Holland Provincial Legislature, has been ordered by the Communist Party to resign his posts because he has voiced criticism of the Soviet Union's arrest of nine doctors, most of whom are Jews, charged with causing the death of top Soviet leaders.

Dr. Polak's resignation from the City Council has already been submitted. His expulsion from the party is forecast here. Although Dr. Polak has refused to comment, the local Communist newspaper reported that the party's executive committee has accused him of "close relations with American agents and open opponents of the party."

ISRAEL TRADE MINISTER ARRIVES IN U. S. ; WILL MEET WASHINGTON OFFICIALS

NEW YORK, March 10. (JTA) -- Dr. Peretz Bernstein, Israel Minister of Trade and Industry, arrived here by plane from Jerusalem today to attend the two-day economic conference of the Zionist Organization of America which opens here March 14.

Dr. Bernstein plans to meet with high officials of the United States Department of Commerce and will participate in the Israel bond sales campaign. His primary purpose in coming to the United States, which he last visited three years ago, is to help attract foreign investment in Israeli projects.

NAVY RETAINS JEWISH DESIGNER OF ATOMIC SUBMARINE; MAY PROMOTE HIM

WASHINGTON, March 10. (JTA) -- Secretary of the Navy Robert B. Anderson has informed Senator Leverett Saltonstall that he has made arrangements for the temporary retention of Capt. Hyman G. Rickover, designer of the Navy's atomic submarine, in the naval service.

The Secretary acted after the Armed Service Committee, headed by Sen. Saltonstall, held up the appointment of 39 Naval Captains to the rank of Rear Admiral because Capt. Rickover's name was not on the list. Under naval regulations, if Capt. Rickover, who is 53, had not been promoted this year he would have been forced to retire.

Sen. Saltonstall questioned the omission of Capt. Rickover's name from the list in view of the high praise he had won from former Navy Secretary Dan Kimball and others for the development of atomic energy plants for submarines and an aircraft carrier.

Secretary Anderson explained that while he did not want to interfere with the the Navy's promotion system, he was making arrangements for Capt. Rickover's retention until another selection board would have an opportunity to name a Rear Admiral with his qualifications. Under such circumstances, it seems assured that Capt. Rickover would be the man best qualified for the post and would receive the promotion.

EISENHOWER APPOINTS STRAUSS HIS ASSISTANT ON ATOMIC MATTERS

WASHINGTON, March 10. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower yesterday appointed Rear Admiral Lewis L. Strauss, former member of the Atomic Energy Commission, as his special assistant on atomic energy matters.

Admiral Strauss, who will act as liaison advisor to the President on such problems, served with the AEC from 1946-50. Since that time he has served as adviser to various Congressional and executive agencies.

CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS ASKS GOVT. TO CHECK PROMOTION OF HOSTILITY

OTTAWA, March 10. (JTA) -- The Canadian Jewish Congress has submitted a brief to a special committee of the House of Commons dealing with the Criminal Code, asking that changes be made in the code to ban the promotion of hostility among groups or classes within Canada.

The brief was prefaced with the general statement that the Jewish community was interested in the entire question and many of its members had views on many of the proposed changes which they would make as members of other groups or associations, but that there were specific questions involving public mischief, free speech, spreading of false news and sedition, in which the Jewish ethnic groups had a very special interest prompting them to make their views known.

The submission was well received in a one and one-half hour session by a well attended meeting of the Special Committee of the House of Commons and evoked many questions which were answered by representatives of the Canadian Congress. The chairman and members of the House Committee of all parties indicated a lively interest and were very complimentary in their expressions, both officially and after the hearing.

WINNIPEG CITY COUNCIL APPROVES BY-LAW BANNING DISCRIMINATION

WINNIPEG, March 10. (JTA) -- Final approval of a municipal by-law banning racial and religious discrimination by municipal license holders was given unanimously by the City Council here. The text of the by-law reads:

"Every license issued pursuant to this by-law shall be granted subject to the condition that no discrimination on account of race, color or creed shall be shown against any member of the public who seeks admission to or applies to be served on the premises in respect to which the license is issued or seeks to be served by the licensee.

"And any licensee who shall, because of race, creed or color, discriminate against any member of the public as aforesaid shall be deemed to be carrying on his business in an improper manner and his license may be revoked by the inspector of licenses. This subsection shall not apply to organizations of a fraternal, religious or educational nature doing business only with their members or associates."

HARTFORD PERMITS DISTRIBUTION OF NEW TESTAMENTS IN SCHOOLS

HARTFORD, Conn., March 10. (JTA) -- The Gideon Society's New Testament will be distributed free in the schools of West Hartford to those children whose parents authorize the gifts, according to a decision of the West Hartford Board of Education.

Jewish and other leaders had asked the board not to grant the request of the Gideon Society for permission to distribute the New Testament in the schools, but the board voted to do so on a restricted basis.

The superintendent of schools, who has assumed responsibility for the method of distribution, said that "books will not be given to children unless their parents have requested them." He said that the board would make the same arrangements for any religious group.

WEILL RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF NEW YORK JEWISH PHILANTHROPIES

NEW YORK, March 10. (JTA) -- Milton Weill was re-elected to his third term as president of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York, the nation's largest private, voluntarily supported health and social service network, at a meeting last night of the Federation board of trustees.

A veteran of many years of philanthropic and civic activities on the local and national levels, Mr. Weill is the Federation's 14th president. He heads a network of 116 affiliated hospitals, health and social service institutions which annually serve 480,000 men, women and children of all faiths and races.

BENJAMIN STONE, EDITOR OF "THE JEWISH FARMER," DIES IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, March 10. (JTA) -- Benjamin C. Stone, editor of "The Jewish Farmer" and head of the extension department of the Jewish Agricultural Society for the past 34 years, died here after a long illness. He was 61.

Born in Russia, Mr. Stone came here as a boy. He was graduated from the Baron de Hirsch Agricultural School of Woodbine, N. J., and attended the Michigan State Agricultural College. After serving in the army in World War I, he worked for the JAC, organizing farm cooperatives and classes for new farmers.