

J T A DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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Passover Edition

JEWS START OBSERVANCE OF PASSOVER; SEEK FREEDOM FOR SOVIET JEWRY

NEW YORK, March 30. (JTA) -- Jews throughout the democratic world start the observance of Passover, the Festival of Liberation, tonight with their thoughts directed toward the fate of 2,500,000 Jews in the countries behind the Iron Curtain whose liberation is being sought by Israel at the United Nations.

In many Jewish homes in this country and abroad, where the traditional Seder will be held and the story of the emancipation of the Jews from Egyptian slavery will be told, a parallel will be drawn between the bondage in ancient Egypt and the position of the Jews today in the Soviet Union and other Communist countries where the governments are engaged in an anti-Jewish campaign and have branded Jews as "spies" and "American agents."

An appeal to American Jews for urgently needed funds for the United Jewish Appeal "to speed the redemption of every Jewish man, woman and child who emerges from Communist bondage in Eastern Europe and to strengthen the State of Israel as a haven for the oppressed" was voiced in a Passover message by Edward M. M. Warburg, general chairman of the UJA. "Only with this outpouring of funds can the UJA meet the needs of Jewish escapees from Iron Curtain countries and lift the hopes of the 2,500,000 Jews who are still trapped in the Soviet orbit," the message said.

J. D. C. Arranges Seder in Germany for Jewish Escapees

Jews who escaped from the Soviet zone of Germany to West Berlin will have their own Seder, arranged by the Joint Distribution Committee, it was announced today by Moses A. Leavitt, executive vicechairman. More than 500 men, women and children have escaped Russian-occupied Germany and reached the safety of West Berlin since the beginning of this year, Mr. Leavitt said. He also reported that more than 100 of them have already been evacuated from Berlin to the Western zone of Germany via a special airlift project.

Despite the cessation of JDC activities in Hungary in January, the Jews of that country have received sizeable quantities of JDC Passover supplies, Mr. Leavitt revealed. One hundred thousand pounds of matzoth and 40,000 pounds of matzoh meal were shipped to Hungary early this year, the largest amount for any single Jewish community in Europe. Other countries into which major shipments of Passover foods have been sent include Yugoslavia, Greece, Austria, Spain, Portugal and Italy.

Henry Morgenthau Jr., chairman of the Israel Bond Organization, pointed out in a Passover message that "the spirit of Passover gives hope and courage to those

live under the heel of dictatorship and tyranny." He stressed the fact that great numbers of Jews in Eastern Europe and the Arab lands look to Israel as a haven from oppression."

The Synagogue Council of America, representing the Orthodox, Conservative and Reform Jewish religious bodies of this country, in a Passover message, called on all American Jews to be alert to any violation of the right of freedom of body and soul; to speak out against any discrimination based on warped social, racial or religious ideas; and to guard against any spiritual slavery that reduces human worth and dignity.

150,000 Jews in U. S. Armed Services to Celebrate Passover

The National Jewish Welfare Board reported that some 150,000 Jews in the U. S. Armed Forces in all parts of the world have been provided with Passover food and will celebrate Passover at mass Seders in this country and in many points in Japan, Korea, Germany, France, England, Alaska, Iceland, Indo China, India, North Africa and the Caribbean area.

Smoothly-functioning airlifts in the war zone in Korea will carry GI's to mass Seders in Pusan, Taegu, and Seoul and to services in all corps areas. The Jewish chaplains in the war zone have been working weeks in advance of the festival, planning for transportation, billeting and messing. In the U. S., volunteers on JWB's 220 local Armed Services Committees will be hosts to thousands of GI's at on-post and community Seders held in Jewish community centers, synagogues, USO clubs and even, in some instances, churches. For the first time, a Seder will be observed by the Jewish servicemen on duty at the site of the atomic test maneuvers in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Leaders of all major Jewish organizations in the United States issued Passover messages dwelling on the significance of the holiday. Passover messages were issued by Jacob Blaustein, president of the American Jewish Committee; Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the American Jewish Congress; Louis Lipsky, chairman of the American Zionist Council.

Also by Rudolph G. Sonneborn, chairman of the United Israel Appeal; Rabbi Irving Miller, president of the Zionist Organization of America; Mrs. Samuel J. Rosensohn, president of Hadassah; Dr. Harris J. Levine, president of the Jewish National Fund of America; Henry Schultz, national chairman of the Anti-Defamation League; Ben Touster, president of HIAS; Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, known as the Lubavitcher Rabbi, and others.

BLAUSTEIN CONFERS WITH PRESIDENT EISENHOWER ON MIDDLE EAST

WASHINGTON, March 30. (JTA) -- Jacob Blaustein, president of the American Jewish Committee, today discussed Middle Eastern problems with President Eisenhower in a 20-minute meeting at the White House. Mr. Blaustein said he stressed the importance to world peace of achieving an improvement in relations between the Arab states and Israel.

(The New York Times today reported from Paris that a "distinguished individual" last month acted as a go-between in exchanging Egyptian and Israeli views on peace. The report said that the mediator was told by Egypt's Foreign Minister that peace with Israel would be possible on two conditions: 1. Israel must contribute heavily toward the cost of resettling the Palestine Arab refugees; 2. Israel should enable the establishment of a common Egyptian-Jordan frontier in the Negev portion of the Jewish State. When these views were conveyed to Israel Premier David Ben Gurion and Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett their reaction "apparently was by no means totally negative," the Times said.)

KNESSET DISCUSSES LAW TO GUARANTEE SECURITY OF ISRAEL BORDERS

JERUSALEM, March 30. (JTA) -- The Israel Parliament, prior to recessing for Passover, began consideration of a measure designed to guarantee the "security of the borders" of the state and to combat infiltration by Arabs from the nearby states.

The law defines an infiltrator as one who intentionally and illegally entered Israel since November 29, 1947 and was a citizen of Lebanon, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Jordan or Yemen, or a citizen or resident of Israel or a resident without citizenship who left since that date and who returned illegally. Punishment for such action is five years' imprisonment or 3,000 pounds fine, or both.

Any person defined above who served in an irregular force against Israel is liable to seven years' imprisonment or 4,000 pounds. An infiltrator who carried out an armed attack on Israel is liable to life imprisonment. Persons who aid or trade with infiltrators are liable to five years' imprisonment and a fine of 4,000 pounds, while persons who shelter such infiltrators or help them evade the authorities are liable to 15 years in jail or a fine of 10,000 pounds or both.

Meanwhile, a military spokesman today revealed that a new protest had been lodged with the Israel-Egyptian Mixed Armistice Commission after an Israeli military vehicle hit a landmine near the border of the Egyptian-held border area. Three soldiers were injured. A protest was also made to the Israeli-Lebanese armistice committee over firing into an Israeli settlement in Upper Galilee from nearby Lebanese villages.

KNESSET DECIDES TO ADVANCE FUNDS FOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

JERUSALEM, March 30. (JTA) -- The Israel Parliament, before it recessed for Passover, passed a law advancing the sum of 17,000,000 pounds from the as-not-yet passed development budget for projects intended to cut unemployment.

The funds will be used for the immediate settlement of some 6,000 families from maabarot and 2,000 families from urban areas. Speedy passage of the legislation will permit the beginning of work and the extension of loans to the families of the unemployed before the advent of Passover.

ISRAEL GRANTS 31 OIL PROSPECTING LICENSES TO SEVEN COMPANIES

JERUSALEM, March 30. (JTA) -- The Israel Government has granted 31 oil prospecting licenses to seven different companies, two of which are Israeli corporations, Pinchas Saphir, director of the government's Development Department, announced here late yesterday.

The companies involved will be notified formally next week that they have the licenses. They will pay 100 pounds for each license and five additional pounds for each 1,000 dunams (250 acres) in which they are permitted to prospect. The companies must begin work--other than drilling--within four months after they receive their licenses. They must begin drilling within two years.

The companies which received licenses are: Husky Oil Corporation, United States, six licenses covering 1,665,000 dunams; Brode and Company, three licenses covering 910,000 dunams; New Continental Oil Corporation, Canada, eight licenses covering 2,700,000 dunams; Saks-Ben Tuvim Group, Canada, four licenses covering 1,130,000 dunams; The Israel company organized as Lapidot, which actually consists of the Mekroth Water Company and AMPAL, which received three joint licenses; Mechspei Neft Company, in which Swiss, Israeli and American investors are involved, one license covering 215,000 dunams; and the Hayarden Company, organized by the M. Novomeisky-Lord Glenconner investment group.

COMMUNIST SWALLOWS DOCUMENT IN ISRAEL; ARRESTED BY POLICE

TEL AVIV, March 30. (JTA) -- An Israeli Communist, returning to Israel from a Communist parley in Prague, swallowed a document here when arrested by the police. Police circles believe that the paper contained secret Cominform instructions for the Israel Communist Party. The arrested man was identified as David Rabino.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCES SIX-YEAR FUND-RAISING PLAN

JERUSALEM, March 30. (JTA) -- The Hebrew University plans to raise \$2,000,000 and 12,000,000 pounds within the next six years for necessary expansion of its plant, Prof. Benjamin Mazar, newly elected president of the University, announced here today. His announcement was made at a press conference addressed by himself, George S. Wise, new chairman of the Board, and Dr. Werner Senator, re-elected executive vice-president of the institution.

Prof. Mazar also announced that Dr. Nahum Goldmann and Berl Locker, co-chairmen of the Jewish Agency executive, have been elected to the University's Board of Governors. He thanked both the Agency, which has contributed 250,000 pounds toward the University's budget, and Israel Government leaders--including Premier David Ben Gurion and Minister of Education Ben Zion Dinur--for their interest in the institution.

Dr. Wise also expressed gratitude for the helpful attitude of the Agency and the Israel Government and pledged that Jews everywhere, particularly the American Friends of the University, would contribute their share toward building up the University. He praised the leadership and scholarship of the new president.

Dr. Senator revealed that the University's current budget is 3,500,000 pounds, 70 percent of which is covered by government and organizational contributions and by student fees. The remaining 30 percent, he stressed, must be found from other sources. He also disclosed that the University would immediately start on the development of the Eliezer Kaplan School of Economy, Social Sciences and Administration, which it hopes to expand to the status of a faculty within a few years.

Following the press conference, Dr. Wise pointed out that of the total of 12,000,000 pounds and \$12,000,000 to be raised throughout the world for the University's building program, only \$7,000,000 need be raised in the United States. This sum, Dr. Wise said, was not excessive and must be raised in the U.S. to insure the success of the program.

He reported that plans for the University's building program would be completed within a few months, after which a fund-raising campaign would be launched in the U.S. This drive, he underlined, will be conducted with the approval of the Jewish Agency and the Israel Government and will be conducted in full coordination with the major fund campaigns, such as the United Jewish Appeal, Israel bond organization and the welfare funds.

EINSTEIN RELEASES FOUR NEW FORMULAE EXPLAINING PHYSICAL FORCES

PRINCETON, N. J., March 30. (JTA) -- Prof. Albert Einstein today made public four mathematical formulae which he believes explain the complex relationships among time, space and physical forces. The formulae are contained in a 32-page booklet published today by Princeton University as part of a new edition of Dr. Einstein's book "The Meaning of Relativity."

Dr. Einstein said that although he believes his formulae are correct he cannot prove them mathematically. He added that not even the huge electronic "brains" are yet able to handle the problem.

GERMAN BANK TO ADVANCE \$34,000,000 TO ISRAEL PURCHASING MISSION

COLOGNE, March 30. (JTA) -- The Deutsche Laender Bank will make the equivalent of about \$34,000,000 in marks immediately available to the Israel Government's purchasing mission here as a result of the entry into force of the German-Israel reparations agreement, the instruments for which were exchanged last Friday at United Nations headquarters.

Under the agreement, West Germany is making \$47,600,000 available to Israel by March 31 of this year. Since Germany has already advanced to Israel the sterling credit equivalent of about \$14,000,000 to cover Israel oil purchases from British concerns, the mission will have at its immediate disposal here for purchase of machinery, materials, etc., approximately \$34,000,000.

The first semi-annual installment for the 1953-54 fiscal year, amounting to \$24,000,000, will become due in April, about the time the Israel purchasing mission begins to function on a large scale here. The mission will consequently have about \$68,000,000 at its disposal.

The Jewish Restitution Successor Organization, which operates in the United States zone of Germany to recover Jewish heirless and communal property confiscated by the Nazis, has turned over 25,000 marks to the Jewish Blind Society of London. This represents part of the proceeds of the sale of property in Berlin formerly owned by the society.

GERMAN PARLIAMENTARY GROUP CONCLUDES PROBE OF AUERBACH CASE

MUNICH, March 30. (JTA) -- A Bavarian Parliamentary investigating committee set up in the summer of 1951 to study the case of Philip Auerbach, one-time head of the Bavarian Restitution Office, today concluded its mission.

The committee, which held 31 public hearings punctuated by Bavarian party wrangling, will make its report to Parliament after the Easter recess. With Auerbach dead, the committee is expected to give a complete whitewash to the government officials responsible for his prosecution.

Although set up to guarantee Auerbach justice in what was recognized as a complicated situation entangled with Bavarian politics, the group was never able to guarantee him a fair trial in a calm public atmosphere. Auerbach, charged with fraud in office, committed suicide last year immediately after he was convicted by a German court.

ROME OBSERVES ANNIVERSARY OF MASSACRE OF ITALIAN JEWS BY NAZIS

ROME, March 30. (JTA) -- The anniversary of the massacre of some 300-odd Italian Jews and non-Jews in the Ardeatine Caves by the Nazis was observed here today at a memorial meeting. A Catholic clergyman and Chief Rabbi Elio Toaff recited prayers for the dead. The British and Soviet Ambassadors and the Israel Minister to Rome attended the meeting.

ITALIAN JEWS AGAINST FORCING CHILDREN TO ATTEND SCHOOLS ON SABBATH

ROME, March 30. (JTA) -- The Union of Italian Jewish Communities has protested to the Minister of Education, Dr. Antonio Segni, against the Ministry's refusal to grant a Jewish child exemption from attending public school on Saturdays. The Orthodox Jewish student is Sara Gottlieb of this city.

AMERICANS FORM \$10,000,000 CORPORATION FOR ISRAEL INVESTMENTS

NEW YORK, March 30. (JTA) -- The organization of Israel Investors, Inc., capitalized at \$10,000,000, to promote the investment of American capital in the industry and economy of Israel, was announced today. The registration of the corporation under the Investment Company Act will shortly be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

I. Edwin Goldwasser, was elected president of Israel Investors, Inc. at the meeting of the board of directors. Other officers of the corporation are: Samuel Rothberg, Peoria, Ill., chairman of the board; Rudolf G. Sonneborn, New York, vice-president; Charles Rosenbloom, Pittsburgh, treasurer; and Julian B. Venezky, Peoria, Ill., secretary. Stock in the company is to sell in units of ten shares, each unit to cost \$1,150.

ISRAEL HOUSING COMPANIES OFFER HOMES FOR AMERICAN SETTLERS

NEW YORK, March 30. (JTA) -- Despite the general housing shortage which prevails in Israel, settlers from America will have little difficulty in obtaining living quarters on a par with what they have been accustomed to, it was reported today by the Jewish Agency's economic department here.

Three of Israel's largest housing companies--RASSCO, Palestine Land Development Company, and Shikun Workmen's Housing Company--have erected projects in the environs of Tel Aviv, Haifa and Jerusalem, the report said. Apartments in these developments are for sale at prices ranging from a minimum of \$2,700 for three rooms to a maximum of \$9,500 for four and a half rooms, depending upon layout and location.

BOSTON STUDENTS WIN ESSAY PRIZES ON PURITAN DEBT TO JEWS

BOSTON, March 30. (JTA) -- Research through some rare 17th and 18th century books in Boston University's Mark and Llorna Bortman Americana collection won for two graduate students, David April and Edward Bunting, essay prize awards offered by Mark Bortman of Newton in memory of the late Joseph Brin, professor of Semantics at Boston University and for the late Samuel Bortman, Brookline, brother of the University benefactor.

Writing on "The Interests of the New England Puritan in the Jew," the two students stressed the debt owed by the Puritans to the Old Testament for their ideas in regard to religion and government and Puritan interest in comparing their own wanderings with those of the Israelites.

MARK EISNER, NOTED EDUCATOR AND JEWISH LEADER, DIES AT 66

TUCSON, Arizona, March 30. (JTA) -- Mark Eisner, noted educator and former president of the American Association for Jewish Education, died here Saturday while on a trip. He was 66.

Mr. Eisner, a well known lawyer and tax expert, served as chairman of the Board of Higher Education of New York City from 1926-38. During his long career of public service he was a member of the faculty of New York University, served as a Collector of Internal Revenue, was a member of the New York State Constitutional Convention in 1915 and served a term in the New York State Assembly.

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