

# JTA DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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## ISRAEL CABINET COMPROMISES ON MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE BILL

JERUSALEM, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet met in extraordinary session today and worked out a compromise on a bill regulating marriage and divorce over which a split was developing between the religious faction and other elements in the government.

The compromise provides that the rabbinical courts shall have jurisdiction over marriage and divorce and their decisions shall be enforced by the civil courts. In the case of divorce, the district court may imprison a husband who refuses to accede to a rabbinical court decision granting his wife a divorce. Such imprisonment may last until the husband agrees to the decision. In supporting this Talmudic interpretation, the Cabinet overrode the opposition of several of its members.

Immediately after the Cabinet session, Deputy Minister of Religion Zorach Warhaftig left for Safad to seek Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog's approval of the compromise. If approval is granted, the marriage and divorce bill will be introduced in Parliament Thursday, together with the national service bill for religious women.

The Cabinet meeting was called after representatives of the coalition parties last night failed to work out a satisfactory compromise. The religious Ministers had demanded strict rabbinical regulation of marriage and divorce, while Justice Minister Dr. Peretz Bernstein and several Mapal Ministers objected to having civil courts enforce rabbinical decisions.

## Orthodox Jews in Jerusalem Renew Religious Demonstrations

JERUSALEM, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- Nearly 1,000 Orthodox men and women today participated in a public prayer session at the Sephardic Synagogue in Jerusalem in a protest against the bill for conscription of religious women for non-military national service. The measure is expected to receive its final reading in Parliament toward the end of the week.

While the Cabinet was hammering out a compromise on a bill regulating marriage and divorce -- thus clearing the way for a final vote on that measure and the conscription bill -- the Orthodox men and women assembled in the courtyard of the synagogue. Some of them sat on the ground and covered their heads with sackcloth and ashes, reciting portions of the Rosh Hashanah liturgy and blowing shofar's.

In various other synagogues throughout the city, small groups of Cabbalists prayed and then made their way to the Sephardic Synagogue where they prayed that "God's vengeance be averted." Large numbers of police gathered about the synagogue to control the hundreds of bystanders who blocked traffic and to keep them from interfering with the white-bearded old men and the women who were beating their breasts during the prayers.

ISRAELIS SENTENCED FROM ONE TO 12 YEARS FOR UNDERGROUND ACTIVITIES

TEL AVIV, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- Sentences ranging from one to 12 years imprisonment were today meted out to 13 youthful members of an illegal underground organization convicted by a military court at the Sarafand Army base of membership in and participating in the activities of a terrorist organization.

The three-man court gave the stiffest sentence, 12 years, to Shimon Bachar, who escaped from jail during the trial and is still at large. He and Yaacov Heruti, who received a 10-year sentence, and Yaakov Blumenthal, who was sentenced to seven years, were all convicted of three charges involving membership and activity in the underground unit. Zeev Badian and Miss Yaffa Dromi, his fiancée, were given four-year terms. Miss Dromi was an announcer on the underground Sternist radio before the State of Israel was established.

Yehezkel Mizrachl received a five-year sentence, while two 16-year-old girls, Zilia Mogeri Cohen and Malka Paposbdo, were given one-year terms. The remainder received terms ranging between one and three years, with Yefet Taisl and Yehoshofat Givon, who confessed to an abortive attempt to set fire to the car of the Czech Minister in Israel, receiving two-year sentences.

When sentencing was concluded the defendants rose to their feet and sang "Hatikvah." The sentences are subject to approval by Premier David Ben Gurion in his capacity of Defense Minister.

ISRAEL MINISTER PRESENTS PLAN FOR STABILIZATION OF PRICES

JERUSALEM, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- A plan calling for the immediate stabilization of prices in an attempt to improve Israel's economic situation has been submitted by Minister of Trade and Industry Peretz Bernstein to the Cabinet's special Ministerial Economic Committee it was learned here today. The plan, which calls for a price freeze, has aroused considerable interest in all political and economic circles.

It is based on the assumption that current consumption in Israel must be covered in the immediate future by increased local production and by more exports which will bring in the necessary foreign exchange to pay for imports. It also assumes that eventually investment for expansion of production must be raised from local savings. Price fixing is recommended regardless of the relationship between the pound and the dollar, which now rests at 1.8 pound to the dollar.

The newspaper Maariv today reported that Dr. Bernstein has approached the Histadrut with a proposition that it agree to a wage freeze in order to help the plan succeed. The labor federation has not yet replied to the Minister, the newspaper said.

ARAB ARMY CHIEFS MEET ON SECURITY PACT; WILL REQUEST U. S. ARMS

LONDON, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The chiefs of staff of the armies of seven Arab states today opened a meeting in Cairo under Arab League auspices to consider putting into effect an Arab collective security pact.

It is believed that the Arabs will request American munitions to support the contemplated defense organization. The organization would be a substitute for Western proposals for a Middle Eastern Defense Command.

TOP ISRAELI DIPLOMATS HOLD TWO-DAY MEETING IN PARIS; EBAN PRESIDES

PARIS, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- Top Israeli diplomats, including envoys to several European capitals, today concluded a two-day meeting here at which they discussed relations between Israel and various Western Powers and Israel's position vis-a-vis the Arab states.

A spokesman refused to disclose which Western Powers were being discussed and added that Paris was chosen as the site of the parley for "purely geographical reasons." Abba Eban, Israel's chief delegate at the United Nations and Ambassador to Washington, chaired the meeting. Among the diplomats present were: Eliahu Elath, Ambassador to London; Eliahu Sasson, Minister to Rome; Shmuel Dizon, Acting Minister to Paris; M. R. Kidron, director of the Foreign Ministry Section on International Organizations; and Gideon Raphael, also of the Foreign Ministry office.

ISRAEL OBTAINS GOODS FROM VARIOUS LANDS AS GERMAN REPARATIONS

TEL AVIV, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The Israel purchasing mission in Germany has obtained 1,000 tons of rubber from Malaya, valued at about \$500,000 through German reparations payments, Dr. F. Shinnar, head of the mission, reported here today.

He said this and other purchases have been made outside Germany in countries where Germany has blocked currency accounts. In this way too, he stated, Israel has purchased hides from Argentina and Brazil and is negotiating for \$700,000 worth of oil seeds and a large quantity of lumber from Austria. On next year's account Israel hopes to purchase 50 tons of wheat from Turkey.

Dr. Shinnar said that an agreement has been concluded with German shipbuilders for the construction of six vessels and a floating dock valued at 60,000,000 marks. The ships will be two refrigerated vessels of 8,000 ton displacement for the shipment of citrus fruit, two straight cargo steamers and two 10,000 ton ships for both freight and passengers. Signature of the agreement to build the vessels awaits final approval by the Cabinet, he said.

He also re-emphasized the mission's determination not to buy in Germany manufactured goods which would compete with locally made products, unless the Israeli items were priced much higher than the world price.

TEHERAN JEWS EN ROUTE TO ISRAEL STRANDED INSIDE PERSIA

JERUSALEM, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- A motor convoy with 140 Iranian Jews en route to Israel, which left Teheran for the Turkish frontier a week ago, is stranded just inside Persia, the Jewish Agency was informed today by a cable from Iran.

The party was stranded because the Persian border was closed in the aftermath of the anti-Mossadegh coup. It is waiting for the border controls to be lifted. It appears here that the party will miss a ship which is now at the Turkish port of Alexandretta to take it to Israel.

ITALIAN MINISTRY PERMITS ISRAEL TO EXPORT GOODS TO ITALY

ROME, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The Italian Ministry of Foreign Trade has agreed to permit Israel to export to this country \$15,000 worth of false teeth; \$12,000 worth of dental material; \$5,000 worth of razor blades; \$10,000 worth of grapefruit juice and \$5,000 worth of pencils.

ENTIRE JEWISH COMMUNITY ON GREEK ISLAND RENDERED HOMELESS BY QUAKE

PARIS, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The entire Jewish community of Zakynthos in the Ionian Islands has been rendered homeless and is "completely ruined," it was reported here today by the Joint Distribution Committee on the basis of a cable received from Chaim Benrubi, its representative in Greece.

One Jew was killed and the remaining 38 lost their homes in the earthquakes and fire which devastated the Greek islands two weeks ago. The 38 have since been removed to Athens where they are receiving JDC relief assistance and will need longterm rehabilitative and possibly migration aid. The survivors include seven children under the age of 10 and four persons over 65.

REPUBLICAN PARTY IN TURKEY OPPOSES RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION

ISTANBUL, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The Republican Party, the major opposition party in Turkey, rejects racial or religious discrimination, Kasim Gulek, secretary general of the party, declared at a mass rally in Kars, in Eastern Turkey.

Mr. Gulek denounced the practice of discrimination as a betrayal of the country, insisting that his party believes that all people in the country are equal as citizens. It was the Republican Party, which held office for 30 years until 1950, that introduced in 1942 the "Varlik," a discriminatory tax levelled at all minorities in the country. The tax brought the Jewish businessmen and industrialists in Turkey to economic ruin.

15,000 DISPLACED JEWS REGISTERED FOR EMIGRATION FROM EUROPE

BUENOS AIRES, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- There are still over 15,000 Jewish DP's in Europe who are registered for emigration with the Joint Distribution Committee, Louis Horowitz, director of the JDC's European emigration service, today told a press conference here.

Mr. Horowitz estimated that about 10,000 of the DP's would be able to enter the United States in the next three years under President Eisenhower's emergency immigration program. Of the remaining 5,000, he said, part would go to Canada, part to Australia and the remainder to South American countries. He revealed that Chile would accept 1,500 of the Jewish DP's and Uruguay might accept 100 families. He also disclosed that discussions were now in progress to obtain permission for some of the DP's to come to Argentina.

MCCARRAN DOUBTS EISENHOWER WILL SEEK REVISION OF IMMIGRATION LAW

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- Sen. Pat McCarran yesterday expressed his conviction that President Eisenhower would not lead a drive to revise the McCarran-Walter Immigration Act at next year's Congressional session.

Sen. McCarran, who conferred privately with the President, said he was not "quoting" Mr. Eisenhower but added that his opinion was based on statements which the President has made.

The Senator charged that "minority groups" have organized a campaign to discredit the McCarran Act and "open the flood gates to promiscuous immigration." The President recently asked a Congressional Committee to investigate the possibility of changing the McCarran Act in view of the many complaints he had received about its "injustices."

Z. O. A. CONVENTION OPENS TODAY IN NEWYORK; 1, 200 DELEGATES ATTEND

NEW YORK, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The 56th annual convention of the Zionist Organization of America will open its five-day session tomorrow at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel here to discuss and act upon issues involving the future of the Zionist movement and the problems confronting Israel today.

Among the subjects to come under consideration will be American foreign policy on Israel and the Middle East, the relationship between world Jewry and Israel, the future tasks and structure of the World Zionist Organization and an expanded program of economic aid to Israel.

The convention deliberations will cover the entire range of Zionist activities in this country and the role of the ZOA on the American scene and in Israel, with emphasis on the structural and organization problems which must be solved in order to increase the ZOA's scope and effectiveness. Over 1200 delegates from all parts of the country will attend the convention sessions.

The status of Jerusalem, its position as the eternal holy city of the Jewish people, will be the theme of the opening session tomorrow, keynoted by the presidential address of Rabbi Irving Miller, in which the ZOA president will review the developments of the past year on the American and world Zionist scene, and project the basic issues confronting the movement.

The speakers at the session which will discuss the Arab-Israeli problem and the issue of the status of Jerusalem will include Louis Lipsky, chairman of the American Zionist Council and Avraham Harman, Israel Consul General. Dr. Emanuel Neumann, Dr. Israel Goldstein and Benjamin G. Browdy, all members of the Jewish Agency executive, will speak at the plenary session dealing with the future structure and tasks of the World Zionist Organization and the relationships between Israel and the world Zionist movement. A testimonial dinner will be given by the convention to Dr. Neumann in honor of his 60th birthday.

ZIONIST CONVENTION IN CHILE PLEDGES MAXIMUM AID TO ISRAEL

SANTIAGO, Chile, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The 34th convention of the Zionist organization of Chile concluded here last night with resolutions pledging utmost support to Israel. The convention, which was attended by 400 delegates, was addressed by Samuel Goren, Counsellor of the Israel Legation, and by Abram Salomon, representative of the World Confederation of General Zionists.

CONVENTION OF B'NAI B'RITH GIRLS CLOSES; DISCUSSED YOUTH PROBLEMS

URBANA, Ill., Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The annual convention of B'nai B'rith Girls concluded here today with the election of Charlotte Turner of Los Angeles as national president of the organization. The convention decided to introduce as national discussion subjects for 1953-54 the topics "How can our schools help to minimize prejudice" and "What are the responsibilities of the adult Jewish community to Jewish youth."

FIRST ISRAEL DIPLOMATIC ENVOY ARRIVES IN CANADA; WILL OPEN LEGATION

OTTAWA, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- Michael S. Comay, Israel's first diplomatic representative to Canada, arrived here yesterday and was welcomed by representatives of the Canadian Government and by Jewish community leaders. Mr. Comay, who holds the rank of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, will open the Israel Legation here.