

J T A DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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ISRAEL'S FIRST INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OPENED IN JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, Sept. 22. (JTA) -- Israel's first international exhibition, the "Conquest of the Desert," was formally opened late this afternoon by President Ben Zvi and Acting Premier Moshe Sharett. The exposition, which 2,000,000 persons are expected to visit before it closes on Oct. 14, is located in the heart of this city.

More than 2,000,000 pounds has been invested by 500 private firms, public and semi-public institutions from 23 nations and intergovernmental bodies in the various booths, pavilions and exhibits. The exhibits and films will show how man can best beat back the desert and provide more food and living space for the world's rapidly growing population.

More than 600 people were employed to set up the exhibition. The Conquest of the Desert Company spent 840,000 pounds while local firms spent 700,000 pounds in preparing for the exposition. It is expected that the fair's deficit will be no more than 300,000 pounds and that most of the investment will be recovered from rental fees for exhibition space and admission charges.

Three scientific conferences will be held concurrently with the fair. A symposium on "Negev Development" will be presented by engineers and architects next Sunday, a Congress of the Society for the Advancement of Science will convene next Tuesday and a Congress of Jewish Agronomists will be held Oct. 4. Each week-day night concerts or theatrical productions will be presented in the open-air auditorium.

U. S. Explains its Boycott of Exhibition Opening

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22. (JTA) -- The United States Government regards Israel's "Conquest of the Desert" exhibition which opened today in Jerusalem as an "official function" and will not attend because this government does not recognize the legality of the location of the Israel Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem. A State Department spokesman made this known today.

The spokesman said American Embassy officials may attend the exhibition after today but were purposely avoiding the political implications they feel would be attached to appearing at Jerusalem today in an official capacity.

ISRAEL TO SUBMIT TO GERMANY LIST OF GOODS FOR 1954 REPARATIONS

JERUSALEM, Sept. 22. (JTA) -- The Israel Government will submit next month to the West German Government a list of intended purchases for the year beginning March 1954, it was learned here today. The purchases will be made under the German-Israel reparations agreement which obligates Germany to pay Israel 310,000,000 marks during the coming year.

BY OUTLINED BY HEAD OF KNESSET COMMITTEE

A) -- Israel is "eager" for friendly relations with the United States, Meir Argov, chairman of Israel's Foreign Affairs Committee, declared at Manchester last night. Mr. Argov, visiting Britain during a European tour, defined Israel's attitude toward the world powers as "non-identification" rather than

the United States, Britain and France of having failed to make a declaration guaranteeing the borders of Israel, as well as the borders of the Arab states, he said, Israel must rely on itself. He is ready at any time for a round-table conference on the problem. Argov warned them that "we shall repel any aggression against each of our land."

Improvement of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Israel. The leader expressed the hope that this development would not only touch on both emigration (of Russian Jews) and on the present forbidden in Russia. He added that nothing could dampen the enthusiasm of world Jewry as a movement of

an adverse balance of trade, he said it was "not so frightful as the costs of the War of Liberation and the heavy financial burden of hundreds of thousands of immigrants. He pointed out that this was complicated by the fact that the immigrants came from various countries and that "certain imponderables" had made the job easier than

He declared that one of the main tasks of the Zionist movement was to bring world Jewry that though the Jewish national home had been established, it was still vital in building Israel.

CHARGES ON HULEH DRAINAGE PROJECT

(JTA) -- The Israel Government today labelled "utterly unacceptable" to the Mixed Armistice Commission that the Huleh project violated an armistice agreement and that a portion of the project was in the hands of Syrian power for Israel would adversely affect Syrian farm lands.

Accused of violating the armistice agreement by the mere fact that she was included in her protest yesterday to the Israel-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission spokesman declared here. He added that any attempt to ignore the threat "will find Israel ready to adopt all measures

of the MAC, the Syrians asked Maj. Gen. Vagn Bennike, commander of the MAC, for a decision on the protest within three days. The Syrian ambassador to him in Damascus last week when he visited the Syrian ambassador. The Syrians said that construction of a nine-mile canal to divert water from the artificial lake nearly 700 feet below sea level, would dry up the lake and the surrounding land.

the United States, Britain and France last week against the implementation of an over-all program to reclaim 15,000 acres of land for Jewish migrant settlement. (In Washington, the State Department is now under consideration.)

DR. GOLDMANN REPORTS ON HIS REPARATIONS TALKS IN VIENNA

NEW YORK, Sept. 22. (JTA) -- Details on his talks with the Austrian government on Jewish claims against Austria were given today by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Jewish Agency, following his return from Vienna where he met Austrian Chancellor Dr. Julius Raab.

Addressing a press conference, Dr. Goldmann said that four major claims against Austria for material losses suffered by Jews under Nazi rule are being studied by the Austrian Cabinet. The claims, presented by the Committee for Jewish Claims on Austria, of which Dr. Goldmann is president and which represents major Jewish organizations of the Western world, are:

1. Present Austrian legislation to indemnify victims of Nazi persecution in Austria should be extended to embrace thousands of former Austrians who were resettled and acquired citizenship in other countries. There appears to be agreement on this point between the Austrian government and the Committee, Dr. Goldmann said, and the Raab government has taken some initial steps to meet the demand.

2. The Committee for Jewish Claims on Austria is seeking a settlement for heirless Jewish property. The funds accruing under such settlement would be used to finance Nazi refugee rehabilitation programs abroad. Some of the funds would go into a special fund to assist indigent members of the present Jewish community in Austria. Before the Anschluss, Austria had a Jewish population of 190,000. After the war, survivors found refuge in other lands. The present Austrian-Jewish population is estimated at between 9,000 and 10,000.

3. The Nazi government sequestered all Jewish bank accounts, and the Austrian government demands that these be unfrozen and returned to their legitimate owners. The Austrian government maintains that these accounts are no longer available because they have been withdrawn by the German Reich. Settlement of this issue may require negotiations between the German and Austrian governments.

4. The Committee is also demanding the return of, or compensation for, Jewish cultural and other Jewish household goods sold on the block by the Austrian government after the Anschluss.

Jewish Losses in Austria Estimated at Over \$1,200,000,000

"Jewish material losses in Austria under Nazi rule exceeded \$1,200,000,000," Dr. Goldmann said. "As in the case of Germany, the Jews are asking for only a fraction of these stupendous losses. Our claims are based on a realistic appraisal of Austria's financial capacity. It would be more reasonable, on the other hand, to abandon these losses. Thousands of persons throughout the world, many of them in destitute condition, have waited for years for pensions, insurance, bank savings and other assets criminalized by the Anschluss government of Austria."

Dr. Goldmann also reported that the West German government, which negotiated in 1951 and 1952 on behalf of the Israel Government and the Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, has assumed obligations amounting to \$2,200,000,000 in indemnification, restitution and reparations, to former German nationals.

This figure includes the \$822,000,000 which the West German Government undertakes to pay in goods to Israel under the Bonn-Israel agreement of 1952. Some 1,000,000 persons of all faiths, both inside and outside Germany, are entitled to these payments.

Federal Indemnification Law to compensate persons who suffered physical mutilation under the Nazis. The Federal Indemnification Bill will be submitted by Chancellor Adenauer to the new German Parliament this summer in accordance with the law on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

Application for a settlement of individual restitution claims against the Nazis will be submitted by Chancellor Adenauer to the new German Parliament to convene early next month. These claims involve sequestrated properties and other properties.

N AGAINST MARSHAL KESSELRING'S ASSERTIONS

(JTA) -- The Union of Italian Jewish Communities has issued a statement by Nazi Field Marshal Kesselring that he helped save thousands of Italian Jews by flouting the orders of Heinrich Himmler to deport the Jewish population of Rome.

The statement labels Kesselring "one of the most ferocious authors of the Holocaust" and calls his claim of having helped save the remnant of Italian Jews, men, women and priests of Italy "who must be credited with the fact that the Italian Jews were able to save themselves."

The Jewish community renews its accusations against Kesselring and warns the Italian people against believing the statements made by German troops in Italy.

EXECUTES TOP WAR CRIMINAL IN NUREM

(JTA) -- A local denazification tribunal has, in effect, sentenced to death the health of executed Nazi General Alfred Jodl, one of the major war criminals before the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg. Jodl was sentenced to death in 1946 for crimes against humanity.

The sentence of major war criminals may revert to the state in which they were tried. A Munich denazification tribunal earlier this year convicted Jodl of crimes against humanity. This was a calculated affront to the war crimes trials conducted at Nuremberg. The High Commission politely remonstrated with the Bavarian government over its American intervention concerning denazification matters.

The sentence was reversed and the case referred to the Central Denazification Commission. Jodl's family appealed this decision and has now been upheld. The Commission found no evidence warranting his classification as a major war criminal or a militarist. In consequence, Jodl's next-of-kin, Mrs. Jodl, will draw the very substantial pension due a widow of a general.

LEADERS HELD FOR TRIAL

22. (JTA) -- An Amsterdam district court has ordered the trial of two Dutch communists after police raided their homes and confiscated a number of documents pertaining to their movement. The defendants are J. Wolhuis of Groningen and Paul van Tienen, head of the Dutch Social Movement.

MALENKOV MAY FOLLOW STALIN'S ANTI-JEWISH POLICY, SAY

NEW YORK, Sept. 22. (JTA) -- The "probability" that the Male in the Soviet Union will carry on the anti-Semitic program of the late Stalin regime was predicted here tonight by Jacob Blaustein, president of the American Jewish Committee, addressing a dinner of Jewish leaders at the Waldorf Hotel at which the Joint Defense Appeal inaugurated the Fall phase of its drive for \$5,000,000 for maintaining the activities of the AJC and the B'nai B'rith Defamation League.

Citing the appointment of Nikita Khrushchev to the post of second secretary of the Communist Party as evidence of Moscow's anti-Jewish attitude, Mr. Blaustein said: "Under Khrushchev's governorship of the Ukraine, just after the war, the Jews were not only openly insulted and discriminated against, they were physically persecuted. They will have to go back to the days of the Czar to match these occurrences."

Mr. Blaustein attacked the McCarran Immigration Act as "the epitome of racialism written into our country's basic laws." He also pointed out that the emergency law permitting the entry of 214,000 people over a period of a half year embodies provisions "so comprehensive and at the same time so flexible that even a dog might have trouble getting security clearance for entry into the country." He said that "the emergency measure is going to help keep the McCarran Act in force by misleading people into imagining that the bad features of the Act have been gotten around somehow."

Philip Klutznick, president of B'nai B'rith, echoing Mr. Blaustein's warning against complacency in the fight against discrimination, said: "Before the war, victories have been achieved some people have jumped to the conclusion that the fight has been won. The result has been a certain lessening in the sense of urgency which impells our continuing efforts. This we must never forget--so long as any one group are threatened the civil and human rights of all are threatened."

HOUSE COMMITTEE URGED TO HEAR TESTIMONY IN DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22. (JTA) -- Rep. Emanuel Celler today urged the House Committee on Un-American Activities to hear testimony in defense of Stephen S. Wise and Judah Magnes. The two rabbis were accused by Benjamin Gitlow, former secretary of the Communist Party, of giving Communist instructions or collaborating with Reds.

Rep. Celler wrote Rep. Harold H. Velde, chairman of the Committee, that "to malign the dead is easy virtue." Rep. Velde was told "it is incredible that the nature of the charges levelled by former Communist Benjamin Gitlow against Rabbis Wise and Magnes in testimony before your Committee, that they were unchallenged."

Rep. Celler asked that the Committee call a meeting to hear from both rabbis. He said "they cannot now, unfortunately, speak for themselves, but there are others who can." Rep. Celler emphasized he could not speak for the testimony by Mr. Gitlow against the rabbis when they were alive. "This, in my opinion, is a curious aspect of so much of the testimony given by ex-Communists before the Committee and others." He added he thought "it is time" that this testimony be challenged.

Rep. Velde said today that he has not yet received Rep. Celler's request for a special hearing, however, will be put before the other members of the Committee, he said.

CONGRESS PLEDGES ACTIVE FRIENDSHIP TO HISTADRUT

22. (JTA) -- "We shall continue to cement ever stronger ties between the Canadian Congress of Labor and the Histadrut in Israel," president of the 375,000 member Congress, said at its annual convention here.

"We have been friends of the Histadrut for quite a few years and we value this active friendship--not lip service--which our parent organization of Industrial Organizations has extended to Israel's Federation of Labor," he added. The convention which was attended by 1,000 delegates received greetings from Moshe Bitan, representative of the Histadrut who is now on a special mission to this continent.

WEIZMANN DOCUMENTS ANNOUNCED; LETTERS SOUGHT

22. (JTA) -- Meyer Weisgal, literary executor of the late Dr. Weizmann today appealed to all recipients of letters from the late Dr. Weizmann possessing any documents relating to him to send such documents to Rehovoth.

Plans are under way to publish many documents and letters which throw additional light on Dr. Weizmann's 50 years as a Zionist leader and Jewish statesman.

Dr. Weizmann announced that he has invited outstanding scholars, historians and a memorial board preparing these documents for publication. They will be housed in the Weizmann National Archives in a building which will be the Dr. Weizmann Memorial Center at Rehovoth.

ROOSEVELT WILL RECEIVE "AMERICA-ISRAEL FRIENDSHIP AWARD"

22. (JTA) -- Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt will be the 1953 recipient of the "America-Israel Friendship Award," it was announced today by the national president of the Mizrahi Women's Organization.

The award is conferred annually by the women's religious-Zionist organization of the Jewish faith, who has contributed most significantly to the understanding and friendship between the American people and the Jewish people.

DEATH OF LEADING SO. AFRICAN COMMUNAL WORKER, DECEASED

Sept. 22. (JTA) -- Alexander Ovedoff, well-known South African labor leader and journalist, died here at the age of 65. Born in Ekaterinburg, Russia in 1910 and after a brief stay in the United States in 1914. He became prominent in communal work during 1929 he took over the editorship of the "Ivri Onouchi" and in 1936 with the "South African Jewish Times," he became the editor of the journal.

His journalism to become an organizer for the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies at the time of his death was national organizer of the United Jewish Communities. His services to his communal service have been paid in statement of appreciation by the Board of Deputies, E.J. Horwitz, and by H. Miller, Mayor of Johannesburg. He was also national chairman of the United Communal Fund campaign.