

# J T A DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

231 West 58th Street, New York 19, N. Y.

Contents Copyright © 1953 by Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc. All rights reserved. Previous arrangement.

VOL. XX No. 186 - 35th year

Monday, September 28, 1953

## ISRAEL CABINET MEETS ON SYRIAN THREATS; BIG POWERS ALERTED

JERUSALEM, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet met today in special session to consider the latest Syrian threats against Israel in connection with Israel's drainage project in the Lake Huleh region. It was reported that the Syrians had presented a second ultimatum to the headquarters of the United Nations truce supervision machinery demanding that Israel cease immediately the digging of a nine-mile canal for the diversion of a portion of the Jordan River waters to a hydroelectric station.

As the tension mounted here, a Foreign Ministry spokesman announced that Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett last night met with the representatives of the United States, Britain and France at his home in Tel Benjamin to discuss the Syrian situation. Present at the private conference were British Ambassador Sir Francis Evans, American Charge d'Affaires H. Russel and French Ambassador Pierre E. Gilbert.

The Israeli press in Tel Aviv today attacked the demand by UN truce chief Maj. Gen. Vagn Bennike last week that Israel cease immediately all work on the canal until an agreement had been reached with Syria on how the project was to be carried through. Asserting that the demand was against the interests of progress and development, the newspapers chided the Danish General for acting in haste and having yielded to the continuous threats of the Syrians. The press said that while the situation was serious an open fight could easily be averted unless the Syrians open fire.

### Israel Rejects Demand to Cease Huleh Reclamation

The latest developments which the Cabinet studied today followed upon the Israeli rejection of Gen. Bennike's demand. The Israeli statement, contained in a letter from Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett to Gen. Bennike, declared: "The Government of Israel fails to see any justification in the conclusion that peaceful work of an eminently constructive and beneficial character which is in progress in the demilitarized zone should be discontinued."

Arab broadcasts monitored in Israel this week-end reported that Syria had cancelled all leaves of men and officers in her army following the Israeli refusal to accede to Gen. Bennike's demand, which Mr. Sharett said was in violation of the UN Charter and the armistice agreement. An Israeli military spokesman, commenting on the Syrian army's move and on increased military activity observed in the Syrian area near the border, warned: "If Syria opens fire on our borders, we will take suitable steps to insure the security of our population."

(A report from Cairo today said that Mustafa el Shahaby, Syrian Minister to Egypt, had called on Egyptian Foreign Minister Mahmoud Fawzi to discuss united Arab action against Israel. Late last week, Arab League deputy secretary general

Ahmed Shukeiry had charged in Cairo that Israel was planning to "steal" all the Jordan River water flow by pumping it into the projected canal. Also this week-end, Lebanon joined Syria and Jordan in formally protesting the Lake Huleh project which the Arab charge will dry up land in Syria and Jordan.)

Meanwhile, UN observers were checking Israel land office records in Safad to determine whether any of the land on which the Israelis were digging their canal belonged to Arab residents of the area. Work continued on the project today without interruption, despite the international tension.

### Secretary Dulles Discusses Syrian-Israel Rift with Eban

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- Secretary of State John Foster Dulles yesterday discussed with Israel Ambassador Abba Eban the controversy involving Israel's use of the waters of the Jordan River. This question, however, was only one of a number of subjects discussed.

Mr. Eban said that, in view of his recent return from Israel, a "detailed survey of American-Israel relations in all aspects" was entered into. He said that he did not raise the question of the United States' failure to officially recognize Israel's "Conquest of the Desert" exposition.

Mr. Eban said he gave Mr. Dulles a full account of Israel's position on the Jordan River controversy. It is believed that the conversation also involved a move made known by the Administration to divert to Iran Mutual Security funds voted to Israel. Mr. Eban was accompanied by Reuven Shiloah, newly-arrived Minister Plenipotentiary assigned to the Embassy.

### Syria Prepared to Seek U.N. Action in Huleh Dispute

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Sept. 27. (JTA) -- The Syrian delegate to the United Nations, Rafik Asha, yesterday declared that Syria was prepared to seek further UN action if Israel persisted in her refusal to halt work on the Lake Huleh project, as demanded by Syria and endorsed by Maj. Gen. Vagn Bennike, UN truce chief in Palestine.

Mr. Asha, who expressed approval of Gen. Bennike's stand, suggested that the Israeli refusal to go along with Gen. Bennike should be reported to the UN Security Council.

### U.S. FAILS TO INVITE ISRAEL TO IMPORTANT STUDY; ARABS INVITED

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- Leaders from five Near Eastern countries have arrived in the United States for a special study of "Conquest of the Desert" methods "aimed at helping the Near Eastern countries," but Israel was not asked to participate owing to fears of administration officials that the Arabs might be offended.

The study is sponsored by the Foreign Organization Administration under its technical cooperation program, with the assistance of the Departments of Interior and Agriculture. It has been planned in cooperation with FOA technicians assigned to U.S. operations missions in the Near East.

Twelve officials have arrived from Jordan, Egypt, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and Iran. The tour will take them to Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas, where they will observe water spreading and management practices on private and government lands under varying conditions of soil, rainfall and temperature, with conditions similar to those found in the Near East. Administration sources said the program would be valuable to Israel but it was decided here that participation of the Israelis was undesirable because of the Arab attitude toward Israel.

ARAB-ISRAEL PEACE REMOTE, EBAN REPORTS AT ISRAEL BOND CONFERENCE

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- Israel Ambassador Abba Eban, addressing the National Economic Conference for Israel which opened here last night, indicated that he saw little prospect of peace with the Arabs in the next five years. The three-day conference is sponsored by the organization directing the sale of Israel bonds in the United States.

The Ambassador told the 800 delegates that the Israel Government had decided to call on Henry Morgenthau, Julian Venezky and Henry Montor "to accept the responsibility" for planning and launching a new Israel bond issue in the United States in 1954. Mr. Eban added that Israel's first bond issue, launched in this country in May 1951, brought \$160,000,000 in new capital to the Jewish State.

The Israel diplomat scored what he described as "international indulgence to the Arab policy of regional hostility." He said that signs of reduced tension in other sectors of the world are not evident in Arab policy "which finds itself increasingly out of harmony with the conciliatory atmosphere of contemporary international relations."

Referring to Syrian opposition to Israel's Jordan River project, Mr. Eban noted that "the Security Council's ban on blockade practices is defied without evoking protest or pressure, while the same Council's explicit encouragement of development work, provided land rights are respected, is repudiated at the first clatter of Syrian threat."

Stresses Importance of Making Israel Secure

In view of the Arab attitude, Mr. Eban stated, Israel "sees no virtue in entreating its neighbors for a peace settlement, which would redound as much to their advantage as to our own." He stressed the importance of concentrating Israel's energies to make the state secure.

"We are just as capable of redoubling our strength in the next five years as we were in the first five, and have many other avenues of political and economic consolidation to occupy our effort and resource in the coming years," he said. "Having endured two millennia without statehood, we should not lack the patience to endure a mere decade without peace if our neighbors so decree."

Mr. Eban noted that in some circles "we still read and hear the astonishing theory that Israel, smallest and most beleaguered of states, should consider yielding territory to the vast and voracious Arab empire."

Morgenthau Warns Against Influencing Israel's Policies

Henry Morgenthau, Jr., former U.S. Treasury Secretary, warned the delegates to refrain from using the "power of the purse" to influence the political or economic policies of the State of Israel. Mr. Morgenthau, who is chairman of the Board of Governors of the Israel Bond Organization, said: "The way in which the State of Israel runs its business is its own affair. Whether the Jews of America or any other country use the power of the purse to pressure the State of Israel into certain actions, the violence to Israel's sovereignty is unforgivable."

Reporting that since May 1, 1951, the first Israel Bond Issue enlisted more than 600,000 subscribers with total subscriptions exceeding \$160,000,000, Mr. Morgenthau said this represented the largest loan obtained directly from the American

public by any foreign government since the end of World War II. He emphasized that despite severe hardships, Israel has not defaulted on a single obligation in the five years since her establishment.

Pointing out that Israel could put 250,000 soldiers "on our side," he said: "in the fast changing European political scene, 250,000 men, representing first class troops, constitute a striking force which the United States cannot and should not overlook."

Declaring that he thought more could be done to encourage the entry of private capital into Israel, Mr. Morgenthau said he "would like to see the Histadrut get out of private business." This remark provoked a protest on the floor from Meyer Brown, leader of the American Zionist Laborites.

### U.S. and Israel Economists Analyze Israel's Progress

Leon H. Keyserling, former chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, told delegates that Israel's improving economic position lays the basis for the flotation of a second Israel Bond Issue in the United States. Israel is now in a much better position than ever before to fulfill its economic objectives, he said. He pointed out that the initial absorption of immigrants has virtually been completed and the foundations laid for a well-balanced economy.

David Horowitz, governor of the Central Bank of Israel and former director general of the Israel Finance Ministry, who arrived in the United States two days ago to report on the Israel economic situation, said that Israel suffers from a scarcity of two commodities "without which integration of new immigrants is impossible--time and capital."

Stressing the importance of the bond issue, Mr. Horowitz said that funds from that source were used to establish 1,466 new industrial plants now producing a wide-range of commodities. The phosphate deposits of the Negev, he said, are already supplying the needs of the country for that kind of fertilizer. He said the exploration of copper and iron deposits was already in full swing.

### Congressman Celler Urges U.S. Not to Send Arms to Arabs

Rep. Emanuel Celler told delegates that he felt the new Administration would be mistaken to send arms to the Arab states, for such an act "would be a strike against peace." He told the delegates of the Arabs' hostile attitude and warned that they might resume hostilities if given heavy American arms supplies. He said that the Arabs, instead of directing their hostility against the Soviet Union, have continuously hammered away at Israel.

Sen. James E. Murray, of Montana, told the delegates that he has long been interested in Israel and had met many Zionist leaders and that one who impressed him as among the greatest was Rabbi Stephen S. Wise. This remark was vigorously applauded because it was interpreted by the audience as an endorsement of the late rabbi whose loyalty was questioned in material recently distributed by the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

Dr. Israel Goldstein, chairman of the New York branch of the bond drive, told how Israel's physical security and political security cannot be viewed "apart from its economic security." He called attention to plans which have been made to celebrate the 3,000th anniversary of Jerusalem with a massive rally in New York's Madison Square Garden. He said proceeds, estimated at \$5,000,000, would be a gift to Jerusalem to be used to improve that city's water supply, electric power and industrial development.

## HILLEL PARLEY DISCUSSES EXPANDED SERVICES FOR JEWISH STUDENTS

EVANSTON, Ill., Sept. 27. (JTA) -- The annual meeting of the National Hillel Commission opened here today at the Hillel Building at Northwestern University. The two-day meeting of the Commission will consider an expanded program in 1954 to serve Jewish youth on the 208 campuses in this country, Canada and Israel where the Hillel has foundations or counselorships.

At ceremonies held here this afternoon, the Commission honored Dr. Abram L. Sachse, its chairman and president of Brandeis University, and Dr. Louis L. Mann and Dr. Philip L. Seman for 30 years of continuous service to the Commission and the B'nai B'rith Hillel program. The ceremonies also marked the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Hillel Foundation movement.

## LABOR ZIONISTS ASSAIL ATTACKS ON RABBIS WISE AND MAGNES

NEW YORK, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- Protesting the charges against the late Rabbis Stephen S. Wise and Judah L. Magnes made recently at a hearing of the Un-American Activities Committee, Rabbi James G. Heller, president of the Labor Zionist Organization of America, speaking on behalf of the central committee of that organization, called upon President Eisenhower and "men of good will in the Congress of the United States" to take decisive action to curb the evil of "putting into the hands of unscrupulous and ambitious men the power of the Federal Government."

Dr. Heller decried as "alarming symptoms" the employment of such methods as "trial by slander, the smearing of defenseless people and the tendency to regard everyone who opposes or speaks out against these methods as un-American." He also charged that "the attempt to make the American people believe that church and synagogue have been hiding-places for active agents of Communism or for fellow-travelers" not only contravenes the historic principle of the separation of church and state but "rests upon willful and dangerous falsehoods."

## JEWISH REPRESENTATION IN CANADIAN SENATE URGED BY PRESS

MONTREAL, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- The suggestion that the Jewish community of Canada should have a representative in the Senate has been made in an editorial in the Montreal Gazette and endorsed by the Toronto Star.

The Montreal daily, referring to reports that the Prime Minister was considering changes in the composition of the Senate to make it more representative, proposed recognition of ethnic groups in Canada. "It would seem, for instance, that the time has come when the Government might recognize the importance of the Jewish population of Canada in considering appointments to the Senate," the paper declared.

"Of all ethnic groups in this country," the editorial added, "apart from those of French and British descent, the Jewish people have one of the oldest historical claims... As the years have passed, the importance of the Jewish people in Canada has grown. They have made significant contributions to Canadian development. They brought to this country many skills which led to the establishment of new industries. They have made their cultural contributions in all the arts. They have added to the rich flavor of the Canadian mosaic."

"A representative of the Jewish people in the Senate of Canada would also have an historical fitness from the fact that Canada was the first part of the British Commonwealth in which a citizen of Jewish faith was elected to Parliament."

YALE UNIVERSITY GETS COLLECTION OF RARE HEBREW BOOKS

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Sept. 27. (JTA) -- A collection of 16th Century Hebrew books printed in Italy were presented to Yale University by Louis M. Rabinowitz, of New York, it was announced today by James T. Babb, Yale Librarian. The gift includes many editions marked by Italian ecclesiastical censors who crossed off words and sentences to which they objected and then certified in their own handwriting that they had read the books.

The censorship was imposed by ecclesiastics who were determined to eradicate any utterance they considered hostile to the Church. However, in a number of cases the censors' ink has worn thin with time so that today the original Hebrew characters can be read clearly in the expurgated sections, Mr. Babb said.

The new Rabinowitz gift includes imprints of the Conti press at Cremona, where thousands of Hebrew books and manuscripts were destroyed in a great bonfire set off in the middle of the 16th Century by order of the Inquisitional censors. A number of first and rare editions of important works on mysticism, theology and exegesis is included in the new acquisition.

HABIMAH AND ISRAEL OPERA QUARREL OVER USE OF THEATRE

TEL AVIV, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- A long-smouldering feud between the Habimah Theatre and the National Opera Company of Israel over the use of the Habimah's theatre by the opera group burst into the open here last night when the opera group broke into the theatre to present Grieg's "Song of Norway" as originally scheduled.

Early this year, after frequent clashes between the two groups over conflicting work schedules in the same hall, the dispute was mediated by Justice Minister Pinhas Rosen and the opera group agreed to vacate the premises within six months. The six-month period expired two weeks ago, but the opera had not been able to find suitable space. Despite appeals from the Minister of Interior and the Mayor of Tel Aviv, the Habimah refused to extend the agreement and padlocked the hall. Last night's action was the opera company's reply.

DR. MAX EINHORN, NOTED MEDICAL AUTHORITY, DIES IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- Dr. Max Einhorn, retired gastroenterologist, inventor of surgical instruments, author of several medical works and developer of a generally used method of treating non-operative ulcers, died here this week-end at the age of 91.

Born in Grodno, Poland, he studied in Latvia, Germany and Russia before coming to this country in 1884. He held a number of honorary degrees including one from the University of Tokyo and was a respected member of several medical associations in this country. He also served on a number of hospital staffs and donated the Max and Flora Einhorn building and auditorium to Lenox Hill Hospital, where he had been a consulting physician.

BERTHOLD VIERTTEL, AUSTRIAN JEWISH POET, DIES; WAS 68 YEARS OLD

VIENNA, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- Berthold Viertel, Austrian Jewish poet, author and theatre director, died here this week-end at the age of 68. Mr. Viertel made his mark on the German and Austrian theatre during the 1920's with expressionistic performances of Shakespeare and Ibsen and the first productions in German of some of Eugene O'Neill's best known plays. In 1934 he fled the Nazis and went to Britain, from where he came to the United States, returning to Europe after the war.