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JERUSALEM MUNICIPAL WORKERS ON STRIKE: CITY TREASURY EMPTY

JERUSALEM, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- Jerusalem's city workers continued on strike today as the government considered emergency measures to end the walkout which was called because employees had not yet been paid for October.

The strike resulted from the fact that the city treasury is empty and the municipal administration has been unable to raise the funds necessary to keep all city functions operating. Although a Cabinet committee has been studying a number of plans for a municipal overhaul, the government is aware that no permanent improvement is possible without a large increase in the city's income.

The Ministerial committee which was appointed many months ago to deal with the Jerusalem crisis has under consideration a new system of electing municipal councillors, a plan for the replacement of an elected council with a commission appointed by several of the national Ministries and a plan which would combine appointed and elected councillors.

Water and Electric Companies Threaten to Cut Off Supplies

LONDON, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- Reporting on the strike of municipal workers in Jerusalem, the London Daily Express, in a cable from Israel's capital, says not only have employees not been paid for several months, but the City Council owes the water company 100,000 pounds and the electric company almost as much. Both companies have threatened to cut off supplies to Jerusalem, the cable says.

The report states that Jerusalem's garbage collectors are among the strikers and that refuse is accumulating. "Principals of 60 elementary schools say they will send the pupils home, unless money is found for immediate repairs to leaking roofs and broken windows, which are endangering the health of the children," the cable adds.

SHARETT CONFERS WITH ORTHODOX LEADERS ON FORMATION OF CABINET

JERUSALEM, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- Acting Premier Moshe Sharett met today with representatives of the Mizrachi and Poale Mizrachi parties as well as with leaders of the General Zionist Party, with whom the Mapai has just signed an agreement for the formation of a new Cabinet to discuss the inclusion of the Orthodox parties in the coalition.

The meeting lasted four hours but brought no final agreement on the demands of the religious groups, and the conferees will meet again within the next few days. The religious representatives put forth several demands concerning religious observances in Israel and also insisted that the Peale Mizrachi be given the post of Deputy Minister of Education.

15 AGED JEWS PERMITTED TO EMIGRATE FROM RUSSIA TO ISRAEL

HAIFA, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- Israel seamen who spent eight days in Odessa where their ship the S.S. Nachahon recently delivered the first Israeli citrus fruit shipment of the season, today reported that 15 Jews over the age of 60 with relatives in Israel have received Soviet exit visas to go to Israel.

The seamen, who were permitted to travel about in Odessa as they pleased, said that they had gained the impression that the Jews they met in the Black Sea port city would have liked to come to Israel. Although they said nothing directly about this, they often greeted the Israelis with the traditional phrase: "Next Year in Jerusalem."

When the vessel arrived in port, Soviet officials spent four hours searching the vessel, including the personal belongings of the sailors. Thereafter three Soviet soldiers remained on guard on the ship. The seamen visited, among other places, the ballet and the theatre.

Five aged Jews arrived at Haifa yesterday from Poland. They travelled via Italy and three others who began the journey with them became ill and were hospitalized in Italy. The five applied for exit visas from Poland four years ago and received them two months ago.

WIDE POSSIBILITIES FOR ISRAEL-SOVIET TRADE SEEN BY ISRAELIS

TEL AVIV, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- There are wide possibilities for expanding trade between Israel and the Soviet Union, Zeev Argaman, who acted as Israeli negotiator in the recently concluded Israel-Soviet trade pact, declared here today upon his return from Moscow.

Mr. Argaman said that Russia might be interested in Israeli textiles and other light manufactures, as well as Israeli fruit. He reported that the first shipment of Israeli fruit to arrive in Odessa was sold out in one day. He reported also that the Russian consumer paid 2.1 rubles per Israeli orange.

ARAB FEDERATION SEEN AS PROTECTION AGAINST "ISRAEL DANGER"

LONDON, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- The Iraqi Government sees its proposal for an Arab federation as the only means of saving the Arab states from the "Israeli danger" and of "establishing peace" in the Middle East, Dr. Fadil Jamali, Iraqi Premier and author of a plan to merge the defense, foreign policy and economic affairs of the eight Arab League states in a unified federation, yesterday told the current meeting of the Arab League Political Committee, according to a dispatch received today from Cairo.

The dispatch declared that the Iraqi Premier's proposals were viewed as a possible revival of the "Greater Syria" plan of the Hashemite kings--the merger of Iraq and Jordan. This proposal has long been opposed by various Arab factions, notably the Saudi Arabian ruling family.

BLAUSTEIN CONFERS ON MIDDLE EAST PROBLEMS WITH STATE DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- Jacob Blaustein, president of the American Jewish Committee, conferred at length today with Henry A. Byroade, Assistant Secretary of State, in a general review of the situation in the Middle East, including Israel. Among the matters discussed were the Jordan River project, economic and military assistance in the area, and the United States and UN attitudes.

EBAN TO SEEK CLARIFICATION FROM DULLES ON U.S. PLAN TO ARM ARABS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- Israel Ambassador Abba Eban will call on Secretary of State John Foster Dulles to discuss American policy regarding the proposed arms aid for Iraq and Saudi Arabia, the implementation of Article XII of the Israel-Jordan armistice agreement which provides for direct Israel-Jordan talks, and related issues, it was learned here today.

The conference between Mr. Dulles and Mr. Eban will take place before the Secretary of State leaves for Berlin to participate in the Big Powers conference which will open there at the end of this month. Mr. Dulles may be asked by Mr. Eban to clarify American views with respect to the armistice agreements and their enforcement, as well as the U.N. Security Council decisions, like the resolutions demanding that Egypt remove its restrictions on the flow of commerce through the Suez Canal.

Israel circles have noted growing Arab hostility and there is concern lest U.S. munitions shipments encourage Arab intransigence. A tendency on the part of the Arabs to repudiate and ignore even existing general armistice agreements has been noted. The King of Saudi Arabia, one of the countries mentioned as a recipient of Americans arms aid, has threatened renewed hostilities against Israel. Israelis fear that shipment of arms to Arab League states at this juncture will be construed as an American endorsement of Arab belligerency against Israel.

It is recalled here that the record of Iraq, another state reportedly being considered for free arms, is even worse than other Arab League states because Iraq never even negotiated any armistice agreement.

Israel applied two years ago for military aid, the first country among the states of that area to do so. Since the United States has not yet seen fit to respond to Israel's request, Israel finds it difficult to understand new arrangements which include free munitions for Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

BEVAN URGES BRITAIN TO PERSUADE JORDAN TO ENTER TALKS WITH ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- Britain should use its good offices with Jordan to persuade the Arab state to engage in direct talks with Israel, Aneurin Bevan, leader of the left faction of the British Labor Party, declared at a press conference here today. Mr. Bevan, who has been an official guest of the Israel Government for the past week, is scheduled to leave Thursday.

The Big Powers and the United Nations should do their "utmost" to bring Israel and the Arab states together for direct talks aimed at finding a solution to the problems facing them and to achieve peace, Mr. Bevan added. He expressed the opinion that Israel is wholeheartedly interested in peace and cooperation with its Arab neighbors and that it is not Israel's fault that this goal has not been reached.

U.S. ALLOCATES \$1,547,000 IN COMMODITIES FOR ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- The Foreign Operations Administration today announced the authorization of \$1,547,000 worth of commodities for Israel. The allocations include \$700,000 worth of raw cotton, \$337,000 worth of industrial machinery, \$200,000 worth of cattle hides, \$160,000 worth of medicinals and pharmaceuticals, \$300,000 worth of tinplate and associated products and \$50,000 worth of agricultural machinery.

VICE PRESIDENT NIXON DEPICTS INFLUENCE OF BIBLE ON EARLY AMERICANS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- Emphasizing that "America was founded by people, many of whom came to these shores to escape religious persecution abroad," Vice President Richard M. Nixon, speaking at the archaeological exhibition "From the Land of the Bible" in the Smithsonian Institution here, stressed the fact that the Bible had "great influence" on the early Americans.

The Vice President said that the exhibition, presented by the American Fund for Israel Institutions, is coming to the United States "at a particularly appropriate moment in our history." He spoke of the "great conflict which is now going on in the world between the forces of darkness and totalitarianism and the forces which are represented by the free nations."

Mr. Nixon thanked the government of Israel on behalf of the people and government of the United States for "holding these symbols of our faith and these symbols of your faith -- because they are related -- in trust for the peoples of many faiths throughout the world. These are crucial times, and it is a welcome symbol of friendship and hope when one people extends their gesture of common faith to another."

Israel's Ambassador to the United States, Abba S. Eban, pointed out that individual morality, social justice and universal peace, the primary gifts of the Hebrew people and the land of Israel to the world, were illustrated in the monuments and relics of many ages which were to be found at the exhibition.

"This exhibition is worthy of its place in this Capital of freedom," the Ambassador continued. "The founders of the American Republic freely acknowledged their debt to the Hebrew tradition for those truths of individual, social and international virtue on which democracy is founded. The modern struggle between peace and aggression, between freedom and tyranny is the same battle, waged against the awesome background and hazards of atomic power, as that which Israel has so constantly fought, the classic rebellion of the Hebrew mind against the claims of excessive human authority."

Acting Premier Moshe Sharett of Israel, in a message, said that in their common devotion to the principles of freedom, the peoples of Israel and the United States will find the strongest foundation of their solidarity and friendship.

HADASSAH STARTS DISTRIBUTION OF U.S. NON-KOSHER MEAT TO ARABS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- Some 500 tons of United States surplus meat was distributed yesterday to the Arabs of Abu Gosh village near here at a ceremony attended by representatives of the U.S. Government, the Israel Government and Hadassah. The ceremony symbolized the distribution to Arabs throughout the country of 188,000 pounds of non-kosher beef which was a gift of the U.S. Government to be distributed by Hadassah in Israel.

The gift shipment, totalling 1,169,000 pounds of food, was meant for distribution to Hadassah-maintained and assisted hospitals and other welfare institutions in Israel and to Youth Aliyah villages. The food distributed through these channels included dried beans, prunes, raisins, evaporated milk, rice and sugar. Present at the ceremony were Bruce McDaniel, head of the Technical Cooperation Administration in Israel, and Denise Tourover, Hadassah's Washington representative.

U. S. INVESTIGATES TRADE BOYCOTT IN SAUDI ARABIA AGAINST JEWS

NEW YORK, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- The results of a study made by the American Embassy in Saudi Arabia of the trade boycott exercised by Saudi Arabians against American Jews were conveyed by the State Department to the World Jewish Congress today with the assurance that "appropriate steps will be taken to protect the interests of American exporters."

The WJC was informed by the State Department that Saudi Arabian merchants who refuse to trade with Jewish-owned firms in the United States are exercising commercial restraints which have no official status and have not been legally authorized by the Saudi Arabian Government.

The State Department said that according to its latest report from the American Embassy in Saudi Arabia, a decree was issued there on April 4, 1952 forbidding the importation of "Israeli products or the products of foreign companies with branches in Israel." A supplementary order of August 26, 1953, prohibited the importation of goods on Israeli ships or through Israeli navigation companies or on foreign ships which may anchor, during the trips to Arab countries, in Israeli ports.

"No official action has been taken by the Saudi Arabian Government against trade with Jewish firms which do not have branches in Israel or engage in trade with Israel through Israeli shipping companies," the Embassy report emphasized.

The U. S. Embassy in Saudi Arabia assumes that some Saudi Arabian importers, "entertaining apparently groundless fears that their goods might be confiscated, under one of the foregoing regulations, if the supplying firm bore a Jewish name, may have written to their American connections that a certificate by the local Chamber of Commerce should accompany their shipments.

"There is nothing that the Department can do, unfortunately, to cause them to desist from such a practice which does not appear to accord with their government's regulations," the State Department said in its communication to the World Jewish Congress.

COUNCIL FOR JUDAISM LAUDS EISENHOWER'S STAND ON MIDDLE EAST

NEW YORK, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- The American Council for Judaism today announced that Lessing J. Rosenwald, its president, had sent a letter to President Eisenhower expressing "appreciation" for the paragraph in Eisenhower's State of the Union message stating that "in the Middle East, where tensions and serious problems exist, we will show sympathetic and impartial friendship."

Mr. Rosenwald pointed out that his organization has, for the more than ten years of its existence, "advocated an American policy in the Middle East designed to reflect the interests of all the American people and to serve all the people of the area impartially and equitably, for the advancement of stability among the Middle East people themselves and of world peace."

"The partiality of Zionism for one state in the Middle East area," Mr. Rosenwald said, "does not and cannot represent the viewpoint of all Americans of Jewish faith." He recalled that he had expressed similar support of the American policy of "impartiality" in the Middle East announced by Secretary of State John Foster Dulles on June 1, 1953.

B'NAI B'RITH OPPOSES BRICKER RESOLUTION; INFORMS EISENHOWER

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- The B'nai B'rith today telegraphed President Eisenhower voicing its opposition to the Bricker Resolution, which would limit the President's powers in treaty making in such fields as international pacts on human rights and genocide, the organization announced here today.

The telegram, signed by Philip Klutznick, B'nai B'rith president, said that acceptance of the joint resolution and its adoption as an amendment to the Constitution would be interpreted as a significant retreat from United States responsibilities as a great power. At the last triennial meeting of B'nai B'rith, last May, the organization went on record as opposing Senate approval of the Bricker Resolution.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY ESTABLISHES JUDAICA SECTION; NAMES CURATOR

BOSTON, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- Appointment of Fanny Goldstein, as Curator of the newly-established Judaica section of the Boston Public Library, was announced here this week by Milton E. Lord, director. Miss Goldstein, one of the nation's outstanding librarians, will continue as librarian of the West End Branch of the Boston Public Library, a post she has filled for the past 30 years.

The first Jewish woman to head a public library, Miss Goldstein is also widely known as an educator and lecturer. She was responsible for the idea of a Jewish Book Week, now an annual, national function in American Jewish Life. The collection of Judaica which she began at the West End Branch of the library is the nucleus of the Judaica collection of which she will now be curator.

JEWISH MUSICIAN IN LONDON HONORED BY BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT

LONDON, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- Pianist Harriet Cohen was today named a Cavalier of the Brazilian Order of the Southern Cross. She was decorated by the Brazilian Ambassador for her "services to Brazilian music and for popularizing Brazilian music."

OSCAR STRAUS, NOTED COMPOSER, DEAD; FLED NAZIS IN VIENNA, PARIS

VIENNA, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- Oscar Straus, noted waltz composer who wrote the world famed operetta "The Chocolate Soldier," died at Bad Ischl yesterday at the age of 83.

The Jewish composer, who fled the Nazis in Vienna in 1938 when they took over Austria and later left Paris for the United States when France fell, was a serious student of classical music before turning to writing and conducting lighter music. In the United States, which he left for Bad Ischl after the war, he wrote music for Hollywood films.

CAPT. STEINBERG, VETERAN OF SPANISH CUBAN WAR, DIES IN CUBA

HAVANA, Cuba, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- Captain Joseph Steinberg, veteran of the Spanish-Cuban war, died here this week at the age of 80. He was buried in the Jewish cemetery with military honors.

Born in Rumania, he came to the United States as a child with his parents who settled in Tampa, Florida. He financed the Cubans in Tampa in their campaign for Cuba's independence and later fought in the war for the liberation of Cuba. He was the recipient of many decorations from the Cuban Government.