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U. N. MISSION LAUDS ISRAEL; STUDIED COMMUNITY WELFARE PROBLEMS

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., March 9. (JTA) -- Jewish welfare activities in Israel are praised highly in a report issued here today by the United Nations and prepared by a Survey Mission on community organization and development which visited Israel in 1953 at the request of the Technical Assistance Administration.

"In the evolution of community welfare organization, Israel stands in a category of its own," the report says. It points out that the general economic and social policies of the State of Israel are "based on age-old principles of Jewish communal law and customs originally set forth in detail in the Talmud."

"The Mission, when visiting Israel, had the impression of having come into a country, where communal feeling, cleanliness, care of the poor and the sick, attention to public health are natural and based upon Western standards," the report states. "This is easy to understand, as half of the Jewish inhabitants were, before they chose Israel as their new home, accustomed to the Western way of life. The half million immigrants of the last few years included very many from Oriental countries whose standards of living were much lower. The State considered its task to be the education of these newcomers as quickly as possible in such a way that they conform with the Israeli standards."

"From the visits of the Mission to village settlements and to towns, from talks with the responsible authorities, it became clear that this heavy task of the State is being performed in a resolute and successful way, i. e., because many prominent citizens--urban and rural--are doing their best to educate the new inhabitants to look after their interests and to incorporate them in the social structure of the country," the report emphasizes.

Arabs and Jews Enjoy Same Public Services in Israel

The Mission stresses the fact that it was informed that the Arabs in Israel enjoy the same public services as the rest of the population. It pointed out that very many multi-purpose community centers exist in Israel under various names and that they cover nearly the whole rural population in whatever state of development.

"Of course, there are still shortcomings, but in a young state like Israel, this is only natural," the Mission says in its report. It adds that "it would be of great advantage to the peoples of the Middle East - which have much in common - if it were possible for them to exchange their experiences in the promotion of

rural community centres. " This would be of greater advantage to them than looking for guidance from organizations in Western Europe or from the United States, the report states.

New Immigrants Do Not Want to Settle in Kibbutzim, Mission Says

The report of the Survey Mission pays great attention to the experiences of Israel's collective settlements--known as kibbutzim. It points out that during its 45 years of growth, the kibbutz movement has managed to adjust itself to the changes which three wars, riots, economic crises, statehood and mass immigration brought in their wake.

"During all these difficult years the kibbutz expanded constantly in terms of area, membership and production," the report says. "It now serves a population of over 68,000 and occupies an area of 1,500,000 dunam. Its social framework has enabled settlers to brave hardships of nature, disease--especially malaria--attacks by marauders from across the borders, etc."

On the other hand, the expansion of the kibbutz movement has not kept pace with the rate of immigration in recent years, the report establishes. "Whereas in the years 1948 to 1951 the general population increase was 96 per cent," the population of the Kibbutzim increased only by 25.7 percent. This is in contrast to the period prior to the War of Independence when the growth of collective settlements kept pace with the increase of the general population, the Mission points out.

The U. N. Mission stresses the fact that "the masses of new immigrants do not feel attracted to the kibbutzim since their past predisposes them against collective living." This state of affairs, it says, causes considerable concern not only to the settlements but also to the government which is aware of the importance of collective agriculture in a country threatened by over-urbanization.

SCANDINAVIAN AIRLINE HALTS SERVICE TO ISRAEL AFTER ARAB THREATS

TEL AVIV, March 9. (JTA) -- Scandinavian Airways has for a second time diverted one of its planes from Lydda to Cyprus because of Arab threats to fire on any planes crossing their territory en route to Israel, it was learned here today.

This is the second foreign airline to cut its service to Israel as a result of Arab action. Earlier, the Philippine Airlines shifted its Middle East operations from Lydda to Beirut.

1,500 ISRAELI CHILDREN ATTENDING CHRISTIAN MISSION SCHOOLS

TEL AVIV, March 9. (JTA) -- There are only 1,500 Jewish children attending Christian mission schools in Israel, out of a total school population of 210,000 children, it was reported here today.

A special fund, known as Yeladeinu, has been formed to make arrangements for the transfer of children from these schools to Israeli schools. In the past few months it has managed to take 700 schoolchildren away from the mission schools.

U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL TO RESUME DEBATE ON SUEZ BLOCKADE

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., March 9. (JTA) -- Selim Sarper, of Turkey, president of the United Nations Security Council, this afternoon called a meeting of the Council for Friday to resume consideration of the Israeli complaint against Egyptian blockade of Israel-bound shipping in the Suez Canal and the Gulf of Elath.

It is understood that the author of a draft resolution to be introduced at that session, New Zealand's delegate Leslie Knox Munro, has discussed his draft with members of the Council, particularly the Big Three. It is expected that the resolution will go at least as far as the Council resolution of 1951 which called on Egypt to end its blockade, but it is not considered likely that the resolution will go far beyond the earlier one.

SOVIET UNION REPORTED MAKING HUGE PROFITS ON ISRAEL ORANGES

NEW YORK, March 9. (JTA) -- Oranges from Israel are a "brisk selling item" in the Soviet Union and currently sell at four and a half or five rubles each (nominally between \$1.12 and \$1.25), the New York Times reported today from Moscow.

Commenting on the report, the newspaper said that the Soviet Government is "apparently going to make a gross profit of more than 400,000,000 rubles on an investment of \$2,500,000 in Israeli oranges bought last November. The Times says that the oranges which were purchased from Israel at about two and a half cents each will net the USSR over \$100,000,000 at the official ruble-dollar exchange rate.

The Times estimated that the Soviet Government would receive 475,000,000 rubles for the Israeli oranges which cost it only 10,000,000 rubles at the official exchange rate. The newspaper also said that the official valuation of one ruble for 25 cents in United States currency "grossly exaggerates the actual purchasing power" of the ruble as against the purchasing power of U.S. and western currencies.

ISRAEL HAS SECOND LARGEST MERCHANT MARINE IN NEAR EAST

NEW YORK, March 9. (JTA) -- Israel now has the second largest merchant marine in the Near East, second only to Turkey, it was reported here today. The Israeli merchant fleet has 31 ships--from two to 40 years old--grossing 160,000 tons.

At present the Israel Government has four ships under construction in German shipyards and has assigned the equivalent of \$9,000,000 from German reparations to these ships. The ships will be resold to three Israeli shipping companies. More ships are expected to be built from German reparations.

Israel's shipping now is the second highest foreign currency earner, second only to the citrus exports. It was the need to conserve foreign currency, coupled with the isolation of the country resulting from the Arab blockade, which forced Israel to expand its shipping industry.

ESTABLISHMENT OF SUPREME RELIGIOUS CENTER IN ISRAEL OPPOSED

LONDON, March 9. (JTA) -- The idea of establishing a "supreme religious center" in Israel has come under severe attack here in the current issue of the official organ of the Liberal Judaism movement in this country.

The magazine insists that there is "no significance in the idea except that it reveals the ambition of Orthodox Jewish ecclesiastics to establish their authority over the religious life of all Jews." The Liberal Jewish Monthly predicts that this "ambition is destined to defeat."

It asserts that Orthodox rabbis and their congregations in various countries are not likely to accept the authority of the Israeli rabbinate. It also declares that most Jews in the world do not accept Israel Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog's orthodoxy, adding that the number of people who do accept it in Israel is small. Only through "political maneuvering" has the rabbinate in Israel been given legal authority, the magazine says.

Commenting on the reaction of American Jewry to such an institution, the publication says that in the United States there are "many Orthodox synagogues but comparatively few Orthodox Jews." The Reform and Conservative Jews will not be influenced by such a religious authority in Israel. Not even among the Jews "who belong to the Orthodox synagogues but do not practice Orthodoxy" will such a religious authority produce greater conformity, the publication maintains.

GERMANY PROVIDES LIST OF JEWISH CHILDREN IN NON-JEWISH HOMES

LONDON, March 9. (JTA) -- The German diplomatic mission in London has furnished to the Agudas Israel a list of Jewish children still living with non-Jewish families in Germany. M.R. Springer, member of the world executive of the Agudah movement, reported here today at a meeting of the executive.

Mr. Springer reported that the list had been discussed with appropriate Jewish organizations. He also disclosed that the German mission here had made inquiries of the Bonn Government concerning anti-schechita attacks in Frankfurt.

REFUGEES MAY CLAIM PAUPER'S PRIVILEGES IN RESTITUTION CASES

HANOVER, March 9. (JTA) -- Jewish refugees from Germany, if unable to afford a private attorney, may sue for the restitution of their property with the aid of a court-appointed lawyer, even though they have since acquired another nationality.

This ruling was handed down by the Superior Court of nearby Celle in a restitution suit, in which it was mandatory for the plaintiff to be represented by a German attorney. Pointing out that he was moneyless and that Germans are, in like cases, entitled to the services of court-appointed counsel, the Jewish claimant, who emigrated from Germany and is no longer a German citizen, requested the same privilege.

It was at first denied him with the argument that it is granted to aliens only in the event that their country vouchsafes reciprocity to German nationals. Insofar as former German Jews are concerned, this argument has now been brushed aside by the Superior Court of Celle.

If the Celle ruling is respected elsewhere, it means that refugees from Germany may in restitution cases ask for court-appointed counsel, and for exemption from court fees, provided they submit such proof of indigence as the court considers adequate.

GERMANY ISSUES POSTAGE STAMP HONORING PROFESSOR EHRLICH

BONN, March 9. (JTA) -- To mark the 100th birthday of Prof. Paul Ehrlich, the great scientist who won the Nobel Prize for discovering salvarsan, the West German Post Office will next week-end issue a special 10-pfennig postage stamp in an edition of ten million.

Considered the founding father of chemotherapy, Prof. Ehrlich was the first unconverted German Jew to win the Nobel prize. He was interested in Jewish affairs throughout his life and is buried in an honor tomb on Frankfurt's Jewish cemetery.

The new stamp shows his profile together with that of a non-Jewish friend born one day apart in 1954, Emil von Behring, the creator of the tetanus antitoxin and the diphtheria serum.

BAVARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE NAMES THREE JEWS AS MEMBERS

MUNICH, March 9. (JTA) -- Three Jews are among the 14 scholars in foreign countries who have just been named as Associate Members of the Bavarian Academy of Science. Professor Otto Loewy, the 1936 Nobel Prize winner in physiology who now lives in New York, was among those honored, as were the two Budapest mathematicians, Leopold Feier and Frederic Riesz.

TURKISH GOVERNMENT INCREASES CONTRIBUTION TO JEWISH HOSPITAL

ISTANBUL, March 9. (JTA) -- The Turkish Parliament, acting on a petition by 52 deputies, has approved an increase in the government's subsidy to the Jewish Hospital of Istanbul from 30,000 pounds to 40,000 (approximately \$14,000) for this year. The Istanbul municipal council, meanwhile, has agreed to contribute 5,000 pounds toward the institution's annual budget of 200,000 pounds.

75,000 JEWS HELPED BY JEWISH VOCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCIES

NEW YORK, March 9. (JTA) -- During the calendar year 1953, 25 Jewish vocational service agencies located in the major cities of the United States and Canada, rendered vocational assistance, including job placement and vocational counseling to more than 75,000 individuals, it was reported here today by the Jewish Occupation Council.

These agencies, the report said, devoted the major part of their job finding facilities to individuals, who because of physical handicaps, mental or emotional illnesses, retardation, age factors, found it difficult to make a satisfactory job adjustment. Suitable employment was obtained for 19,977, or approximately 45 percent of those who were considered employable. It is estimated that the combined gross annual earnings of these individuals for the first year, if they remain on the job, will be approximately \$50,000,000.

About 10,000 of those who applied for assistance, ranging in age from 14-80, received individual vocational guidance services, including psychological testing. A high percentage of these were Jewish youth, who were helped toward the selection and preparation for suitable occupations. Many individuals who would otherwise not be able to proceed with their education were granted, or assisted, toward obtaining scholarships.

"ORT DAY" CELEBRATED IN U.S. TODAY; EISENHOWER GREETES ORT

NEW YORK, March 9. (JTA) -- A message of greetings from President Eisenhower was today received by the Women's American ORT on the eve of ORT Day which will be celebrated tomorrow. The President's message said:

"Few programs more effectively help man to help himself than does the program of vocational training sponsored by the ORT over the past three-quarters of a century. By helping thousands of men and women to take their places as productive and respected members of communities in many countries of the world, the Organization for Rehabilitation through Training has provided notable benefits to the communities as well as to the individuals directly affected. It has, moreover, contributed to the spirit of international cooperation to which all of us dedicate our hope and efforts."

Meanwhile, New York Mayor Robert F. Wagner has proclaimed tomorrow ORT Day in this city and will change the name of Times Square to ORT Square for the day. ORT's program, which covers 20 countries on 5 continents, teaches more than 100 skills and trades to some 18,000 students in over 300 separate installations. Since the end of World War II, more than 220,000 men and women have received ORT instruction.

EVANSTON RESIDENTS SEEK TO HALT BUILDING OF HEBREW COLLEGE

CHICAGO, March 9. (JTA) -- A group of property owners in Evanston, Ill., have collected 131 signatures on a petition urging the city council to deny a building permit for the new Hebrew Theological College which has acquired a site in the city, it was learned here.

The reason given by the property owners in the vicinity of the college for opposition to its erection is that it would "depress property values." The signatures, ironically, were collected chiefly during Brotherhood Week, at the end of February.

ZAKIFF NAMED ACTING DIRECTOR OF ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF CANADA

MONTREAL, March 9. (JTA) -- Gdalia Zakiff has been appointed acting director of the Zionist Organization of Canada and Rabbi Jesse Schwartz will continue with the organization in the capacity of general secretary and special advisor to the president and the executive according to an announcement made here by Edward E. Gelber, president of the ZOC.