



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

VOL. XXI No. 215 - 36th year

Monday, November 15, 1954

JORDAN ATTACKS ON ISRAEL WATER PROJECTS RECEIVE MAJOR REBUFF

JERUSALEM, Nov. 14, (JTA) -- The rejection by the Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission yesterday of a Jordan complaint against the Israel irrigation scheme in the Beisan Valley was greeted today by Israel political circles as a significant blow to Jordan's planned campaign to halt all Israel development work stemming from the Jordan River.

The MAC decision came yesterday when Lt. Col. Charles F. Brewster, new chairman of the armistice unit, abstained on the Jordan complaint that the Beisan Valley irrigation project violated the armistice agreement by giving Israel a military or political advantage. The complaint also charged that the development would deprive a "substantial number of Jordanian citizens of the basic means of livelihood and therefore must be construed as a hostile act."

Explaining his abstention, Col. Brewster said that the complaint could not legally come under the terms of the armistice pact defining "hostile activities." He asserted that "an act of one party may prejudice the welfare of the other without necessarily constituting an 'act of hostility' within the so far accepted meaning."

A report received here today said that Jordan was considering taking the matter to the Security Council in view of the MAC's action. Jordan has consistently opposed Israel's work on the Jordan River despite the fact that it has all been done in Israel territory and despite the fact that all water taken from the river will be removed from the stream as it flows through Israel territory.

MINISTER SEES EARLY ANGLO-ISRAEL, FRANCO-ISRAEL PACTS

TEL AVIV, Nov. 14, (JTA) -- The hope that Britain and Israel would soon sign a treaty of friendship was expressed here today by Israel Rokach, Minister of Interior, addressing a meeting of General Zionists. Mr. Rokach expressed the opinion that Britain was interested in Israel because it was the only "island" in the Middle East that was not swept by political and military unrest.

The Minister was confident that France, too, would sign a pact with Israel, asserting that the French Government viewed Israel as its only ally in the Middle East. The United States, Mr. Rokach continued, was the only one of the Big Three which was "undecided," noting however that the U.S. was committed to strengthening the Nasser regime in Egypt.

Mr. Rokach saw other potential friends for Israel in Burma, Japan and the Peking regime--as opposed to the Formosa government which maintained a policy of hostility against Israel.

U.S. ENVOY PRESENTS CREDENTIALS TO BEN ZVI IN JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- Israeli-American friendship is important to the free world, Edward B. Lawson, new American Ambassador to Israel, told President Itzhak Ben Zvi this week-end as he came to President Ben Zvi's residence in Jerusalem to present his credentials. It was the first time an American Ambassador has presented his credentials to the Israel Chief of State in this capital.

After handing his credentials to the President in a colorful ceremony, Mr. Lawson told Mr. Ben Zvi that before leaving for Israel, he had received a letter from President Eisenhower expressing the "earnest hope that my mission would strengthen the close ties already existing between our two countries. You may be sure that President Eisenhower will be foremost in my mind and will light my way in my stay in this country."

Mr. Lawson pointed out that the date of his arrival here, November 2, coincided with the anniversary of the death of Israel's first President, Dr. Chaim Weizmann. He told President Ben Zvi he had met Dr. Weizmann in South Africa about 25 years ago, and "he left an unforgettable impression on me. At that time, Israel was only a dream... and I had no idea that some day I would represent my country in the nation that he, you and your dedicated compatriots, were to found."

U.S. - Israel Friendship Based on Common Values, President Says

In welcoming Mr. Lawson, President Ben Zvi, flanked by Premier Moshe Sharett and Foreign Office director Walter Eytan, told the American Ambassador: "I deeply appreciate the message of friendship which you conveyed on behalf of President Eisenhower, and ask you to transmit to him my warm greetings and my best wishes for his well-being and welfare and for the prosperity of the people of the United States of America. Friendship between our nations, as you truly observed, rests on our common dedication to those spiritual values which are enshrined for all time in the pages of the Bible.

"The ideals of freedom, equality of man, and democratic government which inspired the Pilgrim fathers and the founders and defenders of the great American republic are the same as those that actuated the pioneers and fighters who built Israel.

"Successive American governments have evidenced an active interest in the restoration and revival of our national entity. These evidences represent a noble chapter in the records of international good will. In our relations with the nations of the world, we are guided by both the spiritual heritage of our past and by responsibilities devolving upon us at this hour," the President concluded.

Mr. Lawson, who was accompanied by officials of the Embassy and the U.S. aid mission, said his view of Israel had already "impressed" him "with the obvious progress that Israel has made materially in the few short years since its foundation." But what impressed him most, the Ambassador declared, "was the vitality and the spirit of Israel's citizens, and the atmosphere of freedom and dedication wherein they live and work. I cannot but take pride," he continued, "in the part my country has played in the building of yours."

(From Cairo came word over the week-end that the Arab League states, angered over quasi-recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital by the Ambassadors of the United States, Great Britain and the Soviet Union, have suggested to Jordan that it designate the Old City of Jerusalem as a "second" capital. Jordan's capital is in Amman, but some Arab League diehards advocate that Jordan move its Foreign Ministry to Jerusalem.)

ISRAEL EXPORTS INCREASED FIFTY PERCENT THIS YEAR

LONDON, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- Israel exports during the first six months of 1954 rose by some 50 percent over the same period of 1953, it was reported here today by Barclay's Bank Overseas Review, a leading British economic report. The increase was of some 7,000,000 Israel pounds, bringing the total for the six months to nearly 19,750,000 pounds. Imports also rose by 2,500,000 pounds to a total of 52,000,000 pounds.

The review said that Israel's imports came in large measure from the United States, 28.3 percent of the total, Germany, 15 percent, and Britain, 10.3 percent. Israel's best customer was Britain, which took 29.7 percent of Israel's exports, followed by the U.S., 12.2 percent, and Turkey, 10.8 percent. Israel's most important imports during the period were machinery and wheat.

The review noted that Israel had trade pacts with 11 countries: Denmark, Finland, France, Holland, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Norway, Poland, Turkey and Yugoslavia.

SIX MORE RUSSIAN JEWS GET PERMISSION TO GO TO ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- Six more Jews received exit visas from the Soviet Union, permitting them to travel to Israel, according to reports received here today. Last month, 13 other Russian Jews were given Soviet exit permits for Israel travel. Most of the Israel-visa recipients are from the vicinity of Cherno- nowitz and Kishinev, and several are from Moscow. Their average age is 66. All have children or other close relatives residing in Israel.

A new group of 505 emigrants from North Africa was settled this week-end in new homes provided for the fresh arrivals in the Negev and Galilee regions. The 505 arrived at Haifa aboard the S.S. "Golden Isles" last Thursday night; disembarked Friday morning, and left immediately for their new homes, where they celebrated their first Sabbath in Israel.

JEWS WAR VETERANS HONOR BRITISH WAR DEAD; HOLD SERVICES

LONDON, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- Thousands of Jewish veterans of Britain's wars in this and the last century marched today through London's streets to their annual "Remembrance Day" services and later paraded to the Cenotaph, Britain's national monument, to lay a wreath in memory of all British war dead.

Scottish and Irish bands, and musical contingents from the Royal Air Force, Royal Artillery and Royal Marines played as the Jewish men and women who had served in British units all through the world marched onto the Horse Guards parade grounds for their inspection by Lord Tedder, Marshal of the Royal Air Force. Drawn up in the ranks were London taxicab drivers who served in the Boer War and both World Wars, a Knight who served from 1914-1918, Wing Commander Lionel Cohen who won the Distinguished Flying Cross for serving as an airgunner in the last war at the age of 69, and officers and men who recently fought in Korea.

After the inspection, British Chief Rabbi Israel Brodie and Rev. I. Levy, Senior Jewish Chaplain in the armed services, conducted religious services. Later, the veterans were drawn up at attention at the Cenotaph while a party of selected veterans laid a wreath at the Cenotaph. Among the group were Lt. T. Gould, holder of the Victoria Cross, Britain's highest military award, and Lt. D. Sharp, captured in Korea, who was awarded the British Empire Medal this year for his courage in his sufferings at the hands of his captors.

ABERG, SWEDISH ANTI-SEMITES, GETS ANOTHER SHORT SENTENCE

LONDON, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- Einar Aberg, notorious Swedish anti-Semite, has been sentenced to two months' imprisonment by a Stockholm court on charges of having published and distributed pamphlets containing violent defamation of Jews and instigation of racial hatred, the World Jewish Congress reported here today.

Aberg, who has been sentenced before on similar charges, continued his refusal to make public the whereabouts of his printer, telling police, "It's no good asking me." The latest proceedings against him were started following representations made by the World Jewish Congress to the Swedish Ambassador in Washington.

Aberg's pamphlets, many of which are distributed in Latin America in Spanish-language editions, aroused widespread comment in the Swedish press, which observed that the distribution of such hate literature abroad was highly injurious to the good-will Sweden enjoyed in other countries. Aberg told police that funds for his world-wide anti-Semitic activities came from "the public and through other channels," and added that these funds came in most generously whenever he was on trial.

W.J.C. SCORES GERMAN PRESIDENT FOR SPEAKING OF NAZI'S "MARTYRDOM"

LONDON, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- Expressing its "most profound disquiet" at the fact that President Theodor Heuss of the German Federal Republic had conferred "martyrdom" on Konstantin von Neurath, recently released war criminal, the World Jewish Congress today issued a statement in which it described von Neurath as a justly convicted war criminal who was one of Hitler's most important adjutants in fomenting World War II, as well as his chief agent of oppression in Czechoslovakia.

The statement went on to say that "when the Federal President, who represents a new Germany, hails von Neurath as a martyr, he discourages those who hope Germany will wipe out her evil Nazi past and encourages the neo-Nazi reactionary element which stands in the way of Germany's evolution as a democratic state."

RUMANIA, BULGARIA BARRED FROM UNESCO; ISRAEL OPPOSES BOTH

MONTEVIDEO, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- Rumania and Bulgaria were refused admission into the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization at its session here yesterday after Israel's delegation argued vigorously against Rumania's admission, citing the cases of hundreds of Jewish communal leaders imprisoned there for "Zionist activity." The final vote against Rumania was 28 to 12, despite the recommendation of the UNESCO executive board in favor of Rumania's admission.

Similar arguments were used by Israel, and others, in the case of Bulgaria's application for admission to the world cultural group, and the final vote rejecting her application was 29 to 7.

HUNGARY PAINTS ROSY PICTURE OF JEWISH COMMUNAL LIFE

TEL AVIV, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- The Hungarian Legation in Israel has issued a report in which it asserts that 150 synagogues and 89 rabbis are now serving the Hungarian Jewish community and that many famous synagogues are being repaired with state subsidies.

The report, "Hungary's Jewish Community in 1954," reviews the situation of the Jews under the pre-war Horthy regime and during the war, and makes reference to Jewish schools, a rabbinical seminary, talmud schools, a Jewish library, and unspecified "social institutions."

3,000 MARK RELIGIOUS MEANING OF AMERICAN JEWISH TRICENTENARY

NEW YORK, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- A mass meeting of 3,000 persons gathered here tonight to mark the religious meaning of 300 years of Jewish settlement in the United States and heard messages and addresses hailing this "Synagogue Speaks" convocation. The convocation was part of the four-day general assembly of the Synagogue Council of America, central national organization representing the Orthodox, Conservative and Reform movements, and was jointly sponsored by the Council and the New York Board of Rabbis.

The Tricentenary observance was highlighted by the presentation of medals and citations to the 14 oldest Jewish congregations in America, founded prior to 1840. The citations were presented to the rabbis and presidents of the congregations. The synagogues which received the awards, and the dates of their founding, are:

Shearith Israel, New York (1654); Jeshuat Israel (Touro Synagogue), Newport, R.I. (1658); Mickve Israel, Savannah, (1733); Mikveh Israel, Philadelphia (1740); Beth Elohim, Charleston, S.C., (1750); Beth Ahabah, Richmond (1789); Rodeph Shalom, Philadelphia (1800); Baltimore Hebrew Congregation, Baltimore, (1823); K.K. Bene Israel, Cincinnati, (1824); B'nai Jeshurun, New York, (1825); Touro Synagogue, New Orleans, (1828); Adath Israel, Louisville, (1836); Shaarei Zedek, New York, N.Y., (1837); and Beth Emeth, Albany, N.Y., (1838.)

Principal speakers at the convocation were Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, Judge Simon H. Rifkind, a leader of the American Jewish Committee, Dr. Norman Salit, Synagogue Council president, Dr. David J. Seligson, president of New York's Board of Rabbis, and Ralph E. Samuel, Tricentenary Committee chairman.

Messages to the Tricentenary observance came from Prime Minister Moshe Sharett of Israel, Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill of Great Britain, Prime Minister Dr. Willem Drees of the Netherlands, Senator Herbert H. Lehman of New York, Governor Thomas E. Dewey and Mayor Robert F. Wagner.

The Assembly of the Synagogue Council will be climaxed tomorrow with a meeting, to be held in four sessions, at which leaders of rabbinic and lay groups representing all major interpretations of Judaism will seek to clarify the major moral, social and religious issues confronting American Judaism.

CONSERVATIVE MOVEMENT CHANGES MARRIAGE CONTRACT

NEW YORK, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- A major revision in the "ketubah"--Jewish marriage contract--which will require man and wife to consult a newly formed Beth Din, in this case a marriage court, before seeking a divorce, was announced here this week-end by leaders of the Conservative movement in America.

Announcement of the new clause in the marriage contract was made jointly by the faculty of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America and the Rabbinical Assembly of America. Dr. Louis Finkelstein, chancellor of the Seminary, described the new ketubah as an effort to bring the ancient covenant of marriage "up to date" and to make it effective in terms of modern life, while retaining traditional forms. He said that he expected the innovation to strengthen Jewish home life through marriage counseling, to heal marital rifts and to help stop hasty divorce actions.

The marriage court will begin to function on December 1, by which time Conservative rabbis in the United States will have received the new contracts. A central registry of marriage agreements will be kept on file at the Seminary. The system will operate in this manner: Couples about to break up will seek out their own rabbi, who will call on the Beth Din if his own attempts at reconciliation fail. The court will then try to adjust the differences. If the couple fail to obey the rulings of the court, they would become liable to severe fines.

A Joint Conference on Jewish Law was also established by the two Conservative bodies, to serve as the official instrument within the Conservative movement for all matters governing Jewish laws of marriage and family welfare.

Members of the new Beth Din are Dr. Ben Zion Bokser, rabbi of the Forest Hills (N.Y.) Jewish Center; Dr. Boaz Cohen, Associate Professor of Rabbinics at

the Seminary; Rabbi Theodore Friedman, of Congregation Beth El, South Orange, N.J.; and Rabbi Isaac Klein, of Temple Emanuel, Buffalo, N.Y. A fifth member, who will serve as chairman of the court, will be appointed by Dr. Finkelstein and Rabbi Harry Halpern, president of the Rabbinical Assembly, early next year.

ORTHODOX MOVEMENT PLANS EXPANSION; SEEKS 50 NEW CONGREGATIONS

ATLANTIC CITY, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- The Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America has set plans for a \$200,000 expansion program in the next two years. Aim of the plan, adopted at a four-day national convention of the group here, is the organization of 50 new congregations in this country.

The convention also heard a warning from Max J. Etra, president of the group, that the "uncharted hesitations of present-day society" have particularly affected Jewish families. "It is inevitable," he added, "that we be most conscious of the need to find ourselves in the era which has now begun."

The assembly of Orthodox leaders paid tribute to Major Max H. Daina, Army Chaplain now stationed at Fort Dix, N.J., who has served in Korea, in Europe and in the Pacific. Chaplain Daina introduced, for the first time in the history of the European Command, the distribution through Army channels of kosher Passover Sedarim to Jewish soldiers in Germany, Austria and France. The parley also honored Congregation Shearith Israel, the Spanish and Portuguese synagogue of New York, oldest synagogue in the nation.

BRONFMAN RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF ISRAEL-CANADA CORPORATION

MONTREAL, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- Samuel Bronfman was re-elected president of the Canada-Israel Corporation at the annual meeting of its board of directors here. Others named to offices were Edward Gelber and Michael Garber, vice-presidents; Joseph N. Frank and Joseph H. Fine, co-treasurers, and Monroe Abbey, secretary.

Announcement was made at the meeting that the corporation will obtain additional credit up to \$2,800,000 from a consortium of banks, with which the corporation will facilitate purchases of wheat in Canada consigned to Israel's Government. Two new purchases of 21,500 long tons of wheat, worth \$1,700,000, were also revealed at the meeting. These purchases, which will leave Vancouver for Israel this week, bring to \$5,200,000 the total purchases arranged by the corporation since October, 1953.

HEBREW CULTURAL RENAISSANCE SEEN BY U.S. JEWISH EDUCATORS

NEW YORK, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- The prospects for a Hebrew cultural renaissance premised on a close spiritual relationship between American Jewry and Israel, was seen by outstanding American Jewish educators and Zionist leaders at a special seminar held here today.

The seminar, the first of its kind on the American scene, was convened by the Department of Education and Culture of the Jewish Agency for the purpose of discussing the status of American Jewish culture and education at this time and to map a program for the future. It was attended by 70 top educators representing the major Jewish institutions of higher learning in this country, heads of Jewish educational bureaus, members of the rabbinate and leaders of the Zionist movement.

ISRAEL CITY NAMES STREET FOR EDWARD M. M. WARBURG

NATHANYA, Nov. 14. (JTA) -- Mayor Oved Ben Ami announced here that a street in this community would be named in honor of Edward M. M. Warburg, general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal.