



Jewish Telegraphic Agency DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXII No. 105 - 37th year Wednesday, June 1, 1955

ISRAEL PROTESTS TO U. N. AGAINST EGYPT; SHARETT TALKS TO U. S. ENVOY

JERUSALEM, May 31. (JTA) -- The renewed Egyptian aggression against Israel was pointed out today to United States Ambassador Edward B. Lawson by Premier Moshe Sharett, who took advantage of his presence in Tel Aviv, where he accompanied Burmese Premier U Nu on his visit to that city, to talk with the American envoy.

It is understood that Maj. Gen. E. L. M. Burns, Chief of Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization, will cable UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold a report of yesterday's three-hour exchange of fire along the Israel-Egyptian border in the Gaza area, in which two Israelis lost their lives and six others were wounded. The communication to Mr. Hammarskjold was said to be awaiting a full report by UN observers in the field.

It is also understood that Israel has protested the incident to Gen. Burns and has told him that "inadequate" action on the part of the UN truce supervision organization has been at fault in the Gaza situation. Israel, it is believed, criticized the policy of the UN chairman of the Mixed Armistice Commission blaming both sides in judging an incident and making no distinction between aggressor and defender.

A Foreign Office spokesman revealed today that when the news of the Egyptian attacks yesterday on Ein Hashlosa and Nirim reached a scheduled meeting of the Israel-Egyptian MAC, the Israel delegation asked for a 24-hour postponement of the session, which had been called to discuss a two-week incident. The spokesman also disclosed that one of the two Israel dead was a civilian, Moshe Shifroni, a settler at Nirim, and that four of the six Israel wounded were settlers. A herd of cattle was destroyed by Egyptian shells at Nirim and the main barn was razed at Ein Hashlosa. The full fury of the Egyptian artillery attack was felt at Nirim.

Meanwhile, UN truce headquarters issued a statement tonight denying the official Egyptian version of yesterday's battle. According to an observer who witnessed the beginning of the incident, the Egyptians opened fire on a lone Israel jeep, the Israelis replied, the Egyptians began using mortars and the Israelis brought artillery into the engagement. During the three-hour exchange, the UN organization said, the Egyptians shelled three Israel villages. Israel casualties were two dead and seven wounded, while the Egyptians lost one dead and seven wounded, the UN statement said.

BURMA'S PREMIER HONORED BY CITY OF TEL AVIV; CHEERED BY CROWDS

TEL AVIV, May 31. (JTA) -- Burma's Premier was today made an honorary citizen of the city of Tel Aviv at a City Hall ceremony witnessed by thousands of Israelis who had turned out to line the city's main streets and cheer Premier U Nu as he rode to City Hall, accompanied by Israel Premier Moshe Sharett. The streets along which the two Premiers rode were bedecked with Israel and Burmese flags and with large signs reading: "Welcome to Tel Aviv."

Presenting Premier U Nu with a scroll of citizenship, Tel Aviv Mayor Abraham Levanon said that this scroll was a symbol of the friendship "between Tel Aviv and Rangoon, between Israel and Burma." The Premier thanked him for the honor and spoke glowingly of the physical setting of the city and of its accomplishments in various fields, including education. After the ceremony, Premier U Nu inspected a police honor guard provided for him by Tel Aviv.

Speaking at a dinner given in his honor by Mr. Sharett last night, Premier U Nu told the guests of the Burmese people's great admiration for the abilities of Israel's leaders. "I have in the past only heard of your extraordinary ability, but now I have had the privilege of seeing it in operation at firsthand." He told of his visit to the "Conquest of the Desert" exhibition in Jerusalem and how it had impressed him.

Earlier, Mr. Sharett had offered a toast to Mr. U Nu, saying "the friendship which exists between Burma and Israel, primarily the result of your constructive and imaginative policy, will, we hope, derive further strength and vitality from your visit here. Our countries achieved their long-sought and hard-won independence almost exactly at the same time." Mr. Sharett said. "They both represent a bold attempt to revive ancient cultures against a background of modern civilization. They both face the most formidable and fascinating tasks of national, social and economic reconstruction."

RABBI HERBERT FRIEDMAN ASSUMES OFFICE AS U. J. A. EXECUTIVE HEAD

NEW YORK, May 31. (JTA) -- Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman, one-time assistant adviser on Jewish affairs to the Commanding General of the U.S. occupation forces in Germany and Austria, assumed office today as the new executive vice-chairman of the National United Jewish Appeal, succeeding Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz. He will be formally installed this Sunday at the final session of a two-day national UJA conference in Washington.

Regarded as one of the country's most dynamic Jewish spiritual leaders and orators, Rabbi Friedman comes to the UJA from the pulpit of Congregation Emanu-el B'nei Jeshurin in Milwaukee, one of the largest Reform congregations in the United States. Prior to coming to Milwaukee in 1952, he served as rabbi of Temple Emanuel in Denver.

Rabbi Friedman has shared in the top-level leadership of the UJA for eight successive years, both as a member of its National Campaign Cabinet and in the past two years as national chairman of its speakers division. He has represented the UJA in discussions with leaders of the Israel Government and the Jewish Agency, has conducted surveys for the UJA in Europe, Israel and North Africa, and has been one of its most effective campaigners in rallying public support.

In taking office today, Rabbi Friedman hailed "the great record of my predecessors in mobilizing nearly one billion dollars over the past 17 years for the sustenance, rescue and rehabilitation of hundreds of thousands of victims of war and oppression." He termed their work "monumental in the strengthening of human freedom" and lauded them for their "devotion to Jewish rehabilitation and the building of Israel."

He added: "I am deeply honored by the opportunity that is now mine to extend this superb record. But I am grateful most of all that I shall be part of one of the finest groups of men and women ever to lead this greatest of Jewish philanthropic causes. Mr. Rosenwald and his associates have my most profound admiration and respect as the most loyal and devoted servants of humanity I have ever known. I pledge to all the friends of the UJA, and to all who depend on it, the fullest dedication of my mind, spirit and energies."

ANTI-ISRAEL PROPAGANDA SPREAD IN ENGLAND BY ARCHBISHOP OF YORK

LONDON, May 31. (JTA) -- Dr. Cyril F. Garbett, Archbishop of York, and long a foe of Israel, has loosed another blast against the Jewish State, holding it responsible for the plight of the Arab refugees and repeating anti-Israel slurs voiced by the Arabs. The Archbishop's attack was contained in a diocesan letter published yesterday.

Reporting on a recent visit to Jerusalem, the Archbishop said that the borders drawn between Israel and the Arab states are "absurd and illogical." He admitted that "no doubt there are isolated raids by individual Arabs," but charged that the "retaliation is terrible." Dr. Garbett also declared that there is more "hatred and bitterness" between the two parties than is to be found in such a small area anywhere else in the world. "The Arab and the Jew despise each other," Dr. Garbett wrote.

ARAB DELEGATE ATTACKS HISTADRUT AT INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE

VIENNA, May 31. (JTA) -- The Lebanese delegate to the world congress here of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions broke the calm of a session today by opening an attack on the Histadrut, Israel's labor federation, and its representative here. His attack was replied to immediately by the Histadrut representative, Reuven Barkat.

The Lebanese delegate, B. Shuman, accused the Histadrut of maltreating Arab workers and launched a personal attack on Mr. Barkat, accusing him of following an anti-Arab policy. He based his references on accusations made earlier by a Communist leader, Esther Wilenska. The delegate from the Lebanon also referred to the status of Arab refugees, saying that Israel had not only deprived them of their homes, but was inflicting great sufferings on them.

In his reply, Mr. Barkat said that it was regrettable that M. Shuman's statement was based on a Communist propaganda version of affairs in Israel aimed at spreading hatred and bitterness between Jewish and Arab workers through falsehood and misrepresentation. Histadrut's policy from its very beginnings, he added, was to integrate Arab communities and to give them a full and equal opportunity. That program, he continued, was now almost completely implemented with the result that Israel's Arab workers and farmers had a higher standard of living than that of their counterparts in any of the Arab states of the Middle East.

Turning to the refugee problem, the Histadrut spokesman asserted that it should not be forgotten that the responsibility for the tragic situation lies with the Arab states which, in defiance of the United Nations resolution of 1947, opened aggressive warfare on the newborn democratic State of Israel. He added that the task of the Histadrut and the people of Israel was to achieve the full integration of the Arab working people into the labor community of Israel in order to build a basis for understanding and cooperation between democratic Israel and the workers of the Arab countries who had yet to achieve social emancipation.

JEWISH CONGRESS STUDY SHOWS ENCOURAGING GAINS FOR JEWRY IN 1954

NEW YORK, May 31. (JTA) -- Encouraging achievements were chalked up by Jews in many countries during 1954 in the fields of religion, culture and education as well as in the rehabilitation of survivors of Nazism, but there still remain disturbing trends toward assimilation and anti-Jewish tensions in such areas as the Arab and Iron Curtain countries, according to a study conducted by the World Jewish Congress and made public here today.

The study notes that the judicial persecution of Jews in Rumania, Egypt, Czechoslovakia and Eastern Germany caused alarm in Jewish circles. Other events occurring in the Arab countries, such as the cancellation of citizenship and other discriminatory measures in Iraq, and the sale of Jewish community assets in Iraq and Syria, were also deeply disturbing. The struggle by Arab nationalists for greater autonomy in the French dependencies in North Africa witnessed outbreaks of violence entailing loss of Jewish life and property.

Communist hostility toward the Jewish religion and Zionism in no way diminished during 1954, despite the fact that a tiny number of Jews were permitted to migrate from Iron Curtain countries and the Soviet Union to Israel. While Arab countries were threatening Jewish lives and property, some important leaders in North Africa voiced their hopes for amity between Jews and Moslems. Among these were the Bey of Tunis, his new Prime Minister Tahar ben Ammar, the Pasha of Marakesh, and the leaders of the Istiqlal Movement in French Morocco.

West Germany generally maintained a "correct" attitude toward its tiny Jewish community, the survey observes, but a number of incidents pointed to the need for continuing watchfulness. Among these incidents were anti-Jewish demonstrations at Berlin's Sportspalast last year, desecration of Jewish cemeteries, and the final liquidation of the de-Nazification program. West Germany's implementation of the compensation program to surviving Nazi victims continued, although at "an inadequate pace," and negotiations with the Austrian Federal Government concerning indemnification were postponed indefinitely because of the "intransigent attitude" of the Austrians.

Jewish Population Increased in Canada; 200 New Congregations in U. S.

The year 1954 saw the closing of the last Jewish DP camps in West Germany and Austria, the survey declares. In the whole of Western Europe, only some 17,000-20,000 Jews were registered for emigration, and the main centre of prospective migration shifted to the southern shores of the Mediterranean. The gradual evacuation of small and scattered Jewish groups continued, with the Jewish population of Calcutta now reduced by one-half. Ancient Jewish settlements in Malabar and Madras have been reduced by emigration; and the total Jewish population in China has dwindled to less than 800.

The main areas of absorption of Jewish migrants continued to be Israel, the United States and Canada. Montreal and Toronto now contain the second and third largest Jewish communities in the British Commonwealth, following immediately after London. Canada has increased its total Jewish population by twenty-one percent since 1946.

Throughout the world, a considerable number of synagogues were built or rededicated following reconstruction. The example of the American Jewish Community, which built some 200 new congregations, was followed on a lesserscale in France, Italy, the Benelux nations and Germany. The U.S. Armed Forces dedicated Jewish places of worship in two countries where synagogues had never before existed: Korea and Greenland.

Surveys of religious life in the United States revealed that Judaism is the third largest religious denomination in this country. However, despite encouraging trends, "simultaneous assimilationist developments took a heavy toll, and disturbing conditions have been found not only in small and isolated communities, but also in this country, Great Britain and Canada," the survey asserted.

To counteract these trends, efforts aimed at stimulating Jewish education and culture continued in many parts of the world, the report added. "A network of Jewish educational institutions, from kindergarten to high school, is gradually being built up in the Western Hemisphere, North and South Africa and Australia. Notable work in Jewish education has taken place particularly in Canada, the United States, Argentina, Brazil and Mexico, while in French and Spanish Morocco and in Tunisia, local Jewries have expanded their educational facilities."

On the level of higher education, new seminaries were established in Johannesburg and Istanbul, and a new teachers' college in Eritrea. In the United States, Brandeis University established its Graduate School and Yeshiva University added the Einstein College for Medicine and a women's college, the survey reports.

The study, which summarizes events which occurred during 1954 and presents a month-by-month, country-by-country chronicle of events in Jewish life, is the first section of the three-part survey. Part two is a discussion of the activities of the World Jewish Congress on behalf of Jewish communities and organizations in 65 nations. Part three, a study of anti-Semitism during 1954, is expected to be issued shortly.

A. F. L. DELEGATION, HEADED BY DAVID DUBINSKY, ARRIVES IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, May 31. (JTA) -- An American Federation of Labor delegation, headed by David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, arrived in Israel today. The members of the delegation who are guests of the Histadrut, Israel's general federation of labor, were met at the airport by high Histadrut officials, including general secretary Mordecai Namir, and were taken on a tour of Histadrut institutions.

AMERICAN JEWISH TRICENTENARY CELEBRATIONS CONCLUDE TODAY

NEW YORK, May 31. (JTA) -- Secretary of State John Foster Dulles hailed today the American Jewish Tercentenary, celebrating the 300th anniversary of Jewish settlement in this country, which reaches its culmination tomorrow evening, with a public assembly at Carnegie Hall. In a telegram to Ralph E. Samuel, national Tercentenary chairman, Secretary Dulles said:

"I believe the devotion of people of the Jewish faith to the rights of the individual and to the concept of freedom is a factor of real consequence in the growth and strength of the American commonwealth. I wish to take the occasion of the Tercentenary to extend sincere congratulations on the achievements of the Jewish community and its vital contribution to United States progress."

Senator Walter F. George, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, wired, "Your assembly is testimony to the inspiration of American concepts of individual human freedom to which those of your faith who established free men's greatest sanctuary on the North American continent attest. This 300th anniversary celebration indeed marks a milestone in American history."

STREET IN RIO NAMED FOR DR. HERZL; MAYOR FORCED TO WITHDRAW VETO

RIO DE JANEIRO, May 31. (JTA) -- A campaign by the press and the public in this Brazilian capital city has convinced Mayor Alim Pedro to withdraw his veto and sign a decree passed by the City Council to rename one of Rio de Janeiro's streets for Dr. Theodor Herzl.

Mayor Pedro, who is of Lebanese descent, said that Dr. Herzl was an "unknown name" therefore he would not agree to the renaming of the street in his honor. However, continued criticism in the press and a campaign sparked by several members of the City Council, including the sponsor of the original motion to honor the founder of modern Zionism, forced Mayor Pedro's change of heart.

FOUR JEWISH WRITERS WIN AWARDS FOR YIDDISH AND HEBREW BOOKS

NEW YORK, May 31. (JTA) -- Four writers were awarded prizes of \$500 each for works in Yiddish and Hebrew published in 1954, it was announced here this week-end by the Louis-LaMed Literary Foundation. The four winners were B. Demblin and Melech Ravitch, whose works were in the Yiddish language, and Israel Efros and S. L. Blank, for Hebrew books.

The announcement marked the 15th annual award of prizes by the LaMed Foundation, which honors two Yiddish and two Hebrew books which appear each year in the Americas. The Yiddish prize winners were Mr. Demblin's "Erev Nacht" (Before Night) and Mr. Ravitch's "Die Lieder Fun Miene Lieder" (Selected Poems). Winners in the Hebrew category were "Goral Uptom" (Fate and Suddenness), poems by Professor Efros, and Mr. Blank's short stories "B'marbolet Hahayim" (In the Whirl of Life).

TWO YIDDISH AUTHORS WIN THE 1954 STOLJAR PRIZE IN ARGENTINA

BUENOS AIRES, May 31. (JTA) -- The winners of the Matyas Stoliar prize for the best Yiddish books published in 1954 were announced here today. The prize, divided into two equal shares each amounting to 10,000 Argentine pesos, went to Abraham Sack for his book, "Umruh Fun Yahren" (The Unrest of the Years) and to I. Hirschhoit for "Yiddishe Nafit Magnaten," Jewish Oil Magnates).

The prizes will be awarded at a public ceremony to be held on July 11, the anniversary of the death of Matyas Stoliar, who was the editor and publisher of "Die Yiddishe Zeitung," largest Jewish daily newspaper in Latin America. The jury made its selection from among twenty-five works submitted.

FIRE OF MYSTERIOUS ORIGIN DESTROYS SYNAGOGUE IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, May 31. (JTA) -- A fire of mysterious origin destroyed last night the Shearith Adath Israel Synagogue in the middle of New York's Lower East Side. The police and fire authorities are investigating testimony by two worshippers who were inside the synagogue, which was housed in a five-story loft, that they had seen a man running down the stairs of the building just before the blaze broke out.