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HOUSE PASSES IMMIGRATION BILL OPENING DOOR TO EGYPTIAN JEWS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28. (JTA) -- The House voted by a better than two-thirds majority today for immigration legislation permitting more than 60,000 additional immigrants to enter the United States in the next year.

The House approved by 293-58 the Senate-passed bill which provides for minor revision of the McCarran-Walter Act. The House also passed technical amendments which are expected to receive swift Senate approval, ensuring enactment of the immigration measure before adjournment this week.

Of particular importance in the bill is the re-allocation of 18,656 visas which were left unused under the Refugee Relief Act of 1953. Of these, 14,000 are earmarked for escapees from Soviet orbit areas. The remainder will be available for Jewish refugees from Egyptian persecution as well as other persecutees. The bill drops mortgages against quotas of certain Iron Curtain countries, including the Baltic States, and provides for the admission of 2,500 German expellees.

House Majority Leader John W. McCormack, in a statement to the JTA, said the bill was good as far as it went and paved the way for extensive liberalization of the immigration statutes in future sessions.

Chairman Emanuel Celler (Dem., N.Y.) of the House Judiciary Committee, emphasized that the bill passed today was not only acceptable and certain of enactment but had good features, such as a provision making possible the reuniting of families by lifting certain immigration restrictions. Celler was largely responsible for the overwhelming vote in favor of the bill.

Jewish Congress Asks Further Liberalization

NEW YORK, Aug. 28. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress called upon the House of Representatives today to enact an immigration bill that will conform to President Eisenhower's proposals for the removal of the inequities imbedded in the present immigration law.

A statement issued by Isaac Toubin, executive director of the American Jewish Congress, noted that the immigration bill passed by the Senate (and the House today) "can in no way be considered as constituting an adequate or seriously intended revision of the existing law." While the bill affords a welcome measure of relief in the admission of refugees, the American Jewish Congress declared, "it fails to correct long-recognized evils of the McCarran-Walter law, notably the racist features of the national origins quota system."

WEST FEARS PEACE BID MAY UPSET "QUIET" AT U.N., EBAN SAYS

JERUSALEM, Aug. 28. (JTA) -- Many western experts fear that any bid in the forthcoming United Nations General Assembly for Israel-Arab peace might destroy the "relative quiescence" of present Israel-Arab relations, Abba S. Eban, Israeli Ambassador to the United States, declared last night.

Addressing a meeting arranged by the Israel Association for the United Nations, Eban told an overflow audience that in the three rounds of the East-West struggle to date, Russia had won two rounds--with Egypt and Syria--to one for the West with Jordan.

He spoke in the law building of the Hebrew University to a capacity audience and his talk was piped into two adjacent halls which also were filled.

He listed six reasons for the "improved standing" which he said Israel would have in the General Assembly next month. These included, he said, destruction of the "image of the Egyptian dictator's invincibility," and of the "myth of Arab unity," a partial breakthrough of the Arab blockade, establishment of direct UN responsibility for tranquility in the Middle East through the UN Emergency Force, improvement of relations with the nations of Asia and Africa and the Sinai victory.

ISRAEL COMMUNISTS CHARGE BEN GURION PLANNING WAR ON SYRIA

JERUSALEM, Aug. 28. (JTA) -- The Communist Party of Israel, in a tone of dead seriousness, warned the Israeli people today against the "danger" that Premier David Ben Gurion, in conjunction with "imperialist" forces, will precipitate a war against Syria.

In a statement signed by the Israeli Communist Politburo, which has closely followed Moscow's path in the past, the party called on Israel to "liberate herself from American imperialism" and held out the bait that if she does, "Israel can undoubtedly obtain from the Soviet Union the same economic assistance and political sympathy which has deservedly been earned by Syria."

The politburo statement, published on the front page of the local Communist newspaper, Kol Haam, vigorously denounced the Eisenhower Doctrine and described it as a "failure." It insisted that there is no longer any possibility of solving any Middle East problem without the consultation and against the interests of the USSR. The latest developments, it continued, "underscore the vital necessity for Israel to improve its relations with the Soviet Union." "This is definitely possible," the Israeli Communist Party promised, "it only depends on Israel."

Premier Ben Gurion has "not learned from the failure of the Sinai campaign," the politburo said, and is again preparing Israeli public opinion for another aggression--this time against Syria. The Ben Gurion policy, which it characterized as part of the "war against world Communism," is the same policy under which the Nazis exterminated six million Jews, the Communist Party asserted.

The lengthy statement, coupled with an editorial in Kol Haam several days ago which repeated earlier warnings to Israel by the since deposed Soviet Foreign Minister Dmitri Shepilov, were seen here as an indication that the Israeli Communist Party was presenting an "authoritative" position. It was also considered important that this warning was sounded at a moment when the United States had caused concern here by renewing its support for the anti-Israel Bagdad Pact.

AGREEMENT APPROVED FOR \$45 MILLION IN FRENCH CREDITS FOR ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Aug. 28. (JTA) -- An agreement to implement the expanded French credit for \$45 million to Israel was signed last week, and some of the equipment purchased with these credits has already arrived in this country, it was learned here today in informed circles.

Included among the projects to be financed by the French credits are the expansion of existing port facilities at Elath, the construction of additional pipeline facilities to and from that harbor and municipal sanitation projects.

It is understood here that Israel will now attempt to obtain from other Western countries, including the United States, political and financial backing for the projects which the French are already aiding.

ISRAEL MAY EXPORT COPPER ORE TO JAPAN FOR REFINING

TEL AVIV, Aug. 28. (JTA) -- The Development Ministry made plans here today for possible export of copper ore to Japan for refining in Japanese smelters. The plans were announced after a Japanese delegation of mining experts, who had just completed an inspection of Israeli copper mining methods, expressed themselves as fully satisfied with the methods employed here.

Simultaneously with announcement of the plans for possible export of copper ore to Japan, the Development Ministry today asked the Finance Ministry for a special allocation of 5,000,000 Israeli pounds (about \$2,750,000) for expansion of operations at the Timnah copper mines.

ISRAEL INDUSTRIAL COMPANY SEEKS TO SELL \$3,000,000 STOCK ISSUE IN U.S.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28. (JTA) -- Koor Industrial Enterprises, industrial division of Solel Boneh, the huge Israeli construction cooperative, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission yesterday a statement seeking to register a \$3,000,000 issue of preferred stock to be used for the expansion of its manufacturing and related enterprises.

The shares, six and one-half percent cumulative preferred, will be offered at their \$100 par value. The issue is not underwritten. The purchase price is payable in cash or, up to a limited extent, in State of Israel independence and development bonds.

The registration statement declared that proceeds of the stock sale will not make up a substantial part of the funds needed for the current expansion program already under way, but to provide Koor and subsidiaries with funds for extensions, additions and improvement of plants.

Koor was organized by Solel Boneh in 1944. It is involved in shipyard operations, steel rolling mills and other metal works, glass and ceramics enterprises, electrical motors and electrical appliances, rubber and tires, cement, paint and other industries in Israel. Koor is represented in this country by Solcoor, Inc., of New York.

POLISH AMBASSADOR TO U.S. ADMITS ABUSE OF REGULATIONS AIDING JEWS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28. (JTA) -- Romuald Spasowski, Polish Ambassador to the United States, admitted today that there were abuses of regulations permitting Jews repatriated from the Soviet Union to occupy premises left by other Jews who had emigrated to Israel.

He made the admission to representatives of the American Jewish Congress who had called to confer on a report, published in the Warsaw Yiddish daily, *Folkstimme*, that two Jewish families were assaulted in Wroclaw recently when they moved into such an apartment. They were set upon by Poles who beat them and threw their furniture out of the apartment, then moved in themselves. The Polish police and local government authorities did nothing to correct the situation, *Folkstimme* charged.

The Ambassador told the AJC delegation that acute housing shortages in Poland prompted such "inequities" as the one that led to the assault on the families in Wroclaw. He is returning to Poland, Mr. Spasowski said, and will look into the situation there regarding the treatment given Jewish repatriates.

BULGARIAN JEWS FORM CULTURAL UNIT IN FIRST SESSION SINCE 1952

LONDON, Aug. 28. (JTA) -- Bulgarian Jews have formed a country-wide Jewish Cultural Organization, according to a report from Sofia in the latest issue, received here today, of *Folkstimme*, Yiddish-language newspaper published in Warsaw.

The Sofia dispatch reports that, for the first time since 1952, delegates from all of the Jewish communities in Bulgaria had convened at a Conference of Bulgarian Jewish Communities. In "lively" debates, the Sofia dispatch relates, both the existing Jewish Community Organization and the organization's executive committee were criticized sharply by delegates who charged that many of the activities undertaken by the executive committee "were inadequate or came too late to meet the various problems" facing the Jews of the country. There is no hint in the dispatch, however, as to the nature of those problems.

The call for the formation of the country-wide Jewish Cultural Organization came, it appears from the dispatch, from the rank and file delegates. Representatives from all communities where Jewish communal activities are functioning were elected by the Sofia conference to membership in the new cultural organization.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT ASKED TO SUPPORT DECLARATION OF ASYLUM AT U.N.

LONDON, Aug. 28. (JTA) -- A group of non-governmental organizations petitioned the British Foreign Secretary today to support the movement for a Declaration of the Right of Asylum to be drafted by the Human Rights Commission.

In a letter signed by these organizations, Selwyn Lloyd, the British Foreign Secretary, was told that "the need for international action on problems connected with the right of asylum have become even more urgent as a result of the recent events in Hungary, Egypt and China." The letter pointed out that "hundreds of thousands of people have fled from these countries because they had well-grounded fears of persecution on the grounds of race, religion or political opinion."

It stressed the need for "additional international action to guarantee that people fleeing from persecution shall be able to enjoy the rights of asylum" and it expressed the "strong hope that Her Majesty's Government will express itself favorably to a request to the Human Rights Commission to draft a Declaration on the Right of Asylum."

Among the signatories to the plea were the United Nations Association, the Women's International League, the National Council of Women, the Board of Deputies of British Jews and the Agudas Israel World Organization.

DANISH-ISRAEL FRIENDSHIP UNIT LAUNCHED BY LEADING FIGURES

COPENHAGEN, Aug. 28. (JTA) -- With some of Denmark's most distinguished men participating, an impressive meeting held last night at Copenhagen University voted unanimously to launch a Danish-Israel Friendship Society. As chairman of the society, the meeting elected former Minister of Education Fleming Hvidberg, who initiated the call for the formation of the new society.

Among nationally and internationally prominent men chosen for the board of the society are: Prof. Niels Bohr, Nobel prize winning physicist, prominent for his contributions to nuclear science; Dr. Johannes Frandsen, director of the government Health Service; Bishop Fuglsang Damgaard, head of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and Prof. Stephan Hurwith, State Comptroller.

WEST BERLIN CONTRIBUTES \$250,000 FOR JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

BERLIN, Aug. 28. (JTA) -- The West Berlin municipality announced today its agreement to provide the equivalent of \$250,000 toward the construction of a Jewish community center in the western sector of the city. The structure will rise on the site of Berlin's largest synagogue which was destroyed by the Nazis in 1938.

QUEBEC COURT BACKS PARENTS' CHOICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN

QUEBEC CITY, Que., Aug. 28. (JTA) -- The parent's right "to give his children the religious education of his choice, as well as the liberty of conscience, is prior to positive law," the Quebec Court of Appeals has ruled in a reversal of a lower court decision involving religious teaching in the schools.

The decision was of special interest to the Jewish community since, under Quebec school law, the religious majority group in any school district has responsibility for education of all school-age children in its district. In the case that the high court acted upon, children of a member of Jehovah's Witnesses had been ordered to leave a Roman Catholic school after they had refused to take part in religious instruction and practice. The father applied to the courts for an order requiring the school to readmit the children and exempt them from religious instruction.

The Superior Court at Ames rejected this application, holding that religious instruction was part of the school curriculum and must be taken by all students. The Court of Appeals reversed this ruling and granted the father's application by a six to one decision.

Three of the justices called for amendment of the regulations governing the Quebec Roman Catholic schools since they contain no dispensation for religious training of non-Catholics who attend schools under Roman Catholic boards. They said the Roman Catholic Committee, in making these regulations "exceeded the powers given to that committee under the Act."

RABBI RESIGNS CHAPLAINCY IN PROTEST AGAINST PRISON SYSTEM

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 28. (JTA) -- A California rabbi who rejects completely the existing outlook on crime which "puts men in prisons instead of hospitals," has resigned as Jewish chaplain at San Quentin, Folsom and Alcatraz prisons.

Because society "has not yet learned that crime is but another form of mental or emotional disturbance," being a prison chaplain was "so futile," said Rabbi Julius A. Leibert, that he could no longer continue. "All I could do was listen with never a say where it mattered for the men."

"Prisons are a carry-over from the dim, cruel, unenlightened past," he asserted, adding that such institutions should be called "hospitals," with inmates considered as receiving treatment rather than punishment.

He called inmates of San Quentin "poor, sick persons" who were "compelled, time after time, to commit crimes" because they were "inadequately treated as sick persons."

Asserting that he would never want to know "what it is like to accept money from the state for acting as chaplain during an execution," Rabbi Leibert said the chaplain should never be a paid employee of the state. Under such circumstances, he said, "he is no longer a man of God but only an institutionalized piece of claptrap."

B'NAI B'RITH YOUTH ASK VOICE IN ALLOCATING FUNDS THEY RAISE

CHAMPAIGN, Ill., Aug. 28. (JTA) -- A demand that Jewish youth, active in raising funds for Jewish communal and overseas relief purposes, be given a voice in how such contributions shall be allocated was voiced here last night at the nine-day 34th annual convention of Aleph Zadik Aleph, a division of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization. The conference closes tomorrow.

In a resolution which pointed out the role of youth as contributors and fund-raisers, AZA asked for representation on governing bodies, community centers, welfare federations and similar organizations. It did not ask for the right to vote, leaving the degree of representation to the decision of each organization. The organization estimates that the various divisions of the B'BYO contributed thousands of dollars to various Jewish causes, besides an estimated \$20,000 to specifically B'nai B'rith philanthropies.

Yale Rosenberg, an 18-year-old junior at Rice Institute, was elected today the new international president of AZA.

J. W. V. MEMORIAL BILL FAILS OF UNANIMOUS HOUSE APPROVAL

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28. (JTA) -- Legislation providing for a charter to incorporate the proposed National Memorial of the Jewish War Veterans failed to win House consideration today because of a single objection. Rep. Emanuel Celler had sought unanimous consent to have the bill placed on the consent calendar. The objection was made without prejudice, permitting consideration of the bill at another time.

HUNGARIAN REFUGEE NAMED PROFESSOR OF HEBREW AT MEXICAN U.

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 28. (JTA) -- Dr. Desiderio Lang, a Hungarian refugee who fled to this country several months ago, has been appointed professor of Hebrew at the National University here. Prof. Lang had been on the faculty of the University of Budapest.