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MOSCOW DISPLAYS INTEREST IN THE EMIGRATION OF JEWS FROM RUMANIA

TEL AVIV, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- Premier David Ben Gurion's recent hint that immigration from the Soviet Union might yet start has a solid base, the Mapam newspaper Al Hamishmar reported here today.

The report said that Mr. BenGurion had been informed that the Soviet authorities had displayed an interest in technical aspects of the exodus of Rumanian Jewry. It was stressed that the Russians had made no contact with Israeli diplomats in seeking this information.

U. J. A. SEEKS \$30,000,000 LOAN TO HELP SETTLEMENT OF IMMIGRANTS

NEW YORK, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- The United Jewish Appeal is now negotiating with New York banks for loans aggregating \$30,000,000 to meet the fiscal emergency in Israel created by the sudden wave of immigration from Rumania, it was disclosed by William Rosenwald, U. J. A. chairman, addressing the annual conference of the Council of UJA organizations here.

The 600 delegates attending the conference were told by Mr. Rosenwald that while the UJA has borrowed from banks in the past to meet emergency needs in the settling of immigrants in Israel, the proposed loan will be the largest it has ever undertaken. The conference adopted a resolution urging each member of the organizations affiliated with the Council to contribute at least one week's income to the UJA during 1959.

Inauguration of American Jewry's 1959 fund-raising effort to finance an enormous and unexpected transfer of Jews from Eastern Europe to Israel will take place in Miami Beach, beginning Thursday in the presence of more than 1,000 leaders representing Jewish communities in every area of the United States.

The National Inaugural Conference of the United Jewish Appeal will set the standard of giving to the crucial 1959 UJA campaign and will also seek to develop means of making the drive an unusually swift and effective one in direct response to the fact that the people of Israel are confronted with their greatest immigration crisis in a decade. The new emigration policies in East European countries have been hailed in Israel as "the greatest miracle in current history." They will have a profound and immediate effect on Israel, which must gird itself to accept and integrate 100,000 newcomers in 1959.

Hadassah Convention Calls for Intensified Aid for Rumanian Emigrants

NEW YORK, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- A resolution calling upon the 318,000 members of the Hadassah throughout the United States "to intensify" their efforts on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal's emergency campaign to facilitate the immigration and absorption in Israel of 100,000 Jews who are now leaving Rumania was adopted here today at the four-day mid-winter conference of Hadassah, attended by delegates from all parts of the country.

"Hadassah believes it to be a cardinal and continuing responsibility of the Zionist movement to support Israel in the historic mission expressed in its 'Law of the Return' of gathering in all Jews who need or choose to go there, and views the current large-scale immigration from Eastern Europe into Israel as both a signal opportunity and a serious challenge," the resolution said.

"Cognizant of the staggering cost of absorbing an immigration estimated at 100,000 in the current year, Hadassah calls upon its members in every community in the United States to intensify their efforts on behalf of the UJA emergency campaign, necessitated by the responsibility to raise the amount necessary to absorb this enormous immigration," the resolution continued. It expressed confidence "that the whole American Jewish community will respond to both the needs and the opportunity inherent in the present situation with its traditional understanding, generosity, imagination and determination."

Yaacov Herzog, Israeli Minister to the United States, told the Hadassah conference that "the new wave of immigration to Israel poses a significant task to Jewry's sense of responsibility, brotherhood, and historical involvement." He added that "the problem cannot be answered by philanthropy alone. It calls for dedication arising from the deepest springs of Jewish partnership."

ISRAEL TAKES POSSESSION OF BRITISH OIL COMPANY PROPERTIES IN HAIFA

JERUSALEM, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- Israel took formal possession today of the properties of the Iraq Oil Company, a British company which operated a section of pipeline and other facilities in Israel before 1948. A contract of sale was signed Friday.

The properties taken over today include, in addition to the pipeline section from the Lebanese border to Haifa, storage tanks and loading and unloading facilities located at and in the vicinity of Haifa.

PRICE OF FOOD DECREASES IN ISRAEL FOLLOWING END OF RATIONING

JERUSALEM, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- The price of butter, rice, meat, cheese and cooking oils dropped noticeably during the first two days after rationing was dropped.

Prices on the free market of these foodstuffs plummeted from ten to 50 percent as unlimited quantities became available. In the past, rationed staples were cheaper, but since so little was distributed in this fashion most housewives were forced to go to the expensive free market in order to feed their families.

SNOW STORMS RAGE IN ISRAEL; GALES HAMPER ANCHORAGE OF SHIPS

TEL AVIV, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- Israel, so recently the victim of the worst drought in the memory of its oldest inhabitants, was today the scene of violent wind, rain and snow storms.

Snow fell last night in the Safad area and in central and upper Galilee. Hail and heavy rain lashed other parts of the country. Fifty knot an hour wind storms endangered shipping off the Mediterranean coast. Ships found it impossible to anchor in the open harbors of Tel Aviv and Jaffa. Even in Haifa's sheltered port, work was slowed considerably by the near gale.

There is little likelihood that the precipitation now falling in Israel will affect the crop situation. After the last rains it was found that most of the crops had been burned so thoroughly that even a good soaking failed to revive them.

HADASSAH SCIENTISTS IN ISRAEL USE NEW METHODS ON HEART DISEASE

NEW YORK, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- Dr. Jack Karpas, deputy director general of the Hadassah Medical Organization in Israel, revealed today that Hadassah scientists in Israel have developed a new technique for diagnosing coronary thrombosis, using radioactive iodine and a geiger counter to locate heart artery clots. He spoke at the Hadassah mid-winter conference here.

Dr. Karpas declared that while it is known that inflammatory tissues and abscesses attract radioactive iodine, "this is the first time that radioactive iodine has been used on necrotic (damaged) heart muscle." He said that while first studies made on "nine heart cases and nine control cases not affected by coronary heart disease have been 100 percent successful, work on this technique is continuing for more extensive confirmation of the initial findings and refinement of the method."

Special reports on the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center were made to the conference by Dr. Eugene Rosenfeld, consultant to the national board of Hadassah for planning, equipping and activating the \$24,000,000 project, and Saul Horowitz, special consultant on the Medical Center to Hadassah, who has just returned from Israel, where he evaluated its building progress. The conference was told that present progress in construction, the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center should be completed before the end of 1960.

U.S. ENGINEER APPOINTED HEAD OF DESALINATION AUTHORITY IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- P. Sporn, an American engineer, has been appointed to head the newly constituted Desalination Authority, it was announced officially here today. The new authority will coordinate research projects and build pilot plants for the desalting of water in various parts of the country.

56,000 GREEK JEWS ANNIHILATED BY NAZIS, DEBATE IN PARLIAMENT REVEALS

ATHENS, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- More than 56,700 Jews were deported to their deaths by the Nazis who murdered over 100,000 Greek hostages of all faiths and deported nearly another 100,000 persons, Vassilis Brakatsoulas, leader of the Opposition, declared in Parliament during a debate on the government's motion that all proceedings against Nazi war criminals be halted.

The government won out and trials of German war criminals will come to an end. The measure will affect chiefly 850 Germans now living in Germany. The favorable vote was occasioned by foreign policy considerations.

EISENHOWER, BEN GURION CALL FOR CULTURAL EXCHANGE BETWEEN NATIONS

NEW YORK, Feb. 2. (ITA) -- More than 1,500 guests, each paying \$125 a ticket, tonight attended the annual dinner-concert of the America-Israel Cultural Foundation at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel at which President Eisenhower and Israel Prime Minister David Ben Gurion spoke in films specially prepared last week in Washington and Jerusalem, calling for a cultural exchange between the two nations.

Samuel Rubin, president of the Foundation, highlighting the views of the President and the Prime Minister, described the program of the Foundation for a cultural exchange in the next year. "The very meaning of cultural exchange," he said, "is that it is a means towards the establishment of peace." Mr. Rubin urged the world to set up a Middle East Economic and Cultural Authority to bring permanent peace between the Arabs and Jews. He pointed out that much of the western civilization that we know today sprang from contributions of the early Jews and Arabs.

"History confirms that Jews were pioneers of cultural exchange in our Western civilization," he said. "The emergence of Christianity and Islam from Judaism was a form of cultural exchange. Long before the printing press, telegraph, and radio, the wandering Jew, moving across the world from land to land, from civilization to civilization, carried one country's culture into another. Through Arab sources they carried Greek culture into a Europe emerging from the dark ages. The Renaissance is deeply indebted to Jews and Arabs. There is, therefore, special significance in the re-emergence of Israel in the Arab world which may yet bring another great Renaissance to mankind."

Both President Eisenhower and Prime Minister Ben Gurion paid tribute to the role of the America-Israel Cultural Foundation in developing cultural relations between the United States and Israel. They paid a similar tribute to Leonard Bernstein, noted conductor, who was presented at the concert-dinner with a gold baton, made by an Israeli craftsman, for his "leading role in the cultural exchange program between the United States and Israel by the America-Israel Cultural Foundation." Yaacov Herzog, Israel Minister to the U.S., was one of the principal speakers at the function.

Mr. Herzog paid tribute to Eisenhower and Ben Gurion. "These two personalities have in their lifetime become legends of history," he said. "They both believe that if mankind is to survive the momentum of its own physical progress, to redeem its destiny from perilous confusion, suspicion and fear, it must recognize the supremacy of spiritual values and cultural qualities."

PLAN TO COMBAT BIAS IN HOUSING PRESENTED BY A. D. L. TO U. S. BODY

NEW YORK, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- Declaring that discrimination in housing is "the most persistent and unyielding expression of prejudice facing American Jews today, and probably the most damaging," a leader of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith presented today a seven-point program to the Federal Commission on Civil Rights to combat discriminatory practices in housing. (See testimony of American Jewish Congress on page 4.)

Testifying before the Commission, Eugene Sugarman, chairman of the New York advisory board of the ADL, stressed the vital role of government in both public and private housing and urged on behalf of the ADL that these measures be taken by Federal and local government:

1. Federal housing agencies should set down explicit requirements from Federally-aided builders that would bind them not to practice discrimination; 2. These agencies should make it clearly understood that Federal aid will be denied to localities which persist in the practice of discrimination; 3. Every piece of Federal legislation dealing with a Federal housing program should include, ideally, a provision reasserting that the constitutional requirement of equal treatment under the law will be observed.
4. Every state law creating a program of publicly assisted housing should contain a provision barring discrimination by all participants and beneficiaries of the program; 5. A provision should also be included in such state laws barring discrimination by financial institutions in the granting of loans on housing covered by those laws; 6. Legislation should be enacted in every state barring discrimination and segregation in private housing; and 7. Other cities should follow the lead taken by New York and Pittsburgh in adopting ordinances barring discrimination in private housing.

2,500 ESCAPEES REFUGEES FROM HUNGARY PLACED IN JOBS IN U.S.

NEW YORK, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- Almost one-half of the estimated 5,000 Jewish Hungarian escapees who came to the United States and Canada between December 1, 1956 and August 31, 1957 were placed in jobs through the help of Jewish vocational service agencies. This was revealed in a report released today by the Jewish Occupational Council, which is the coordinating and service agency for Jewish vocational services in the United States and Canada.

About three-fourths of the Jewish escapees from Hungary estimated to have come to the U.S. and Canada during the period covered applied to Jewish vocational agencies for help. A majority of these found employment through the agencies or were initiated into training in preparation for technical or other jobs.

J. C. A. TO CONCENTRATE IN 1959 ON COLONIZATION WORK; MEETS IN LONDON

LONDON, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- Sir Henry d'Avigdor Goldsmid was re-elected president of the Jewish Colonization Association at a meeting of the JCA administrative council. Rene Mayer of France and Max Gottschalk of Belgium were re-named vice-presidents.

Following a discussion of the budget and an extensive review of the organization's policy and program, it was revealed that colonization work will continue to account for a major portion of the budget. This year will see the completion of JCA's fifth postwar colony in Israel and the initiation of a sixth. Its traditional interest in vocational training and its loan program for artisans and merchants will continue.

Z. O. A. URGES ZIONISTS TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR RUMANIAN EMIGRATION

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- A call to Zionists through the country to dedicate themselves to the "most urgent task before American Jewry" to provide the funds for meeting the emergency created by the wave of emigration of Rumanian Jews into Israel was issued from the national executive council of the Zionist Organization of America which met here yesterday in all-day session.

The call was voiced by Abraham A. Redelheim, ZOA president, who in a keynote address said that the "large-scale emigration of Jews of Rumania to Israel now under way" may be a prologue to one of the most momentous events in all Jewish history, "the mass movement of a large portion of Eastern European Jewry to Israel."

Summoning the fullest participation of the organization's leadership in the national UJA emergency conference on February 15 in New York, Mr. Redelheim announced that the ZOA is also planning three geographically distributed area conferences "to stimulate the fullest expression of Zionist initiative in mobilizing support for the special UJA campaign."

Joining in the call for the mobilization of the fullest support for the campaign were Dr. Emanuel Neumann, member of the Jewish Agency executive, and Rabbi Max Nussbaum of Hollywood, chairman of the ZOA National Executive Council.

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS TESTIFIES AT HEARINGS ON BIAS IN HOUSING

NEW YORK, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- Establishment of a President's Committee on Housing Discrimination to withhold Federal funds from private or public housing projects that practice racial or religious bias, was proposed here today by the American Jewish Congress.

The proposal was made to the Federal Civil Rights Commission which began hearings here on discrimination in housing. The AJC charged that Federal funds were used to subsidize racial segregation in housing, both public and private. The greater harm, the AJC said, was done in the private area where Federal programs of urban renewal and redevelopment, mortgage guarantees and other aid to private builders have "actually encouraged discriminatory practices."

MASSACHUSETTS ANTI-BIAS COMMISSION ACTS AGAINST BIGOTRY IN HOTELS

BOSTON, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- The Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination, in a new move aimed at eliminating discrimination in the state's hotel industry, has announced plans to distribute to places of public accommodation across the state display posters announcing that they will not discriminate on grounds of religion, color or race.

Plans to use the posters were announced in the 13th annual report of the Commission, which also noted complaints continued of discrimination in this field. The Commission report said that during 1958 it had examined and found free of biased language the brochures of 851 resorts, hotels and motels located in Massachusetts.

RABBI JONAH B. WISE DIES AT 77; WAS LEADER OF J. D. C. AND U. J. A.

NEW YORK, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, a founder of the United Jewish Appeal, for many years a leader of the Joint Distribution Committee, an outstanding American Reform rabbi and active worker in behalf of interfaith amity, died here last night at the age of 77. Funeral services will be held tomorrow at the Central Synagogue of New York, whose spiritual guide he has been for 34 years.

The Central Synagogue was established by Rabbi Wise's father, Rabbi Isaac M. Wise, who founded Reform Judaism in America. The son followed in his father's footsteps and, in his later years, was frequently referred to as the "elder statesman" of the Reform movement.

Rabbi Wise was a dynamic figure in the tremendous relief and rescue operation for German Jewry, which became a matter of life and death with the advent of Hitler. He went to Germany to establish a temporary relief program until the leadership and resources of the American Jewish community could be mobilized. He was one of the founders of the UJA in 1939 and served as national chairman until 1958 when he was named honorary national chairman.