



# Jewish Telegraphic Agency

## DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

360 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16. N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Reproduction only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXVI No. 38 - 41st year Wednesday, February 25, 1959

### RUMANIAN AUTHORITIES DETAIN NUMBER OF JEWISH EMIGRANTS AT FRONTIER

VIENNA, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- Two large groups of Jews emigrating from Rumania arrived here by train today. They reported that Rumanian authorities who boarded the trains at the Hungarian frontier had removed a number of the emigrants and had refused to let members of their families disembark to remain with them.

The authorities gave no reasons for their actions and it was not possible today to establish how many of the emigrants--all of whom had been given official laissez-passer documents--had been separated from their families.

The attitude of the Rumanian authorities was considered all the more inexplicable in view of the official position that the emigration of Jews from Rumania was being permitted on humanitarian grounds to permit the reunion of separated families.

The arrivals reported that children had been taken from their parents, fathers from their children and husbands from their wives. One middle-aged woman from Bucharest who arrived here with two small children weepingly reported that her husband had been detained at the frontier.

She had not been able to learn why he had been taken off the train, how long he would be detained or if he ever would be permitted to follow her. When she sought to alight to remain with him, she was told that she had to leave Rumania.

### Family Detained, Elderly Couple Forced to Proceed

Another couple reported that their adult children had been taken off the train at the frontier station. The elderly parents were not permitted to get off the train to remain with them and had to continue on to Vienna.

Arrivals here described heart-rending scenes at the frontier station as the Rumanian authorities weeded out the men, women and young people who were to be detained. One witness described the scene as girls, on their knees, cried and pleaded with the authorities to let them go with their families.

Among those taken off the trains were veteran Zionists who had spent several years in prison on charges of Zionist activity and who had been released and given exit permits to leave for Israel. A Bukovina engineer, Frederick Ostrer, who had spent four years in prison for Zionist activities, was not molested and arrived here with the group.

Among the arrivals was an elderly couple for whom relatives in France had obtained a French entry permit. They were, apparently, the first Rumanian Jews permitted exit for a destination other than Israel. They told the Jewish Agency officials here, however, that they wanted to go to Israel.

For the first time, too, some of the professional men among today's arrivals were permitted to bring their university diplomas. Until now, the emigrants were permitted to carry no identity papers whatever except the laissez-passers on which they were travelling.

### Rumanians Ask for 15,000 More Israeli Visas

Information reached the Jewish Agency here today that the Rumanian authorities have requested 15,000 visas from the Israeli Consul in Bucharest during the two weeks and these visas have already been issued. (The emigrating Jews do not apply personally for visas. The Rumanian authorities have been supplying them with a one-way travel document complete with exit visa from Rumania and Israel visa.)

The Rumanian authorities keep the Israel Legation in Bucharest completely isolated from any connection with the migration movement. The Jewish Agency in Vienna, which cares for the Jewish immigrants here, is not informed in advance of the departure of groups from Rumania and learns about them only when they arrive in Hungary en route.

Austrian Minister of the Interior Oskar Helmer declared last night that Austria would keep its gates open to Jews from Rumania to enable their transit to Israel. He noted that Austria had to keep her gates open to refugees from Hungary so that they could emigrate to other countries and announced that Austria intended to do the same now for the Jews from Rumania.

## NEW TAXES TO FINANCE IMMIGRANT SETTLEMENT SEND ISRAELI PRICES SOARING

JERUSALEM, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- The man on the street in Israel suddenly felt the financial impact of the Rumanian mass immigration when the prices of some 80 items leaped upward today following imposition of sharp increases in customs and excise taxes on a variety of commodities.

The increases, covering a range from sugar and coffee to paper and building materials, were approved late last night by the Economic Ministers Committee seeking ways to cover the 185,000,000-pound (\$102,775,000) increase in the new budget to finance immigrant housing and absorption.

The increases preceded an expected announcement by Finance Minister Levi Eshkol of a 40,000,000-pound (\$22,223,000) compulsory immigration loan which will represent a 10 percent hike in everybody's income tax.

The excise increases also will affect liquor prices. The higher customs rates will raise clothing prices. Abolition of subsidies meanwhile are considered certain to increase prices of several basic foodstuffs.

The Ministerial Committee compromised on several points, including a decision to abandon the idea of raising taxes on cheaper brands of cigarettes which had been opposed by the leftist parties. The compromises made unnecessary a special Cabinet meeting originally scheduled for today.

## ISRAEL REAFFIRMS RIGHTS TO HADASSAH'S MT. SCOPUS INSTITUTIONS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- Establishment of a Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center at Ein Karem, in the Jerusalem area, "in no way means that Israel has renounced its rights to the institution on Mount Scopus," Minister of Labor Mordechai Namir declared, at the ceremonies opening a new road, named for the late Henrietta Szold, linking Ein Karem and Jerusalem. The road will cut the travel time between the two points from about a half hour to ten minutes. Dr. Miriam Freund, president of Hadassah, cut a ribbon opening the road.

The old Hadassah-Hebrew University medical center is in the Israeli enclave and is not accessible except by convoy through the Jordan lines.

## STATE DEPT. ANNOUNCES \$5,000,000 DEVELOPMENT LOAN FOR ISRAEL INDUSTRY

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- The State Department announced today authorization by the Development Loan Fund of a loan of \$5,000,000 to the Israel Industrial Institution Ltd., to help finance the expansion of small private enterprises in Israel. Dempster McIntosh, managing director of the Fund, described the Israel institution as potentially one of the most important organizations in Israel designed to provide credit for private industrial development which will help to diversify the Israel economy.

## SNOW, GALES, RAIN HARASS ISRAEL AND PARALYZE TRANSPORTATION

JERUSALEM, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- Heavy snowfall, winds of gale proportions and rainstorms affected nearly all of Israel today, halting all city and interurban transportation in this city, endangering shipping in the Haifa area, damaging fruit crops and interrupting outdoor work on many projects throughout the country from Galilee in the north to the Negev desert in the south.

During the height of the storm, a 150-ton Lebanese freighter with a crew of five, all Syrian citizens, sought and received refuge in Haifa harbor. The master of the ship said he had just started unloading freight at Gaza when winds tore the vessel loose from its moorings and he was forced to make for the nearest port--Haifa.

## KNESSET BARS ELECTION LAW CHANGES, BLOCKS DIRECT VOTE FOR CANDIDATES

JERUSALEM, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- Efforts to establish a system of direct voting for candidates, replacing the present system of election by proportional representation were defeated today and hopes of introducing a two-party system in Israel were badly set back.

The Knesset today, in a vote cutting across coalition lines, passed the first reading of a measure barring any change in existing election laws unless it were carried by an absolute majority of the house. The bill is certain of passage on its next two readings.

The Mapai and General Zionists fought passage of the measure but all the other parties, ranging from the right-wing Herut to the Communists, and including the religious groups, supported it and upheld the present system of multi-party proportional representation.

Advocates of direct elections gloomily predicted tonight that there was no possibility of electoral reform now until after next November's elections.

### SOVIET BOOKS IN YIDDISH FOR 'FOREIGN CONSUMPTION' ONLY, PAPER SAYS

BOSTON, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- The Christian Science Monitor reported today that Soviet plans for publication of books in the Yiddish language were for "foreign consumption" only. Publication, in Yiddish for the first time in 11 years, the paper said, will involve only classic works like those of Sholem Aleichem, but not the writings of contemporary Jewish authors.

The Kremlin's decision to permit some publications in Yiddish, the Christian Science Monitor states, appeared to be a direct outcome of the recent visit to the United States of Anastas I. Mikoyan, First Deputy Premier of the USSR.

The newspaper said that some delegates to the recent Soviet Communist Party Congress in Moscow, coming from countries where there are large numbers of Yiddish-speaking Jews, were informed of the new switch in party line when they came to the Congress. Mr. Mikoyan had returned to Moscow just before the Congress convened and reportedly told ranking Communist leaders in Russia that people abroad did not accept his explanation that Russian Jews were thoroughly assimilated and therefore had no desire for publication of Yiddish literature.

### PITTERMAN SEES NEW AUSTRO-GERMAN TALKS ON INDEMNITY FOR NAZI VICTIMS

VIENNA, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- The agreement between Austria and the governments of the United States, Britain and France, to pay \$6,000,000 in indemnification of certain claims by victims of Nazism, does not settle the indemnification "entirely," Vice Chancellor Bruno Pitterman declared here today on his return from a visit to the United States.

Announcement of the Austrian agreement to pay that \$6,000,000 was made here last week. Jewish observers pointed out then that the agreement has nothing whatever to do with proposals pushed here repeatedly for domestic indemnification legislation to compensate Jewish victims of Nazism in Austria.

Dr. Pitterman, conceding that the \$6,000,000 settlement is only "an advance payment," stated that negotiations will soon be resumed between Austria and Germany for fuller indemnification of Jewish and other victims of Nazism here. He insisted that Austria does not consider itself as the successor of the Hitler regime and is not responsible for "criminal deeds" committed here under the Hitler regime. Jewish observers here and abroad keep insisting, however, that Austria cannot glibly transfer all the blame to the Germans.

### BERLIN JEWISH LEADER WARNS OF RE-NAZIFICATION OF WESTERN GERMANY

BERLIN, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- Public life in the West German Federal Republic is being re-Nazified quietly and without any resistance, Heinz Galinski, chairman of the Berlin Jewish community, asserted here tonight.

Addressing a public meeting devoted to Christian-Jewish rapprochement, the Jewish leader warned that with the return to important roles in the life of the country of the most prominent representatives of National Socialism, democratic forces in West Germany were being forced into isolation as they were during the Weimar Republic which gave way to the Hitler regime.

Herr Galinski demanded an effective "purification" of the administration of justice, public instruction, industry and political life, with the removal from positions of power of men who had been guilty of crimes under the Hitler regime.

Erich Luth, who first organized the German movement for rapprochement with the Jews and with the State of Israel, told the meeting that the Jewish problem would continue to be an important one in Germany. Large elements of the German population, he said, continued to maintain a shocking indifference to the Nazi regime's extermination of the Jews.

### ADENAUER DISCUSSES ANTI-SEMITIC INCIDENTS WITH ANTI-NAZI GROUPS

BONN, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- Chancellor Konrad Adenauer received today a group of representatives of the German anti-Nazi resistance movement and of the organization of victims of Nazism and discussed with them the renewal of anti-Semitic manifestations in West Germany that has recently aroused disquiet.

The delegation expressed agreement with the Chancellor's view that these were "isolated incidents." Dr. Adenauer, however, promised to use his influence with the provincial authorities to have the public schools place more emphasis on condemnation of the Nazi regime for its brutalities. He also promised a Federal grant for construction of a memorial center at the Bergen-Belsen site of the infamous death camp, where German youth would be educated against the dangers of totalitarianism from the Right and from the Left.

## COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN VOTES SUPPORT FOR RUMANIAN JEWS

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- Delegates to the biennial national convention of the National Council of Jewish Women today pledged the support of the organization to the assistance of the Rumanian Jews pouring into Israel. The 800 delegates called on the 110,000 Council members to give "maximum support" to the United Jewish Appeal 1959 campaign.

Mrs. Frank Cohen, of New York, chairman of the National Overseas Committee, said that the Council's scholarship and fellowship programs were "meeting the greatest need in Israel today--to help the newcomer become an integrated citizen."

She reported that the NCJW had granted 150 scholarships to date to education and welfare service leaders from 15 Jewish communities abroad to study at United States universities.

Mrs. Benjamin Robinson of Montreal, president of the International Council of Jewish Women, told the delegates that "a great concern for Jewish survival is being expressed in Jewish communities throughout the world" and that "a demand for the teaching of our traditions to young people is coming from the most sophisticated countries, such as Sweden, Israel and South Africa."

## ONE-THIRD OF YESHIVA'S HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WIN N. Y. SCHOLARSHIPS

NEW YORK, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- Yeshiva University disclosed today that 48 students--more than one-third of the eligible seniors in the University's three high schools in New York City--had been awarded New York State Regents Scholarships beginning next Fall.

The scholarships are awarded for four years and pay between \$200 and \$700 a year. Seventeen boys received Regents science and mathematics scholarships, which provide an annual stipend of \$300 to \$850. Only 300 of these scholarships are awarded in the entire state.

## ISRAEL PARLIAMENT PAYS LAST TRIBUTE TO ZALMAN SHNEUR

JERUSALEM, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- Honors were paid formally in Parliament today to the late Zalman Shneur, Yiddish-Hebrew novelist and poet who died last week-end in New York. The entire Parliament stood in silence for a minute in tribute to the writer's memory, then adopted unanimously a resolution expressing condolences to Mr. Shneur's family. A eulogy was delivered by Zalman Aranne, Minister of Education and Culture.

## ISRAEL NEWS BRIEFS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- Sugar and coffee, the last commodities still officially rationed, will be made free commodities on March 1.

\*\*\*

JERUSALEM, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- The City of Jerusalem will cancel plans for a large-scale celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the New City outside the ancient walls of the Old City.

\*\*\*

JERUSALEM, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- "Number 21"--the last of the Israel State Railways' 90 steam locomotives--made its last run yesterday. The locomotives have been replaced by a smaller number of Diesel-powered engines.

\*\*\*

TEL AVIV, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- An exhibition of Dutch paintings, including masterpieces of special Jewish interest, done by artists of the Dutch "Golden Age," was opened here at the new Helena Rubinstein Pavilion.

\*\*\*

JERUSALEM, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- Israel will open an embassy in the newly-established state of Guinea and a consulate-general at Dakar, capital of French West Africa. Israel's team of experts in Burma will be increased from 12 members to 50.

\*\*\*

NEW YORK, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- Gottlieb Hammer, executive director of the Jewish Agency and president of ZIM America Israel Shipping Co., has left for Israel to consult with officials of the Jewish Agency Treasury and the ZIM directorate.

\*\*\*

BUENOS AIRES, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- Representatives of all Latin American united Jewish campaigns will meet here March 28 in a special conference to set a \$10,000,000 goal for Latin American Jewry's aid to Israel and overseas relief activities.

\*\*\*

PARIS, Feb. 24. (JTA) -- The French Minister of Agriculture, M. Houdet, has accepted an invitation to attend the International Agricultural Congress in Israel to be held April 4-16.