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## JEWS FROM RUMANIA CONTINUE TO ARRIVE IN VIENNA; DEPART FOR ISRAEL

VIENNA, Feb. 2. (JTA) -- Two transports carrying 350 Jews from Rumania arrived by train here today while 500 Rumanian Jewish emigrants left Vienna today on a special train for Naples to embark there on a ship for Israel. Another group of 80 emigrants left here today for Israel on an El Al plane.

The emigrants which reached here today reported that some of them were taken off the train by the Rumanian border authorities at the Rumanian-Hungarian frontier, but were permitted to continue their trip eight hours later.

(In Jerusalem, the Jewish Agency announced today that sites have been selected on which 31,000 dwelling units will be built for the housing of new immigrants arriving and expected to come. The sites of the new homes will be on sandy areas only, the announcement said. Cultivable land is being conserved for agricultural development.)

### Egypt Finds Rumania's Statement on Emigration "Not Reassuring"

WASHINGTON, March 2. (JTA) -- The Egyptian authorities consider the statement issued last week by the Rumanian Government on Jewish emigration as "not reassuring," a broadcast from Cairo monitored here, said. The Egyptian broadcast called on the Rumanian Government to make a "clear" statement.

"What is said by Bucharest, that it does not allow emigration to Israel except for a number of individuals, contradicts what is said by Mrs. Golda Meir and what is declared by David Ben Gurion," the broadcast stated. "It also contradicts the measures adopted by the Israelis."

"Israel is sending a ministerial mission to the United States to collect donations and assistance in order to enable it to receive the incoming Jews," the broadcast continued. "Israel is forming various committees to study different affairs relating to immigration. This is taking place and it is impossible for Bucharest to answer it with merely an unofficial statement or an unclear statement. We want something clear and frank from the states which we have always considered as friendly. We want a statement not covered by vagueness."

Contrary to the Egyptian broadcast, Radio Moscow in its broadcasts bearing news to the Near East this week-end repeated many times the Rumanian statement denying that there is large-scale emigration of Jews from Rumania. The statement was carried near the beginning of Radio Moscow's news programs and again at the end.

### Jewish Emigration from Russia Will Not Be Allowed, Moscow Reiterates

LONDON, March 2. (JTA) -- For the third time in ten days, an official organ of the controlled Soviet propaganda apparatus denied that the USSR plans to allow emigration of Russian Jews to Israel. Today's denial was issued by Tass, the Kremlin's official news service. Ten days ago, Moscow Radio broadcast the same announcement. Two days later, it appeared in the Soviet Government's official newspaper, Izvestia.

Like the previous announcements, obviously designed to curry favor with the Arab states that have been complaining against the influx of East European Jews into Israel, today's Tass dispatch declared: "Sensational reports alleging that the Soviet Union intends to put into effect the mass emigration of Jews to Israel are a malicious, provocative fabrication, and have no foundation whatever."

The Tass release also stressed again a previous announcement to the effect that Russia does not intend to permit Russian Jews to attend the meeting of the World Jewish Congress, scheduled to be held next Fall in Stockholm. Like earlier denials, this one, too, called the World Jewish Congress a "Zionist" organization, and termed as a "fabrication" the report that Russian Jews would go to Stockholm for the WJC sessions.

Today's reiteration by Tass seemed to coincide with the meeting at Cairo of the Arab League Council, which has been convened in emergency session to evaluate the new immigration to Israel, it was commented here.

## ISRAEL HAS ROOM FOR ABSORPTION OF MANY IMMIGRANTS, EBAN DECLARES

NEW YORK, March 2. (JTA) -- Israel has room for the absorption of many immigrants, Abba Eban, Israel's Ambassador to the United States, declared last night in a television interview. He emphasized that Israel has not yet reached the saturation point in immigrant absorption.

"Our present population of two million is living on only about 50 percent of our land. Half of our land contains only one percent of our total population," he said. The Jewish State, however, must still "place frank reliance upon such aid as we can get," the Ambassador added. Israel, he said, has made vast strides toward complete self-support, increasing its national product by 75 percent, and raising its earnings from exports by some 200 percent.

"If this increase," he said, "can go forward, we will approach a point where our consumer needs are pretty nearly covered by what we produce ourselves." In the meantime, however, the Ambassador stressed, aid from abroad is still a necessity for Israel. Mr. Eban, who spoke on Station WNTA-TV, called for the consistent development of American and United Nations policy for the support of the integrity and independence of all states in the Middle East.

The Israel Ambassador spoke with high praise of the newly-appointed United States Ambassador to Israel, Ogden R. Reid. "I have known Mr. Reid for many years," he stated, "and I think that here is an American mind very sensitively attuned to international affairs, with a special insight into the problem of our region."

## NIR ELECTED SPEAKER OF KNESSET; MAPAI CANDIDATE, BERL LOCKER, DEFEATED

JERUSALEM, March 2. (JTA) -- Seventy-five-year-old Nahum Nir today was elected Speaker of the Parliament, succeeding the late Josef Sprinzak, defeating the Mapai Party's candidate, Berl Locker, by a vote of 53-41.

Mr. Nir received the support of Ahdut Avoda, Mapam, the Herut Party which originally nominated him for the post, General Zionists, National Religious Party, and Communist Party. The Progressive Party and the members of Parliament representing Agudath Israel abstained. There was a division also among the members of the Cabinet, three leftist Ministers joining the opposition to defeat Mr. Locker.

The election of Mr. Nir widens the rift between Mapai and the leftist partners of the coalition government--Ahdut Avoda and Mapam. Until the very last moment, Mapai made frantic efforts to gain backing for Mr. Locker from the former coalition members, the National Religious Party, as well as from the Progressives, who are in the coalition, and from Agudath Israel.

The defeat for Mapai is seen as sharper since Mr. Nir's name for the speakership was originally proposed by the right-wing Herut Party, and not by his own party, the left-wing Ahdut Avoda. Warsaw-born Mr. Nir, who received a traditional Jewish education, is considered by many as anti-clerical. However, he told the press prior to his election that, if chosen Speaker, he would refrain from travel on the Sabbath out of consideration for the feelings of his religious electors.

Mr. Nir had pursued his secular studies at St. Petersburg, later studied at Dorpat and Zurich Universities, and obtained a law degree. He came to Palestine in 1925. He has served in Parliament during every session since the rebirth of Israel. Recently, he was Deputy Speaker of Parliament.

Ground-breaking ceremonies were held this morning for the new Parliament on a hill overlooking new Jerusalem. The new building will be constructed at a cost of 6,000,000 pounds sterling (\$14,800,000) bequeathed for the purpose by the late James de Rothschild of London. Prior to the ground-breaking, the traditional "thirtieth day" ritual memorializing the dead was observed at the grave of the late Speaker of the Knesset Josef Sprinzak in the National Cemetery atop Mt. Herzl.

## ISRAELIS REPORTED FIRING ON U. N. PATROL IN GAZA; MISTAKE ESTABLISHED

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., March 2. (JTA) -- An Israeli border patrol along the Gaza Strip frontier fired at a patrol of the United Nations Emergency Force last Friday night, according to a report from UNEF headquarters issued by the UN here today.

The report stated that the UNEF patrol did not return the Israeli fire, and that none of the UNEF men was hurt. According to the UNEF statement, the leader of the Israel patrol expressed regret over the incident, saying that his men had opened fire by mistake. Observers here expressed the opinion that the Israelis had mistaken the UNEF patrol for a band of Arab infiltrators, since there have been a number of Arab crossings into Israel in recent weeks.

UNEF announced that it has lodged a protest over the incident with Israeli authorities, asking that steps be taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in the future.

## GERMAN COURT BANS ANTI-SEMITIC PUBLICATION; PERIODICAL SUSPENDED

LUNEBURG, Germany, March 2. (JTA) -- Copies of "Der Weg," a neo-Nazi anti-Semitic periodical published in German in Buenos Aires, were ordered confiscated here today by a ruling of the District Court which branded the publication as one supporting "the violent and arbitrary regime of National Socialism."

The confiscation order was directed against 42 copies of the periodical, out of 83 studied by the court. The order noted that a general ban against "Der Weg" was moot, since the periodical has now suspended publication.

The court, however, imposed a nominal fine of one mark per copy against the German distributor of "Der Weg," former Chief Customs Inspector H. Flohr. Among the collaborators named by the court as having aided the publishers and editors of the publication are Johannes van Leers, former Nazi propagandist, now in the employ of the Nasser government in Cairo; former Nazi Air Force Col. Hans Ullrich Rudel; former Nazi General Ernst Remer; Sven Heidin, notorious anti-Semitic writer; and the widow of the late General von Ludendorff.

## SO. AFRICAN PREMIER ASSURES JEWS OF EQUAL TREATMENT IN UNIVERSITIES

JOHANNESBURG, March 2. (JTA) -- No legislation is contemplated to repeal the "conscience clause" which provides that there must be no discrimination on religious grounds in the admission of students to South African universities, Premier Hendrik Verwoerd declared today.

The Premier's statement came in a letter to Joe Nessel, a Jewish member of the Nationalist Party, of which Dr. Verwoerd is leader, asking him to receive a deputation of South African Jews. Mr. Nessel said the Jews were concerned over omission of the clause from a bill to establish Bantu (Negro) universities now pending in Parliament.

Dr. Verwoerd said there was no reason to receive the deputation as the object of Mr. Nessel's request, that the Jews should not be treated differently from other sections of the white population, would be defeated if he received such a sectional deputation.

The Premier added that the rights of Jews were not affected. The education of the Bantu in South Africa had always been on a religious basis, he said. Since Jews did not conduct missionary activities to convert the Bantu and there were, in fact, no Bantu Jews, he declared, this matter did not affect the Jewish community.

## 100TH BIRTHDAY OF SHOLEM ALEICHEM OBSERVED IN MANY COUNTRIES

NEW YORK, March 2. (JTA) -- The 100th birthday of Sholem Aleichem, the famous Jewish author noted for his humor and known in the United States as "the Jewish Mark Twain," was observed here today by the press devoting special articles to the great writer. The New York Public Library marked the anniversary with the opening of a special exhibition, "The World of Sholem Aleichem," containing manuscripts, photographs, biographical material and the works of the author.

Sholem Aleichem celebrations are being planned for this week by numerous Jewish cultural organizations in the United States. Reports received here also indicate that such celebrations are being arranged in Poland, France, the Scandinavian countries and in Latin America. A Sholem Aleichem celebration is being held tonight in Moscow, in the Trade Union House.

The governments of Israel and of the Soviet Union have marked the Sholem Aleichem anniversary by issuing special postage stamps. Born in Pereyaslav, Russia, Sholem Aleichem--whose name was Solomon Rabinowitz--started to write in 1879. His early literary efforts were made simultaneously in Yiddish, Hebrew and Russian. He enriched the Yiddish literature with some 40 volumes of short stories, novels and plays. He came to the United States in 1914, and died in New York in 1916.

PARIS, March 2. (JTA) -- A Yiddish-language Communist newspaper said here today that the Soviet Union will send a delegation of eight Soviet Jewish artists to participate in celebrations here of the Sholem Aleichem centenary sponsored here by Jewish Communist groups. The celebration is scheduled for March 15.

This is believed to be the first occasion since World War II that the Soviet Union will have sent a Yiddish-language cultural representation out of the USSR.

LONDON, March 2. (JTA) -- World Jewish Congress affiliates all over the world were urged in a statement issued here today by Dr. A. Steinberg, director of the WJC cultural department, to join in the celebration of the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Sholem Aleichem.

Dr. Steinberg recalled that the late Sholem Aleichem played a pre-eminent role in Jewish literature: "as the inseparable companion of the Jewish people in their joys and in their sorrows."

ERADICATION OF BIAS IN EMPLOYMENT SOUGHT IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

VANCOUVER, March 2. (JTA) -- The Vancouver Civic Unity Association reported today it has submitted a brief to the Provincial Cabinet of British Columbia charging that the provincial Fair Employment Practices Act "is a virtually dormant piece of legislation."

S. B. Gervin, chairman of the Association and chairman of the Joint Public Relations Committee of the Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai B'rith Pacific Region, said the association proposed an amendment to permit such organizations as church, ethnic and trade union groups to make a complaint on behalf of an aggrieved person.

The association urged the formation of an Anti Discrimination Commission "to acquaint the public with the nature of the act itself, to direct specific educational material to employers and trade unions, to give leadership to community study of the nature of prejudice and discrimination."

The brief emphasized that prejudice and discrimination based on race, color, creed or national origin was not confined to the area of employment opportunities but exists in all areas of our community life. If the eradication of discrimination in employment is to have a lasting significance, it must be accompanied by a decrease in discrimination in other areas."

A delegation of the association met with a group of Cabinet Ministers and proposed the passage of a Fair Accommodations Act. The delegation also urged that the Provincial Government "should maintain its position with regard to discriminatory legislation by taking an unequivocal stand on the matter of restrictive covenants."

JEWS IN CANADA SEEK LIQUOR LICENSES FOR SUNDAY WEDDINGS, BANQUETS

TORONTO, March 2. (JTA) -- Judge A. Robb, chairman of the Ontario Liquor License Board, had under consideration today an appeal for issuance of banquet licenses to Jewish applicants for the sale of alcoholic beverages on Sundays.

Allen Grossman, Ontario legislature member, told Judge Robb that Jews and other groups which do not celebrate Sunday as their Sabbath should be granted such licenses for Sunday banquets and social events. Judge Robb heard the appeal when he appeared before a legislative Committee on Commissions.

Mr. Grossman said synagogues in Toronto have refused to permit liquor at wedding receptions on Sundays because this is illegal. He pointed out that many Jewish weddings are held on Sunday because tradition forbids such ceremonies on the Jewish Sabbath. CCF officials indicated agreement, arguing that present arrangements in effect discriminated against those "living in accordance with their own beliefs."

PALESTINE ECONOMIC CORPORATION REPORTS \$477,062 NET PROFIT FOR 1958

NEW YORK, March 2. (JTA) -- The Palestine Economic Corporation reported today total income during 1958 of \$1,156,463 and expenses of \$679,401 for a net profit of \$477,062.

The net profit was carried to earned surplus which at the beginning of 1958 totalled \$1,672,968. A cash dividend payable February 27 of this year totalled \$437,085. The earned surplus at the end of 1958 was \$1,802,845. The data was released in the annual report which was mailed with a four percent dividend check to more than 9,000 stockholders in the United States.

SIX ITALIAN OPERA SINGERS INJURED IN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, March 2 (JTA) -- Six Italian opera singers were injured here last night when an automobile in which they were riding was in a collision with a jeep driven by an Army sergeant. The singers had participated in a presentation of "Falstaff" here with the Philharmonic Orchestra, under the baton of Carlo Mario Giulini.

Three of the singers were detained at the Tel Aviv Hospital where, it was said, they might have to remain three weeks. The three other injured were discharged after receiving first aid. The company's final performance, scheduled for tonight, was cancelled.

REMAINS OF ZALMAN SHNEUR TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM NEW YORK TO ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, March 2. (JTA) -- The remains of the late Zalman Shneur, famous Yiddish-Hebrew novelist and poet, will be brought to Israel for reinterment, according to plans being made here by the Israel Writers Association.

Prime Minister David Ben Gurion informed the association today that the Government is ready to join the writers in the plan. Mr. Shneur died in New York less than two weeks ago.