



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16. N.Y.

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Vol. XXVI No. 70 - 41st year

Friday, April 10, 1959

BILL OUTLAWING ANTI-SEMITISM PASSES FIRST READING IN GERMAN BUNDESTAG

BONN, April 9. (JTA) -- The bill initiated by the West German Cabinet to make anti-Semitism a criminal offense passed its first reading in the West German lower house, the Bundestag, yesterday, after a brief debate.

All parties, with the exception of the right-wing Deutsches Partie, announced their support of the measure, in view of the resurgence of anti-Semitic incidents in West Germany in recent months. The Deutsches Partie argued that special legislation might have consequences which later might not be controllable.

The bill, a revision of the West German penal code, sets a minimum punishment of three months' imprisonment, but no maximum, for persons convicted of stirring up hate against groups because of their national, racial ethnic origin. The bill also provides fines in addition.

The measure was scheduled to go to the legal committee, then it will be returned to the Bundestag for a second reading. The measure was passed by the upper house, the Bundesrat, in February.

GERMAN FIRMS TO INVEST CAPITAL IN ISRAEL; JOINT ENTERPRISES FORESEEN

JERUSALEM, April 9. (JTA) -- Israel-German economic enterprises in Israel are envisaged under talks now being conducted between representatives of the governments of Israel and West Germany, it was revealed here today by F.E. Shinar, head of the Israeli Reparations Mission to the General Federal Republic. Herman Abs, director of the Deutsche Bank in Frankfurt, is now in Israel studying economic conditions of the country.

Mr. Shinar reported that attempts are being made to induce German firms to make investments in Israel. He said that the Bonn Government has already assured that credit would be given to Israel on certain projects, and that negotiations on one of these projects have already been completed. He disclosed that the projects negotiated by Israel with West Germany include the expansion of power stations, erection of a Diesel engine plant, building of a phosphoric acid plant, and a lubricating oil refinery.

(In London, it was reported today by Reuters that negotiations have ended on the first large business deal between Israel and West Germany outside their 1952 reparations agreement. Long-term credits equivalent to \$6,500,000 have been granted by an unidentified West German concern to expand Israel's power capacity.)

Mr. Shinar also reported that West Germany has paid to Israel in goods and services a total of \$451,785,000 under the German-Israel Reparations Agreement in the last seven years, comprising 55 percent of the grand total of \$821,428,000 which Israel will receive under that pact. He said that the payments under the agreement would be completed by 1965 or 1966.

Altogether, in the 70 years since the agreement went into effect, in 1952, Germany has sent to Israel 1,100,000,000 tons of goods, excluding oil. Germany's exports to Israel, said Mr. Shinar, amounts to 12 percent of Israel's total imports.

Israel has ordered 47 ships under the agreement, he reported. Of these vessels, 26 have already been delivered, while the remaining 21 ships are expected to be delivered by 1962. The Israel Reparations Mission, he said, has already started planning for trade relations to follow the expiration of reparations.

British Govt. Is Asked in Commons to Encourage Investments in Israel

LONDON, April 9. (JTA) -- The British Government was asked in Parliament today to encourage more British investments in Israel. The plea was voiced by deputy H.S. Johnson, Conservative, during a debate on the government budget.

The Conservative member of the House of Commons also asked the British Government "to provide Israel with more facilities on the London money market." He emphasized that Israel has today the "most stable government in the entire Middle East" and said that Israel is today Britain's best friend in the Middle East.

BEN GURION ADDRESSES MAPAI CONVENTION; URGES UNITY OF LABOR GROUPS

TEL AVIV, April 9. (JTA) -- Calling on Israeli political parties to conduct the forthcoming campaign for November's general elections in a spirit of education in true democracy, Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion tonight declared that separate labor parties in Israel must sooner or later merge.

"The time is not far off," he stated, "when separate labor parties will realize the vital necessity of political unity for all Israeli workers. This is also a historical necessity."

Mr. Ben Gurion voiced these sentiments here in delivering the address which concluded the two-day convention of Israel's dominant political party, Mapai. The parley drafted platforms for its participation in two election campaigns--the elections of Histadrut, Israel's federation of labor, and the national balloting for Parliament.

Stressing Mapai's Socialist ideals, Mr. Ben Gurion told the 3,000 delegates and guests at the convention: "One characteristic of our specific approach is that, in spite of our conviction that the interests of the community are supreme, our movement has always recognized the decisive importance of the individual."

"The community's responsibility to the individual," Mr. Ben Gurion continued, "is an absolute aim by itself. Therefore, we have always opposed the false theory of those who favor a totalitarian regime, who believe that a privileged minority is destined to rule, to guide, to show the majority that the majority's duty is to follow the privileged minority."

"This theory," Mr. Ben Gurion went on, "always leads toward fascist dictatorship or toward communism, which calls itself by the self-contradictory name of 'people's democracy'."

Mr. Ben Gurion emphasized the great part played in Israel's achievements by the efforts of other groups and individuals, particularly by the Jews outside Israel. But, he added, "the historic truth is that the Histadrut was the first and major factor in all that has been created in this country."

Mapai Platform Links Wage Increases to Higher Output

The Mapai platform for the Histadrut elections, presented today to the convention, stressed the need for greater output and savings and proposed that wage increases should follow an increase in national output and should be geared to the increase and in accordance with the possibilities of each branch of industry.

The platform also proposed the setting up of an industrial advisory committee for the government which would include representatives of workers, the Histadrut and other sectors in management-worker relations. Mapai Party membership figures revealed to the delegates showed that 45 percent of the members are "non-Ashkenazi"--Jews who stem from countries other than European. Fifteen percent of the members are Israeli-born.

The figures showed also that: Only 18 percent of the present members of Mapai belonged to the party before the rebirth of statehood in 1948; 45 percent of the members arrived in Israel since 1948; 40 percent are between the ages of 30 and 40; 25 percent are under 30 years old; the remainder are aged over 40.

WASHINGTON PLANS INCREASED ADMISSION OF REFUGEES TO U.S. DURING YEAR

WASHINGTON, April 9. (JTA) -- Congress will be asked by the Administration to pass new legislation which would provide specific aid from the United States toward solving the world's overall refugee problem, as part of the World Refugee Year which will start July 1, under United Nations auspices.

Among the steps being planned by the Administration are a new law broadening the American immigration policy to permit the admission of refugees from areas other than Europe. Although refugees in Europe would probably gain more under the proposed new legislation, non-Europeans will also benefit. At present, the law, passed in 1957, provides for admission of a total of 14,500 refugees. The object is to allow many more visas for refugees than the 14,500 limit.

Part of the Administration's plan calls also for an appropriation of \$3,000,000 as this country's contribution toward the aims of World Refugee Year. Some refugee aid organizations have proposed that that figure be set at \$10,000,000. But it is believed that a \$3,000,000 allocation is all the Administration will seek, on the thought that Congress might balk at giving more for this program.

U.N. BODY VOTES TO PROTECT STATELESS BEFORE THEY ACQUIRE NATIONALITY

GENEVA, April 9. (JTA) -- A United Nations body voted here today that no person should lose his citizenship in the process of renouncing one nationality and acquiring another. A resolution was adopted by the UN Conference on the Elimination of Reduction of Statelessness. The measure will protect persons who, some times, lose their original citizenship before the new country of their choice has granted them a new nationality.

3,000 JEWISH LEADERS IN 50 COMMUNITIES TOLD OF U. J. A. URGENT NEEDS

NEW YORK, April 9. (JTA) -- An appeal to American Jews to accelerate their tempo of giving to the United Jewish Appeal in order "to meet the great emergency obligations abroad" and "to maintain expansion of American Jewry's community institutions," was voiced here today in a person-to-person conference with 3,000 Jewish organizational leaders in over 50 communities.

The conference, originated at a luncheon meeting of the Conference of Presidents in the UJA national headquarters, was addressed by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Jewish Agency; Philip M. Klutznick, chairman of the Conference of Presidents; Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman, executive vice-chairman of the UJA, and Gershon Avner, head of the American desk at the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Also present at the gathering were the presidents of 18 major national Jewish organizations participating in the program of the Conference of Presidents.

Urging his hearers to enlist their organizations for all-out support of local drives in behalf of the UJA, Mr. Klutznick, who is also president of B'nai B'rith, said: "There is indivisible identity of objectives between the separate programs of the organizations represented in the Conference and the collective commitment these organizations have made to assist the UJA in realizing its goals."

He gave special emphasis to his statement that "the obligation to help meet the humanitarian needs of Israel's people is a solemn obligation of the whole of American Jewry." He called for more intensive participation of individuals and organizations in local UJA campaigns with a view to obtaining increased gifts from accustomed givers and reaching out to create as many new givers as possible.

Dr. Goldmann declared that the needs of Israel's people must be appraised not alone on the basis of immigrants "yet to arrive in Israel," but, even more, on the basis of immigrants already there--"close to a million, from many lands, admitted since 1948."

The resettlement of nearly a million people, Dr. Goldmann declared is a "stupendous task, one that would tax the energies and resources even of old and established governments." Since Jews throughout the world have "by no means" contributed the funds necessary for this purpose, the speaker said, it must now make up for its past deficits by extra-generous giving today.

Rabbi Friedman, lauding the efforts of the Conference of Presidents, termed it "both a symbol of Jewish unity in the field of Jewish philanthropy and a welcome instrumentality for mobilizing maximum support for the United Jewish Appeal." The UJA leader reported on the progress of the 1959 campaign, stating that the response thus far is "eloquent proof that American Jewry is resolved to give to the UJA in a measure commensurate with the needs the UJA is called on to meet in this immigration-emergency year."

Mr. Avner voiced the determination of Israel's people to keep the doors of their country open to the newcomers and to provide "work, housing, and livelihoods for them." Pointing out that the lives of the people of Israel have been "hard and laden with sacrifice," the Israeli official said, "ours is the great satisfaction, however, of knowing that our sacrifices and your help make it possible for us to receive any and every immigrant who reaches our shores."

Boston Jewish Appeal Reports 30 Percent Increase in Contributions

BOSTON, April 9. (JTA) -- The Combined Jewish Appeal of Boston has raised a total of \$1,700,000 in advance gifts, representing an increase of nearly 30 percent over similar gifts at this stage in the 1958 campaign, Joseph M. Linsey, general chairman, announced today.

The bulk of the initial gifts was contributed at a Big Gifts meeting at a farewell salute to Ambassador Abba Eban. Other events at which advance gifts were made were meetings staged by the Metropolitan Division in the suburbs, the Young Adult Division and the Women's Division.

Mr. Linsey expressed the hope that this standard of giving would be maintained during the rest of the 1959 drive, noting that the 30 percent increase figure was the approximate percentage increase needed to reach the 1959 goal of \$6,900,000.

J. W. B. LEADER REPORTS ON PASSOVER PLANS FOR JEWS IN U. S. ARMED SERVICES

WASHINGTON, April 9. (JTA) -- A report on the plans made by the National Jewish Welfare Board in providing Jews in the U. S. Armed Services with Passover food and Haggadahs was presented here today by Samuel D. Gerhovitz, JWB executive vice-president.

The Jewish Welfare Board official also reported to the national council meeting of the United Service Organizations, with which JWB is affiliated, on a mission he has just completed for USO in the Middle East. Mr. Gerhovitz established USO facilities for American servicemen in Turkey. At Istanbul, he formed, for the first time, an armed services committee to work with JWB on behalf of Jewish servicemen.

ISRAEL'S FOREIGN RELATIONS ANALYZED AT JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

NEW YORK, April 9. (JTA) -- Israel's foreign relations were analyzed here last night by Yaacov Herzog, Minister of the Israel Embassy in Washington, in delivering the Chaim Weizmann Lecture at the Israel Institute of the Jewish Theological Seminary. The lecture is delivered at the seminary each year as a memorial to the late Dr. Chaim Weizmann, Israel's first President.

"The establishment of the State of Israel opened for the first time in 2,000 years the prospects of achieving a balanced and coherent system of relations with the nations of the world. The struggle for survival and unending international complications have burdened this mission. Moreover, an amalgam of past relationships, political and spiritual, has had to be clarified and defined from the perspective of independent nationhood.

"Nevertheless, much progress has been made in overcoming the heritage of anomaly, and in convincing the world of the validity and permanence of Israel's statehood," the Israel diplomat stressed. "Inherent independence has at long last found harmonious expression externally. In the pattern of trial, set-back and achievement, Israel's foreign relations have progressively matured. Israel has come to understand the underlying realities of world politics, and the reflexes of international approach. The international community has increasingly appreciated the permanence and equality of Israel's statehood."

Mr. Herzog added that "in reviewing in retrospect international support for the establishment of the State, one cannot escape the impression that it was related more to the concept of a home for homeless people and of a center for its spiritual advancement, than to that of its political independence and international rights. The process of acceptance of the State has involved a progressive balance in perspective."

CHILDREN MUST SUPPORT NEEDY AGED PARENTS, ISRAEL SUPREME COURT RULES

JERUSALEM, April 9. (JTA) -- The requirement of Jewish religious law that it is the duty of a son or daughter to support needy parents received official recognition today from the Israel Supreme Court.

The high court upheld the ruling of a lower court ordering a married woman to contribute to the maintenance of her aged parents. The high court rejected the woman's appeal that the behavior and attitude of the parents toward her did not justify the demand she should help to support them.

CANADIAN SUPREME COURT JUSTICE RAND HONORED IN ISRAEL; WOOD PLANTED

JERUSALEM, April 9. (JTA) -- Canadian Supreme Court Justice A. K. Rand was honored today by the planting of a wood bearing his name on the outskirts of Jerusalem sponsored by Winnipeg Jewry. Justice Rand was a member of the United Nations Commission on Palestine which was responsible for the resolution establishing Israel.

Justice and Mrs. Rand were present for the ceremony which was attended also by Michael Comay, former Israel Ambassador to Canada, now deputy director of the Israeli Foreign Ministry; Avraham Harman on behalf of the Jewish Agency, and officials of the Canadian Embassy and of the Jewish National Fund.

LABOR ZIONIST ORDER TO DEDICATE NEW NATIONAL HOME IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, April 9. (JTA) -- The new \$500,000 national home of the Farband Labor Zionist Order, will be dedicated in week-end ceremonies which will begin with a ceremonial changing of the street name-plate tomorrow at noon, at the location of the new Farband House in lower Manhattan.

The name of the Avenue of the Americas, where the building is located, will be changed to the Avenue of the Farband, as the first in a series of events in a program for the Farband's quadrennial convention, to be held in Miami Beach May 23-27. Simcha Pratt, Consul-General of Israel in New York, will be the principal guest speaker at the second day ceremonies, on Sunday, when there will be a tape-cutting at the new Farband House.

DR. SALK TO LECTURE IN JERUSALEM ON HIS RESEARCH IN FIELD OF CANCER

JERUSALEM, April 9. (JTA) -- Dr. Jonas Salk disclosed today, in a letter to Prime Minister David Ben Gurion, that he would report on the results of his research in the field of cancer during one of his lectures here next month.

He said his first lecture, dealing with research, would be for doctors and scientists. His second lecture will be on polio problems and his third address will deal with the wider issues of the relationship between science and society. He is scheduled to arrive May 7 for a ten-day visit.