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15,000 MAKE TRADITIONAL PASSOVER PILGRIMAGE TO MOUNT ZION

JERUSALEM, April 26. (JTA) -- An estimated 15,000 observant Jews, including many American and European tourists, made the traditional pilgrimage at Passover-time to Mount Zion today. The hill, which projects as an enclave into the Jordan-held section of Jerusalem, is a shrine to Orthodox Jews and the reputed site of David's Tomb.

Special trains brought the pilgrims to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv and Haifa, Rabbi Jacob Toledano, the Minister of Religion, greeted the arrivals at the station. They made their way, on foot through the old Montefiore Quarter up the new winding road to the crest of the mount where many of them recited prayers in the sanctuary.

The procession passed under the watchful eyes of Transjordan sentries on the Old City walls, in some places less than a hundred yards distant.

KNESSET MEETS IN SPECIAL SESSION TODAY ON ELECTION ISSUE

JERUSALEM, April 26. (JTA) -- The Israeli Parliament will interrupt its Passover recess to meet in special session tomorrow to discuss demands by the Opposition parties to prolong the period in which appeals in connection with the list of voters for the November general elections can be made.

Dr. N. Y. Nir, Speaker of the Knesset, summoned the body to reconvene on receipt of a petition signed by more than 30 deputies. The opposition leaders took the position that unless the period for appeals was extended, thousands of Israelis would be disenfranchised. They said that 50,000 had already appealed failure to include their names on the election register and asserted that at least 50,000 more were eligible to vote but had not yet appealed their exclusion from the list.

LABOR PARTIES STEP UP ELECTIONEERING IN HISTADRUT VOTE BID

TEL AVIV, April 26. (JTA) -- The election campaign of Israel's Federation of Labor, Histadrut, swung into high gear this week-end, with all three of Israel's major labor parties taking advantage of the Passover holidays for electioneering purposes. The Histadrut elections will be held May 17.

Ahdut Avodah gathered 1,200 members and guests from all over the country at Elath, where the principal speaker was retired General Igal Alon. The left-wing Mapam, and the country's dominant party, Mapai, invited many of their followers and other potential voters to special seder services at various kibbutzim throughout the country. While Mapai speakers made the country's progress their principal theme, electioneering by Mapam and Ahdut Avoda concentrated on criticisms against Mapai's "ruling system."

PLANES, GROUND CREWS CONTINUE FIGHT AGAINST INVASION OF LOCUSTS

TEL AVIV, April 26. (JTA) -- Planes spraying chemicals assisted labor gangs on the ground today as they continued to fight an invasion of yellow locusts which began shortly before Passover. Swarms of the yellow insects swept into Israel in the Beersheba region. Their arrival was also reported in the Jordan Valley and at Ein Gedi on the Dead Sea.

ADA CALLS FOR ACTIVIST MID-EAST POLICY, NATO LINKAGE FOR ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, April 26. (JTA) -- Because of Arab threats against Israel, "the West must, much more clearly and definitely than in the past, underwrite the security of Israel," according to a policy recommendation of the political group, Americans for Democratic Action.

The ADA asserted that there is no "good reason why Israel should not be drawn into the over-all security arrangements of the West, through a linkage with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)." It urged a new, comprehensive and activist policy for the Middle East. Such a policy, according to the ADA proposal, "would take us off the present dead center of indecision and perplexities, and of waiting for the other shoe to drop."

A Middle East foreign policy evaluation published by the ADA stressed that the danger here seems to consist of a growing feeling on the part of both Nasser and Kassem that the only way in which they can achieve leadership in the Arab world is to unite all Arabs around the one cause to which they all publicly subscribe: "the destruction of Israel."

STATE DEPT. WITNESS SAYS UNEF CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE JUSTIFIES COST

WASHINGTON, April 22. (JTA) -- Assistant Secretary of State Francis O. Wilcox told the House Foreign Affairs Committee, in testimony released today, that the United Nations Emergency Force on the Arab-Israel borders had proved such a contribution to the maintenance of peace that it was "worth many times the amount we have contributed toward its existence."

Mr. Wilcox, testifying in support of the Mutual Security bill, which provides funds for the U.S. contribution to UNEF, said that "the stabilizing presence of the UNEF constitutes a great benefit both to the free world in general and to the United States in particular."

(Addressing a Swedish contingent which completed its service with UNEF in the Gaza Strip, Lieut. Gen. E. L. M. Burns, UNEF commander, said it was a "good sign" that UNEF was not so much in the news now as when it was formed. "As far as UNEF is concerned, no news is good news," he said. "Peace and quiet do not make headlines, trouble does; and we are here to prevent trouble.")

REPORT ISRAEL TO APPLY TO WORLD BANK FOR DEVELOPMENT LOANS

JERUSALEM, April 26. (JTA) -- Israel is expected to apply for several loans from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, it became known as two representatives of the world bank completed a study mission here today. Among the projects for which loans are expected to be sought are the construction of a new, large port on the Mediterranean, probably at Ashdod; expansion of electricity production facilities, and equipment for the increase of potash production.

ANTI-ISRAEL BOYCOTT RULES REBOUND AGAINST ARAB STATES

WASHINGTON, April 26. (JTA) -- Trade restrictions imposed by the Arab States to hamper Israel's commerce have actually resulted in causing the Arab States to pay higher freight rates, the International Chamber of Commerce was told here.

B. Rosen, Israeli representative, said Near East freight rates were higher because normal carriers were compelled to split cargoes and route them separately to Israel and to Arab destinations. This, he said, represented much greater cost to the Arabs than to the Israelis because of the larger tonnage shipped to Arab ports and because the Arabs were more dependent on foreign-flag shipping.

(Reports received in London disclosed an extension of the Arab anti-Israel boycott to a number of British, French and Canadian firms for having done business with Israel. Iraq blacklisted Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., of Britain, and Air France. Jordan banned dealings with British Bond Nickel Company, International Nickel of Canada and six other firms.)

LEHMANS LAY CORNERSTONE FOR NEW HOSPITAL UNIT IN JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, April 26. (JTA) -- Former United States Senator Herbert H. Lehman, and Mrs. Lehman, participated in ceremonies here today at the cornerstone laying for the new "Herbert and Edith Lehman" Mother-and-Child Pavilion of the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center.

Later, Mr. Lehman had a private audience with Prime Minister David Ben Gurion, then held a press conference in the Premier's office. The American statesman told newspaperman that his current visit to Israel had impressed him particularly because of the new settlements and the great expansion of Israeli cities, by comparison with the situation he had observed on his last visit here, 10 years ago. Mr. Lehman paid particular tribute to the work being done in Israel by ORT.

ISRAELI NEWS BRIEFS

JERUSALEM, April 26. (JTA) -- The Foreign Ministry announced today that Mrs. Golda Meir, the Foreign Minister, will leave Israel May 15 for a six-week visit to Latin America. Her itinerary will be announced later.

JERUSALEM, April 26. (JTA) -- The Government announced today that it would soon open an Embassy at Conakri, the capital of the new African republic of Guinea. Shlomo Hillel, a member of Parliament representing Mapai, has been named as charge d'affaires to Conakri.

HAIFA, April 26. (JTA) -- This city's traditional Passover flower exhibit, atop Mt. Carmel, was opened today with a colorful display of flowers flown here especially from many countries, including the United States, Britain, Ghana, Italy, France and the Netherlands.

TEL AVIV, April 26. (JTA) -- A four-million dollar deal for acquisition of a third of the shares of Paz, the Israel Oil Company, is being negotiated by an American oil firm, with headquarters in California, according to reports here today. The name of the American firm was not revealed.

RICE REPORTS 1,000 EGYPTIAN REFUGEES UNABLE TO ENTER UNITED STATES

PARIS, April 26. (JTA) -- More than a thousand Jewish refugees from Egypt, now living in France and Italy, and who have applied for emigration to the United States, cannot at present be fitted into existing United States immigration quotas, James P. Rice, executive director of the United Hias Service, told the JTA today.

To date, he said, about 1,500 refugees from Egypt have been resettled in the United States under sections of the 1957 law permitting entry of aliens who have fled their countries "because of persecution."

Since the entire quota for such persecutees from all Eastern Europe and certain Middle East states is 14,500, the only hope for the thousand Jewish refugees still seeking entry is that unused quotas from other countries might become available.

Mr. Rice, accompanied by Harold Trobe, United Hias director for Europe and North African operations, arrived here after completing a survey of the migration situation in this country, Switzerland, Austria and Italy. During the trip, they met a party of 40 Jewish emigrants en route from East Europe to North American countries and Australia.

FOUR MEMBERS OF COUNCIL OF EUROPE SIGN PACT ON STATELESS PERSONS

PARIS, April 26. (JTA) -- A new pact that could make travel much easier for stateless persons, many of them Jews, was signed today by the representatives of France, Belgium, West Germany and Luxembourg, at the meeting of the six-member Council of Europe at Strasbourg.

The agreement simplifies frontier formalities and, in many cases, makes visas unnecessary for refugees traveling from one country to another. The pact now goes to the parliaments of the member governments of the Council, and will become effective 30 days after at least three countries have ratified the agreement.

The Assembly of the Council of Europe adopted a resolution supporting World Refugee Year, a special period aiming at solution of the over-all refugee problem, which will begin July 1, under United Nations auspices. The resolution calls upon all member states to admit as many refugees as possible, and appeals to all countries to take in more refugees than they have permitted into their lands heretofore.

FRENCH PAY TRIBUTE TO MEMORY OF DEPORTED NAZI VICTIMS

PARIS, April 26. (JTA) -- Solemn ceremonies were held throughout France this week-end, commemorating the deaths of hundreds of thousands of French residents, many of them Jews, who were deported to their deaths in concentration camps during the Nazi regime.

Many dignitaries, representing the government as well as the Jewish community, paid homage to the memory of the dead as "Deportation Day" was observed this morning at the Tomb of the Unknown Jewish Martyr here. Among those attending these rites was General de Beaufort as personal representative of President Charles de Gaulle.

Friday night, there were special services at the Great Synagogue on Rue de la Victoire. Among the government representatives at the services were Minister of Justice Rene Michelet and Minister for War Veterans Triboulet.

Special services were also conducted here today in memory of 1,000 women whom the Nazis deported to Ravensbruck, where the women were subjected to brutal medical experiments.

ANNIVERSARY OF WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING OBSERVED THROUGHOUT POLAND

LONDON, April 26. (JTA) -- The 16th anniversary of the uprising of the Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto, under the Nazi regime, was widely commemorated in Poland, according to reports received here today.

Polish soldiers and Boy Scouts mounted guard at the monument to the martyrs of the Warsaw Ghetto, the report stated. "Communist dignitaries," it said, joined in paying honor to the memory of the martyrs, along with representatives of the Social and Cultural Federation of Jews in Poland, the Warsaw National Council, and the command of the Warsaw military district. A member of the Israel legation in Warsaw was reported present at the rites.

The Warsaw report stated that the anniversary was observed also over the Rumanian radio, through a special broadcast arranged by "the Yiddish section" of the government-owned broadcasting station.

BERLIN, April 26. (JTA) -- The sixteenth anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto revolt was commemorated in Ernst Reuter Hall in West Berlin. Heinz Galinski, chairman of the West Berlin Jewish community, presented the Heinrich Stahl prize to Ernest Schnabel for his book, "The Footprints of a Child," based on the story of Anne Frank,

U. J. A. TO LAUNCH CAMPAIGN TO COLLECT \$40 MILLION BEFORE JUNE 20

NEW YORK, April 26. (JTA) -- An intensive nationwide cash collection effort to raise \$40,000,000 in cash between now and June 20 to finance the humanitarian programs of the United Jewish Appeal in Israel and 25 countries throughout the world was announced today by Morris W. Berinstein, UJA general chairman. The drive will culminate in a National Cash Conference in New York on June 20 and 21.

"This is not just a routine effort to encourage the payment of pledges to local campaigns," Mr. Berinstein declared. "We are mobilizing volunteer leadership on a scale that has never before been attempted." He announced that Melvin Dubinsky, of St. Louis, would serve as 1959 UJA National Cash chairman. On the local level Mr. Berinstein said that communities were asked to set aside special periods of a week, a month, or even a day for efforts to raise cash on local pledges.

COUNCIL FOR JUDAISM ASSAILS U. J. A. FOR STRESSING MIGRATION TO ISRAEL

NEW YORK, April 26. (JTA) -- Charges that the United Jewish Appeal and its constituents were "operated by and in the interests of Zionism, which has as its goal the ingathering of the Jews of the world into the State of Israel," were made here this week end by Henry S. Moyer, of Scarsdale, as he assumed the presidency of the American Council for Judaism Philanthropic Fund. He also accused the UJA of exaggerating emigration figures.

Mr. Moyer asserted that the UJA and its constituent agencies did not act "in the interest of the refugees when they give little or no assistance to those who wish to settle elsewhere than Israel." He said his fund's main current concern was "the plight of Rumanian Jews stranded in Austria and Belgium who want to choose their country of settlement." He said some 95 Jews from Rumania in this category had received emergency aid from the ACJ fund.

CHICAGO COMBINED CAMPAIGN OPENS WITH OVERALL GIVING BY 29 PERCENT

CHICAGO, April 26. (JTA) -- Three hundred members of the Chicago Jewish community attending a dinner here officially launching the Combined Jewish Appeal of Metropolitan Chicago, announced pledges of \$1,225,000, bringing to \$2,460,000 the total already contributed to the 1959 campaign. The campaign goal is \$9,750,000, including \$4,000,000 for the Special Rescue Fund of the United Jewish Appeal. Contributions to date represent a 29 percent increase in total giving--13 percent to the regular campaign and 149 percent in the special fund.

Former Governor Frank Clement of Tennessee told the gathering that responsibility for Israel's survival should rest "not only on the Jewish people but on the shoulders of every American and every nation devoted to freedom and democracy." He said the United States Government "ought to support the idea of Israel."

REFORM JEWS LAUNCH CAMPAIGN SEEKING ABOLITION OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

NEW YORK, April 26. (JTA) -- A campaign to enlist Reform Jews in the United States in a program of education and debate leading to abolition of capital punishment was launched today by the Commission on Social Action for Reform Judaism of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

The commission published a pamphlet, "Man's Right to Life," by Ruth Leigh, to serve as a basis for discussion programs in the 565 temples associated with the Union.

Rabbi Maurice S. Eisendrath, president of the Union, in a statement on the commission action, declared that "the idea of capital punishment is a blatant denial of the sanctity of the individual" and called for its abolition.

WINNIPEG CITY COUNCIL BARS PAYMENTS TO CLUB REJECTING JEWS

WINNIPEG, Man., April 26. (JTA) -- Following charges that the Manitoba Club did not admit Jews to membership, the City Council of Winnipeg voted to cease payment of dues to the club for city department heads. A resolution adopted by the Council held that "payment of dues is a form of recognition which should not be given with the tax payers' money." The charges against the club were made by Alderman Saul Cherniack, chairman of the Western Region of the Canadian Jewish Congress. He said the Manitoba Club had "a gentlemen's agreement to exclude Jews and members of other minority racial groups from membership."

LABOR ZIONISTS OBSERVE 'THIRD SEDER' THROUGHOUT U. S. A.

NEW YORK, April 26. (JTA) -- Celebration of Passover and memorialization of the 16th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising were combined here tonight at two dinners held by the National Committee for Labor Israel. The events comprised the organization's traditional "third seder," observed simultaneously by Labor Zionists throughout the country. A total of 2,500 persons attended the "third seder" here.