



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

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Vol. XXVIII - 43rd year

Tuesday, August 22, 1961

No. 160

BEN-GURION CALLS FOR LABOR UNITY; SAYS COUNTRY MAY FACE 'GRAVE TESTS'

JERUSALEM, Aug. 21: (JTA) -- Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion, addressing a post-election mass-meeting of Mapai leaders and election workers, voiced an appeal for unity in Israeli labor ranks "in the face of the grave tests and tasks facing the country."

At the same time he warned that there will be no room in any future coalition Cabinet led by Mapai for partners who wish to be inside the coalition and simultaneously also against it. He sharply attacked the left-wing Mapam and Achdut Avodah parties for the method in which they waged their election campaigns. He also mentioned Dr. Nahum Goldmann, who had campaigned for the Liberal Party, charging that Dr. Goldmann brought three additional seats in the next Knesset to the Liberal Party "because of his talks on security affairs."

The Premier reiterated his previous assertion that there is a need for regional elections, so that the country might have a stable government and a strong, responsible Opposition to criticize the actions of the government and to be an alternative to the government.

While all parties are concerned with moves toward formation of the next Government, no definite steps in that direction are expected until after Wednesday night, when the final results of last weeks balloting will be known. Tabulation of the votes cast by army servicemen and women is still in process, and is expected to be finished by Wednesday morning. Then the Central Elections Committee will convene to sum up the definitive results of the elections.

Mapai Wants Eight Portfolios in a Planned 15-Member Cabinet

Addressing a Mapai rally at Haifa, Yosef Almogi, secretary-general of Mapai, stated that his party faces two alternatives in planning the next coalition government. One possibility, he said, is a coalition comprised of Mapai, the Liberal Party and the National Religious Party. The other possibility, he saw, would be a coalition embracing Mapai, Mapam, Achdut Avodah and the National Religious Party.

The Mapai secretariat, which met last night, discussed a plan to form the next Cabinet to be composed of 15 Ministers, among whom Mapai would have a majority of eight portfolios. Under one plan, the remaining portfolios, after Mapai got eight, would be divided thus: four to the Liberals, three to the National Religious group. Another plan, also starting with eight seats for Mapai, is to give three to the National Religious Party, and two each to Mapam and Achdut Avodah.

Meanwhile, Menahem Beigin, leader of the right-wing Herut Party, officially wrote to leaders of the Liberal Party today, proposing the plan he had announced last week, for the formation of a Herut-Liberal bloc in the next Knesset. He pointed out that such a bloc would hold 34 of the Knesset seats and said it would end majority rule of the Knesset by one party, meaning Mapai.

The Beigin proposal has received mixed reactions from the Liberal leaders. Peretz Bernstein, leader of the General Zionist component of the Liberal group, was reported "favorably disposed" to the Herut idea. Minister of Justice Pinhas Rosen, of the Progressive faction inside the Liberal Party, was "dubious."

ISRAEL SENDS WHEAT TO TURKEY; ANSWERS TURKISH APPEAL FOR AID

TEL AVIV, Aug. 21: (JTA) -- Israel today sent 22,000 tons of wheat to Turkey in response to a Turkish Government appeal to several countries for assistance to cope with an unprecedented failure of the country's wheat crop. The wheat sent by Israel is grain from American surpluses, which will be repaid to Israel from surplus U.S. grains Turkey is scheduled to receive later.

Israel also notified Turkey of its willingness to lend that country additional wheat, and negotiations for such a deal are currently under way between the two governments. Turkish officials have expressed their appreciation to Israel for this country's swift response to the Turkish appeal.

HADASSAH REITERATES ITS NON-IDENTIFICATION WITH ISRAELI PARTIES

DENVER, Aug. 21, (JTA) -- Hadassah considers it a "cardinal" principle "not to be affiliated or identified with any political party in Israel," the 1,500 delegates attending the 47th national convention of Hadassah were told today by Mrs. Siegfried Kramarsky, national president of the women's Zionist organization.

Pointing out that the general elections which took place in Israel last week were of interest to Hadassah, as are all aspects of Israeli life, Mrs. Kramarsky told the convention: "In this connection, I believe it is important to restate Hadassah's traditional position regarding Israeli politics; It is a cardinal principle with us, and with the World Confederation of General Zionists to which we belong, not to be affiliated or identified with any political party in Israel; In our opinion, Israel's politics internally or externally are the sole prerogative of its own citizens."

Mrs. Kramarsky also told the convention that Premier David Ben-Gurion had met with the executive committee of Hadassah during his recent visit to the United States "for a frank and friendly exchange of views." She reported that "irrespective of whatever philosophical differences still exist between us, he and we agree that Hadassah must continue to widen its membership and continues its projects, both for the sake of Israel and of a strong Diaspora."

Turning to American affairs, Mrs. Kramarsky asserted that the American interests and the welfare and security of the free world make it vital for Congress to pass a foreign aid bill that embodies the proposals of President Kennedy. "Believing that both moral responsibility and political wisdom require rich nations to assist poor nations, for highly developed nations to assist those less developed; we support the foreign aid program now before Congress," she said;

Michael Comay, permanent representative of Israel to the United Nations, addressing the convention, discussed the Arab refugee problem, asserting that Israel did not create it and cannot solve it. "The only future for the refugees themselves lies in their being amongst their own kin in the Arab countries," he stressed. "Any attempt to push a substantial number" of Arab refugees "back into Israel would inflame tensions instead of reducing them."

"There has in fact been a two-way migration, an unplanned exchange of minorities, about a half-million Arabs left Israel territory, and about the same number of Jewish refugees from Arab countries have been resettled in Israel," Ambassador Comay stressed; "This exchange is a fact and, on its basis, relations between Israel and its Arab neighbors should be allowed to settle down; Any contribution we can still make will depend on the Arab countries changing their attitude toward Israel and their willingness to negotiate with her."

Ogden R. Reid, former U.S. Ambassador to Israel, told the Hadassah convention that the growing relationship between Israel and the U.S. is important to the future of the free world. "It is essential," he said, "that the United States facilitate continued credit and financing facilities at appropriate levels for the development of Israel's economy and of two-way trade between our countries."

ISRAEL SENDS TOP LEADERS TO U.S. TO SEEK HOUSING AID FOR NEW IMMIGRANTS

JERUSALEM, Aug. 21, (JTA) -- Giora Josephthal, Minister of Labor, and Aryeh Pinkus, treasurer of the Jewish Agency, will leave for the United States this weekend to raise extra funds, within the framework of the United Jewish Appeal, to meet Israel's housing needs for increased immigration expected here during the current fiscal year, it was announced today. The target for funds to be needed for housing of immigrants has been raised to 200,000,000 Israeli pounds (\$112,000,000).

Meanwhile, the Government Housing Administration has announced measures for restricting non-essential construction, so as to assign building labor and materials priorities to immigrant housing. In line with the announcement the Labor Ministry will halt the construction of various public building projects earmarked for this year at a total cost of 30,000,000 pounds (\$16,800,000) and will divert the allocations, manpower and materials for the speedy construction of housing units to accommodate recent arrivals.

Among the construction projects to be halted in accordance with the new decision may be work on the new building for the Knesset as well as other Government and municipal projects. During the first five months of the current fiscal year, the Ministry spent double the original estimates for housing new immigrants and by the end of the fiscal year next March 31, it is expected that such expenditures will increase four-fold.

The new measure announced today with regard to building restrictions caused an immediate increase in prices for dwellings being built by private contractors, as well as for building materials, despite government assurances that the new restrictions will not affect private building but are aimed only at public construction like the Knesset building here and the Hall of Justice at Tel Aviv. Israelis were rushing today to buy private dwellings.

SITUATION OF JEWS IN NO. AFRICA REVIEWED AT W. J. C. PARLEY IN GENEVA

GENEVA, Aug. 21. (JTA) -- A report on the situation of the Jews in Tunisia, Morocco and Algeria was submitted here today at the session of the World Jewish Congress executive which is attended by more than 100 leaders from Jewish communities in various lands.

The report, prepared by Alex Easterman and Dr. Maurice Perlzweig, the political directors of the World Jewish Congress, paid tribute to Tunisia's President Habib Bourguiba. It stated Mr. Bourguiba "always exhibited a desire to understand the problems and traditional abjuration of the Jews, within the framework of the lay Moslem State." It also asserted that, under the presidency of Mr. Bourguiba, "the Jewish community of Tunisia has not suffered any discrimination, diminution or restriction of its freedom to care for its Jewish interests and welfare, and to maintain its various institutions."

Tunisian Jews, stated the report, have civic and national obligations, in accordance with the democratic principles and practice; President Bourguiba, declared the rapporteurs, has not waived these principles, having repeatedly told representatives of the World Jewish Congress of his adherence to the principle that Jews in Tunisia will suffer "no discrimination in any sphere of the national life of the country."

The report also dealt with Mr. Bourguiba's recent, unexpectedly outspoken statement at the United Nations, expressing hostility toward Israel. It is believed, stated the report, that the Tunisian President had taken a political line, "not always in accord with his stated principles." (Last week Tunisia severed postal connections with Israel.)

Referring to other North African countries, the report expressed its "concern" with the situation of the Jews in Algeria and Morocco. In Morocco, the report declared, Jews have been permitted to enjoy equal civic rights "to a certain degree," but still suffer from the serious hardship of not being permitted to join their relatives abroad.

In Algeria, the rapporteurs declared, the Jewish community, which is diminishing rapidly, lives in an atmosphere of "intense and increasing anxiety" as to the future of Algerian Jewry, in the event, as seems likely now, of an early French decision to concede the establishment of an Algerian state. The present position and future political status of Algeria, states the report, still remain difficult and uncertain in the light of the recent failure of the negotiations between the French and the Algerian nationalists.

Reporting on the participation of the World Jewish Congress in the finding and prosecution of Nazi war criminals, Dr. Nehemia Robinson of New York said that the WJC has aided the investigation of more than 70 separate war-crime cases, and has furnished hundreds of witnesses in trials of former Nazi criminals held by West German courts. The WJC said Dr. Robinson, has also furnished West Germany with documentation and information about many war criminals as yet untried. Because these cases are still under investigation, he declined to reveal either the names of the persons involved or their number.

ISRAELI EXPERTS LEAVE FOR U.S. TO DISCUSS NEW DESALINATION METHODS

JERUSALEM, Aug. 21. (JTA) -- Two Israeli experts on desalination of water have left for the United States to discuss new methods for taking the salt out of water with American scientists and economists, it was revealed here today.

The two Israelis are Col. Daniel Shimshoni, executive director of the National Scientific Research Council, and Reuven Matz, director of the Negev Research Institute. A desalination unit for household use is now in operation at the institute in the Negev.

DR. GOLDSTEIN APPEALS TO U.S. JEWS TO INCREASE 'DOLLAR GIFTS' TO ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Aug. 21. (JTA) -- An appeal to American Jews to increase their financial aid to Israel in line with the growing needs for the care and settlement of immigrants was made here today by Dr. Israel Goldstein, world chairman of the Keren Hayesod-United Israel Appeal, who is currently touring North and South America on behalf of the fund which bears the prime responsibility for immigrant settlement in Israel.

Urging American Jewry to put greater emphasis on "the gift dollar" to help directly in Israel's efforts to accommodate growing numbers of immigrants, Dr. Goldstein pointed to the fact that Israelis now contribute proportionately in the form of taxes more than three times the amount of financial support contributed by U.S. Jews. The current Jewish Agency budget, Dr. Goldstein said, was aimed at providing for the settlement in Israel of no more than 30,000 immigrants while the present rate of immigration is estimated to exceed that figure.

JEWISH WAR VETERANS ASK U.S. TO CHECK AMERICAN NAZI PARTY

BALTIMORE, Aug. 21. (JTA) -- Strong resolutions, calling upon Federal authorities to take action against the American Nazi Party, and, condemning the program and ideology of the John Birch Society, were adopted here at the closing session of the 66th annual convention of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. An estimated 3,000 delegates from 40 states attended the convention.

The resolution dealing with the Nazis called specifically upon the Department of Justice and the Post Office Department to "exercise Federal authority under existing laws to move against the Nazis." (The John Birch Society was called by the veterans an organization with program and ideology which are "a subversion of American democratic principles, equally as dangerous as Communism.")

A resolution dealing with American policy in the Middle East called for American guarantees of Israeli-Arab borders, stimulation of peace negotiations, and the resettlement of the Arab refugees in Arab countries. The resolution stated that the tensions in the Middle East stem from "the unwillingness of the Arab leaders to cooperate in providing for the resettlement of the refugees" and the "continued passive American reaction to the Arab League boycott of Israel and discrimination against Americans because of their religion."

Ted Brooks, a 41-year-old World War II veteran, of Freeport, L.I., was elected as the new national commander of the JWV at the organization's concluding session today. Joseph Savitz, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., was elected national judge advocate. Mrs. Mimi Shor, of Los Angeles, Cal., was elected national president of the JWV Ladies Auxiliary.

YOUTH CONVENTION CRITICIZES PARENTS FOR LACK OF JEWISH SPIRIT

STARLIGHT, Pa., Aug. 21. (JTA) -- Delegates to a national Jewish youth convention here today criticized their parents for failing to give them a more adequate Jewish background. "It is a sad commentary on current status of the Jewish home that the only way young people can fulfill their needs for Jewish identification, or to find out what Judaism has to offer them is to join organizations," said a committee report presented at the 38th annual convention of Aleph Zadik Aleph, the boy's division of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization.

This alleged parental disinterest, the report said, "leads among other things to confusion on the part of youth as to which branch of Judaism they wish to follow, if indeed, they wish to follow any. It is certainly true that many parents cannot be looked to for guidance. Their allegiance to a particular branch of Judaism, as often as not, stems from a variety of factors -- least of which are conviction and understanding."

Another committee report presented today sounded a warning against inter-marriage. "Aside from very real problem of assimilation which could result from intermarriage," the report stated "facts are clear that marriages in which partners are of different faiths are headed for potential trouble, particularly once children arrive and the question of their religious training arises."

BANK LEUMI OF ISRAEL OPENS BRANCH IN NEW YORK; WILL ACCEPT SAVINGS

NEW YORK, Aug. 21. (JTA) -- The opening today of a branch in the United States, at 60 Wall Street here was announced by Bank Leumi le-Israel. The bank - which has 135 branches in Israel, and affiliated banks in London and Zurich - is among the first six foreign banks licensed to open branches here, following last year's revision of the New York State banking law entitling it, among other activities, to accept deposits and savings accounts from the general public.

Establishment of the New York branch is the culmination of 11 years of Bank Leumi's activities in the United States. It had opened a representative office in New York in 1950, and became an agency in 1959. Conversion of the agency into a full-fledged branch now enables the bank to transact every kind of commercial banking business. Gideon Strauss, who was Israel's first commercial consul in New York, has been named manager of the branch.

JEWS IN AUSTRALIA WELCOME LONDON'S JEWISH LORD MAYOR IN SYDNEY

SYDNEY, Australia, Aug. 21. (JTA) -- London's Jewish Lord Mayor, Sir Bernard Waley-Cohen, was guest of honor at a dinner reception last night by this city's Jewish community. Speakers at the dinner included Abram Landa, Housing Minister of New South Wales, and Moshe Yuval, Israeli Ambassador to Australia.

Sir Bernard, who is accompanied on his official visit to Australian cities by Lady Waley-Cohen, was received earlier by high Government officials, and was tendered a reception by Sydney's Lord Mayor Harry Jensen.