



Jewish Telegraphic Agency DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16. N.Y.

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Vol. XXIX - 44th year

Wednesday, April 25, 1962

No. 80

EGYPTIAN MINISTER REPORTED SEEKING \$500,000,000 LOAN IN WASHINGTON

LONDON, April 24. (JTA) -- The United Arab Republic is reportedly meeting with "positive" reactions on the part of the United States Government in efforts to borrow a half-billion dollars to fill the gap in the UAR's foreign currency requirements, according to Cairo reports received here today.

Egyptian Minister of Economy Kaissouny is now in Washington soliciting such a loan from the United States. In addition, the Cairo report stated, he is trying to arrange purchase of \$531,000,000 worth of American agricultural surpluses, under U.S. Public Law 480. These purchases would reportedly be spread over a period of three years at the rate of \$177,000,000 annually. Under this plan, Egypt would pay in local currencies for the surpluses, with credit granted for many years.

At the same time, another dispatch, from Amman, Jordan, reported that a \$9,800,000 chemical fertilizer plant, largest of its kind in the Middle East, will be built in Jordan by a West German corporation.

State Department Admits Loan Talks; Keeps Details Secret

WASHINGTON, April 24. (JTA) -- Egyptian Economics Minister Kaissouny was preparing today for his return trip to Cairo following a week-long round of official talks reportedly aimed at securing additional U.S. loan funds.

With the specifics of his visit here still clouded in secrecy, State Department spokesmen conceded that the Egyptian diplomat had talked with State Department and U.S. Agency for International Development officials about the possibility of a loan. The discussions were coincidental to the major reason for his trip--to obtain additional funds from the non-U.S. International Monetary Fund to help stabilize the Egyptian economy.

While declining to elaborate in detail on any aspect of the loan discussions, the State Department spokesmen said that Mr. Kaissouny had talked about "a number of specific industrialization programs" for which he is seeking U.S. financial backing. They indicated that one possible factor which would determine the U.S. decision was the stability of Egypt's economy--implying that the decision hinged on the outcome of the negotiations with the International Monetary Fund. The spokesmen said that a U.S. loan to Egypt for "an economically feasible" project was "certainly a possibility."

There was no indication of what amount the Egyptians are requesting in U.S. aid, but the spokesmen expressed considerable doubt that the figure was anywhere near the half-billion dollars which has been reported by Cairo radio.

BIG POWERS COULD STIMULATE ARAB-ISRAELI TALKS, UN. CHIEF INDICATES

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., April 24. (JTA) -- Acting Secretary-General U Thant implied here today that it was up to the Big Powers to bring about peace negotiations between Israel and the Arab states, if such an achievement were to be accomplished.

At a luncheon tendered in his honor by the United Nations Correspondents Association, Mr. Thant was asked to comment on criticisms that the recent sessions of the Security Council, which voted condemnation of Israel for its action against Syrian military provocations, "evaded the need for a peace treaty between Israel and the Arab states."

"If we accept the premise that the UN evaded that issue," he replied, "then it is correct to blame the Security Council--which, of course, means the Big Powers."

In answer to another question, Mr. Thant said that the recent Council resolution, which had also called upon Syria and Israel to cooperate with the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization to maintain peace in the area of the Syrian-Israeli frontier, "is being implemented." He said he had no further information in regard to the Syrian-Israeli situation and that, if such information were received, he would transmit it to the Security Council.

JORDAN AND SAUDI ARABIA OPEN TALKS ON COMMON POLICY TOWARD ISRAEL

LONDON, April 24. (JTA) -- A conference at which "all aspects of the Palestine problem" will be discussed, evidently aimed at an effort to coordinate common policies affecting relations with Israel, was opened today at Amman, capital of Jordan, between leading Cabinet members of Jordan and Saudi Arabia, according to a dispatch received here from Amman. Jordan's Foreign Minister Hassem Nuseibeh is host of the conference, while Saudi Arabia is represented by Prime Minister Wasfi al-Tell and Ahmad Shukairy.

ALGERIAN MINISTER DENIES REPORT THAT ALGERIA WILL FIGHT ISRAEL

PARIS, April 24. (JTA) -- The Provisional Government of Algeria denied last night that it planned to play a militant role against Israel. A member of the Government expressed "doubt" about a statement attributed to Vice-Premier Mohammed Ben Bella who was quoted as saying that independent Algeria would contribute 100,000 soldiers to the Arab battle against Israel.

Mr. Ben Bella was quoted two weeks ago by the Mideast News Agency, of Cairo, as having made such a statement while in the capital of the United Arab Republic. But Mohammed Yazid, Minister of Information in the Algerian Provisional Government, said in Tunis last night that the Vice-Premier had not been quoted correctly. Mr. Yazid told newsmen at Tunis that a "certain press" was conducting a campaign to "create a myth of division in our ranks." Castigating such efforts, without naming the semi-official Cairo agency that had quoted Mr. Ben Bella, Mr. Yazid said "theories have been built on propositions attributed to Mr. Ben Bella that he has never made."

In the Mideast News Agency report, Mr. Ben Bella was quoted as allegedly saying that "a Palestinian liberation army should be formed to act as an avant garde for the Arab liberation of Palestine." The agency attributed to him also a statement in which he had purportedly said that, if given the opportunity, he would be "one of those Arab soldiers who will effectively participate in the liberation of Palestine."

Mr. Yazid, however, has now indicated in Tunis that Mr. Ben Bella could not have made such statements because they fall outside the "collegial responsibility" imposed on members of the Provisional Government. The alleged Ben Bella statement evoked considerable anxiety here both in French circles and among Jewish leaders.

ALLIANCE ISRAELITE ADJUSTING ITSELF TO 'NEW REALITIES' IN NORTH AFRICA

MONTREAL, April 24. (JTA) -- The Alliance Israelite Universelle, which has had to face difficulties in its activities in North Africa, "is winning the battle of adjustment to the new realities in North Africa and in other areas," Marcel Franco, one of the organization's world leaders, told the annual dinner of the Canadian Friends of Alliance here last night. Mr. Franco is vice-president of the Alliance, which has its headquarters in Paris, and is also President of the American Friends of Alliance.

Mr. Franco paid tribute to "the highest Moroccan authorities--under the guidance of the young energetic and wise King" for the understanding shown for the work of the Alliance during the period of transition. He disclosed that the Alliance, while continuing to help elementary education, will, in the future, concentrate its efforts mainly on secondary education.

He also told the 300 Canadian Jewish leaders assembled at the banquet that the Normal School of the Alliance in Paris will not only continue to train teachers for the Alliance network but will also become an important center of higher Jewish education for the future Jewish intelligentsia of Western Europe. Justice Harry Batshaw, president of the Canadian Friends of the Alliance, was presented at the dinner with a medal from the French Government for his efforts in furthering French-Canadian cultural relations.

AUSTRIAN BISHOPS TO ACT ON ANCIENT BLOOD LIBEL TABLET IN CHURCH

VIENNA, April 24. (JTA) -- The Austrian Bishops of Conference was reported today to have placed on its agenda complaints that a Catholic Church, St. Andrews, in Linz, was still exhibiting an old tablet containing a statement of the ancient blood libel against Jews. Linz is in the Tyrol section of Austria.

The tablet, which Catholic guides show to visitors, bears the inscription: "In memory of four-year-old Ursula Bock who was cruelly murdered by Jews on Good Friday, 1443." A similar tablet was recently removed from a church in Rinn in the same area. According to reports, the Catholic hierarchy in the Tyrol has refused to remove the libelous tablet at St. Andrews Church.

Exhibition of such tablets has been forbidden by Pope John XXIII and all such matter has been ordered removed from Catholic churches. In Poland, where many such tablets have been displayed on church walls, they have been covered.

JEWISH SCIENTISTS RECEIVE AWARDS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO NUCLEAR SCIENCE

WASHINGTON, April 24. (JTA) -- Two Jewish scientists were among the recipients today of the Ernest O. Lawrence Memorial Awards given by the National Science Foundation for contributions to the field of nuclear science.

They are Dr. Herbert Goldstein, professor of nuclear engineering at Columbia University, who was cited for significant contributions to reactor physics and to nuclear cross sections; and Dr. Richard Feynman, professor of theoretical physics at the California Institute of Technology, for important contributions to quantum field theory and particle physics.

LOS ANGELES REPORTS RISE IN NUMBER OF CHILDREN ATTENDING JEWISH SCHOOLS

LOS ANGELES, April 24. (JTA) -- An increase of 12-1/2 percent in the number of children attending 78 schools affiliated with the Los Angeles Bureau of Jewish Education and a continued trend toward intensification of Jewish education during the current school year as compared with the prior one were reported today by the bureau.

The bureau reported that as of the start of the current school year, 26,409 children were attending affiliated schools, an increase of 2,934 children over the prior school year. Enrollment in bureau-affiliated schools constitutes 94 percent of all children attending Jewish schools in the community.

Intensification of Jewish education was seen in the growth of enrollment in all-day schools which showed a gain of nearly 24 percent over the previous year. The number of pupils in bureau-affiliated Jewish high schools rose by 19.2 percent. The bureau also reported a rise in the ratio of pupils attending week-day schools as compared with those attending the Sunday schools.

During 1961, four schools were added to the 76 affiliated with the bureau. Two schools were discontinued for lack of adequate attendance. A new day school in Alhambra absorbed children formerly attending the Los Angeles Jewish Academy on the city's east side. Schools supervised and serviced by the bureau include kindergarten classes, primary schools and secondary institutions. During the current school year, 11 nursery schools with 431 pupils affiliated with the bureau.

The bureau reported that a supervisor had been working for more than a year with principals and teachers of the Nursery Schools Association, which was organized by the bureau, to develop standards for teachers on the pre-school level, as well as standards for the curricula of such schools. Staff members of the bureau also were assigned to work with area councils set up by the Los Angeles Jewish Federation-Council for suburban areas of the city.

Orthodox and Conservative Hebrew Schools Merge in Chicago

CHICAGO, April 24. (JTA) -- A trend to cut across Jewish denominational lines toward merger of Hebrew schools in neighborhoods with dwindling Jewish populations took concrete form here today when two schools, one conducted by an Orthodox congregation, the other by a Conservative synagogue, were consolidated into one school.

The consolidation brings together the Hebrew schools in the Albany Park section of Chicago, conducted separately until now by the Albany Park Hebrew Congregation (Conservative) and the Congregation Beth Itzhok (Orthodox). Leaders of the two synagogues, who announced the merger, said in a joint statement that the merger will save expenses and afford to the children of the section "the finest kind of Jewish education obtainable."

Moves of a similar nature have been under discussion for some time now in various other sections of Chicago, since many Jewish families have joined the exodus from the city proper into the suburbs. The Albany Park merger must still be approved by the local Board of Jewish Education and the Associated Talmud Torahs.

EMBROIDERY INDUSTRY CONDEMNS FIRM FOR PRODUCING SWASTIKA EMBLEMS

JERSEY CITY, N.J., April 24. (JTA) -- The North Hudson-East Bergen embroidery industry condemned today the West New York manufacturer who accepted and filled an order for embroidered swastika emblems.

Ralph Muentener, the manufacturer, said he did not "realize the implications" when he accepted the contract from a novelty firm in Chicago. He said he had been told that the swastikas were to be sold strictly "on an individual basis for souvenir purposes. There was never any indication that they would be used for political purposes and neither the German nor the American Nazi party was ever mentioned."

Some 1,500 such insignia were embroidered at the Muentener plant for consignment to novelty shops. The manufacturer called it "an unfortunate incident" and said "I will never make them again."

JEWISH FEDERATION IN NEW JERSEY STARTS BROAD 'SELF-STUDY' SURVEY

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J., April 24. (JTA) -- The Jewish Federation of New Brunswick, Highland Park and Vicinity has launched a broad survey for "re-appraisal and self-study," Federation officials announced here today. A large committee representative of the community has been formed for the purpose, headed by Abraham B. Halpern as chairman. The study will be assisted by a field representative of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

SECOND JEW PROMOTED TO RANK OF GENERAL IN BRAZIL WITHIN FORTNIGHT

RIO DE JANEIRO, April 24. (JTA) -- For the second time in a fortnight, the Brazilian Army today promoted a Jewish officer to the rank of general. The officer is the former Colonel Aaron Benschimol, an active member of the Sephardic community, who, this morning, was made a brigadier general. Two weeks ago, Rafael Zipin, a Jew, of Porte Allegre, was also promoted to brigadier general. Gen.

ST. LOUIS JEWISH FEDERATION SETS \$1,815,000 AS ITS GOAL FOR 1962 DRIVE

ST. LOUIS, April 24. (JTA) -- The Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis has established its campaign goal for 1962, calling for a fund-raising drive to total the unprecedented sum here of \$1,815,000. At the same time, the board has elected Milton Frank as president of the Federation. The \$1,815,000 goal will provide funds for nine local constituent agencies as well as for the United Jewish Appeal.

Mr. Frank, for years an active member of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis, was most recently a vice-president of the organization. He succeeds Saul A. Dubinsky, who has been elected as an honorary life member of the Federation's board of directors. Irving Edison, chairman of the board of the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce, was elected to a vice-presidency of the Federation. Herman Willer was elected to fill an unexpired term on the board of directors. Other officers were re-elected.

FIVE MAYORS JOIN IN ENDORSING LOS ANGELES JEWISH WELFARE FUND DRIVE

LOS ANGELES, April 24. (JTA) -- Mayor Sam Yorty of Los Angeles and the Mayors of four other Los Angeles county communities joined in an unprecedented joint statement of endorsement today of the United Jewish Welfare Fund of Los Angeles.

Mayors Jack Freeman of Beverly Hills, Duke Watson of Culver City, Thomas M. McCarthy of Santa Monica and Gordon McGinley of San Gabriel urged their citizenry to advance the work of the Fund. Mayor Yorty took part in a ceremony re-naming Los Angeles Spring Street as "UJWF Street" in honor of the campaign which is seeking \$8,000,000 for its 169 social welfare agencies.

While Los Angeles county civic officials frequently issue statements of support for various efforts, rarely if ever have so many municipal chief executives simultaneously declared their support of a single fund-raising organization. The goal this year is \$2,000,000 above that of the 1961 drive for emergency refugee needs.

CANADIAN JEWISH LEADERS PRESENT ISRAELI BIBLE TO FOREIGN MINISTER

QUEBEC, April 24. (JTA) -- Five Jewish leaders, four of them rabbis, representing the Religious Welfare Committee of the Canadian Jewish Congress, called today on Canada's Minister for External Affairs, Howard C. Green, and presented him with an Israeli-made Bible bearing an illuminated inscription "in token appreciation of his role in the pursuance of international righteousness, justice and peace."

The presentation, given "in the spirit of the Passover season, which is symbolic of the triumph of freedom over slavery," was made by the chairman of the committee, Rabbi S.M. Zambrowsky. Other members of the committee, who participated after the brief ceremony in an hour's conference with Mr. Green, were Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut, of Toronto; Rabbi Simon Eckstein, of Ottawa; Rabbis Mendel Lewittes, of Montreal; and Hy Bessin, of Ottawa.

STEELWORKERS UNION IN PUEBLO, COLORADO, PURCHASES \$10,000 OF ISRAEL BONDS

PUEBLO, Colo., April 24. (JTA) -- Purchase of a \$10,000 State of Israel Bond was announced today by the United Steelworkers of America, Local 2102 of Pueblo.

"The officers of our Union authorized the purchase of the bond as concrete evidence of our interest in the welfare of the people of Israel," George J. White, financial secretary of the local, said. He added that the local hoped that "all of our citizens will purchase Israel Bonds to provide jobs, homes and economic security for the hundreds of thousands of new immigrants who are fleeing to Israel from a hopeless and degrading situation."

8,000 VISITORS ATTEND RED SEA FESTIVAL AT EILAT; AFRICAN MAYORS PRESENT

JERUSALEM, April 24. (JTA) -- Some 8,000 visitors attended the Red Sea Festival at Eilat, Israel's southernmost port. Attractions included a musical pageant entitled "First Meeting Between Solomon and the Queen of Sheba," in which 20 students from African countries took part. The mayors of three African towns--Dar-es-Salaam, Lindi and Tanga--were the guests of honor.

DR. BENDIT, EMINENT NEUROLOGIST, DIES IN LONDON; WAS ACTIVE IN JEWISH LIFE

LONDON, April 24. (JTA) -- Dr. Maximilian Bendit, an eminent neurologist and active supporter of Jewish causes, died here today at the age of 49. French President Charles deGaulle and former French President Vincent Auriol were among his private patients.

Dr. Bendit took an active part in various Jewish charities, especially for youth causes. He made frequent trips to Israel where his family, who escaped from Rumania, now reside. Born in Czernowitz, Rumania, Dr. Bendit completed his studies in psychiatry in Paris where he practiced for a number of years. During the Second World War he was among the first contingent of free French forces who emigrated to England where he was appointed chief resident physician at the French Hospital in London.