



Jewish Telegraphic Agency DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXIX - 44th year

Wednesday, September 12, 1962

No. 176

DENMARK JEWS TAKE PUBLIC ISSUE WITH BEN-GURION'S CALL FOR EMIGRATION

COPENHAGEN, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- Jewish leaders in Denmark took strong and public issue today with an address by visiting Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion in which he urged Scandinavian Jewish youth to go to Israel either for settlement or at least for study because he was concerned about the future of Jews in countries "where assimilation was so marked."

The Prime Minister made his appeal to a group of such youth yesterday and the responses came quickly. Otto Levysohn, chairman of the Jewish Community of Copenhagen, said he was dissociating himself from the Prime Minister's views. "The Danish Jews," he said, "could never want a happier place to live than Denmark. We have no inferiority complex but rather feel ourselves a proper part of the Danish people. We are first Danish and then Jewish and this has never involved us in any conflicts."

Chief Rabbi Phil Marcus Melchior also rejected Mr. Ben-Gurion's appeal. In a statement given wide publicity in the Copenhagen newspapers, the Chief Rabbi said: "Irrespective of the fact that the concept of Mr. Ben-Gurion on the question is well known for its radicalism, it is still possible that the quotation of his remarks has to some degree been misunderstood insofar as it deals with half sentences which were taken from their context and which could be understood fully only in their proper context."

"On the other hand," the Chief Rabbi continued, "it is unquestionable that the way in which the problem has been touched on has at the same time affected the essential interests of Danish Jews. What from the standpoint of Mr. Ben-Gurion is of rather secondary importance--namely, the fate of a famous handful of Danish Jews--is from our standpoint primary and vital. When a man of Mr. Ben-Gurion's stature goes into this, he as a politician must be aware that it might be necessary that contradictory views be expressed."

Chief Rabbi in Copenhagen Says Jews in Denmark Are Happy

"We Danish Jews," the Chief Rabbi stressed, "don't usually air our patriotism. Why on earth should we shout 'hurrah' more loudly than all other Danes? But we take an opportunity like this to state that no one, however big he may be or from wherever he may come, has the right or is able to change even one jot of what for 150 years has been the status of Danish Jews under which there has been established a relationship in Denmark of which we are all just as happy on the Christian side as on the Jewish side."

"There is one thing in particular which I want to point out," the Chief Rabbi added in his press statement. "If Premier Ben-Gurion really claimed that in order to be a Jew every minute of one's life, one has to live in Israel, then according to my view, two questions arise. The first is whether to be a Jew every minute is of imperative necessity and whether Jewishness and being a general human being did not equate each other so completely that one at the same time could be Jewish and a human being in other places than in the few square kilometers which form the territory of Israel."

The Chief Rabbi suggested further that one of the consequences of the Prime Minister's viewpoint could be that "in the same way as Jews should have the right to be Jews every minute of their lives, the Christians should have the same right for their part. According to this argument, Mr. Ben-Gurion should recommend to the Christian part of mankind to emigrate to real Christian states where they could be Christians every minute."

He concluded with the statement that "the attitude of Danish Jews is and in the future will be the same as in the past. We do not change colors, we do not alter our shields."

Rabbi Explains Why He Criticized Ben-Gurion in Danish Press

The Chief Rabbi was asked by Israeli journalists accompanying the Israeli Prime Minister why he had chosen to argue with Mr. Ben-Gurion in the non-Jewish press. He replied that the Prime Minister's address was "understood here as an appeal to all Danish Jews to save Denmark and emigrate to Israel. I was afraid about possible disquiet for Jews as a result and it was my duty to answer."

The Prime Minister today visited the Copenhagen synagogue where he was received by the congregation and Chief Rabbi Melchior with a special prayer for peace in Israel. In

a short address, the Chief Rabbi stressed what Danish Jews had done for Israel. In his reply, the Prime Minister reiterated he hoped that Danish Jews would remain faithful to Judaism, "even if their situation here is as good as it is."

The Prime Minister, Mrs. Ben-Gurion and their daughter had lunch yesterday with King Frederick and Queen Ingrid at the Fredensburg summer residence of the royal family. The highly formal luncheon was attended by Premier Otto Krag, Foreign Minister Haekerrup and other Danish Ministers.

Prior to the luncheon, the Israeli Premier spent an hour at the Judaica Department of the Royal Library where Dr. Adelman, the Director of Judaica, explained to him old Jewish and Hebrew manuscripts of the department. The Prime Minister was particularly interested in Danish research into the problem of the number of Hebrews who fled from Egypt in the exodus. An official Israeli reception was held in the evening.

JEWISH POPULATION IN ALGERIA DWINDLES TO 10,000; J.D.C. AIDS NEEDY

GENEVA, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- The Jewish population in Algeria is continuing to dwindle, according to a report received here today by the Joint Distribution Committee's European headquarters. The report estimated that there are only 10,000 Jews left now in Algeria, out of an estimated 135,000 who lived there prior to the Evian Agreement by which France recognized Algeria's independence.

Of the 10,000 Jews, more than 1,600 are being aided by the JDC welfare program, the report said. Virtually all the Algerian Jews on the relief rolls are aged or infirm, the majority of them aged 65 or over. "Providing relief for this group," the report stated, "really makes the difference between living and dying, between eating and not eating."

The report declared that a start has been made on reorganizing Algerian Jewish community life. A fresh Jewish community structure has been set up in Algiers, which now contains about 4,000 Jews. At Oran, where there are now about 1,500 Jews, and at Bone, where 600 are still in residence, the beginning of reorganized communities have also been established thus far, the report showed. The same is true, the report stated, of the small Jewish communities still existing in Constantine, Tlemcen, Setif and other places in the country.

In each town, the freshly reorganized Jewish community life centers now around the synagogues, the report said. The problem involves not only the revival in each town of the remains of the Jewish communities but also the care of some aged people who had been abandoned and needed immediate shelter, the report stressed.

MOROCCAN GOVERNMENT REPORTED PONDERING ARREST OF JEWISH LEADERS

CASABLANCA, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- The Moroccan newspaper Ahkbar Ed Dounia, which favors the policies of President Nasser of Egypt, asserted today that the Moroccan Council of Ministers was considering the arrest of certain Jewish leaders for allegedly "plotting" against the security of Morocco.

The publication asserted that a number of "political meetings" had been held by Jewish community leaders "to discuss anti-Moroccan action." The newspaper, like the Minister for Islamic Affairs, regards Moroccan Jews as "protoges" and not as equals of Moroccan Moslems. The editorial concluded with some favorable comment on Hitler and Adolf Eichman.

NEW EXCHANGE OF FIRE BETWEEN ISRAELIS AND SYRIANS; NO CASUALTIES

TEL AVIV, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- Syrian gunners fired again today on tractor drivers working in Israeli fields near Tel Katzir southeast of Lake Tiberias.

The fire was returned and no casualties were reported. Israel again complained to United Nations observers and to the Mixed Armistice Commission.

ISRAEL GOVERNMENT APPROVES PAID SABBATICALS FOR SCHOOL TEACHERS

JERUSALEM, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- Provisions for paid sabbatical years for Israel's secondary school teachers were approved today in agreements between the Government's Education Department and local councils and the Teachers Union.

Teachers with 15 or more years of tenure will be the first to be eligible for the sabbatical year refresher studies starting in 1964. Teachers with eight years' experience will next be eligible. Those taking the sabbatical year will draw 80 percent of their regular salaries from a fund to which they will, starting this month, contribute two-and-a-half percent of their pay.

The agreement spurred activity by elementary and kindergarten teachers to achieve similar agreements. It was expected that the Education Ministry would yield to the strong teachers lobby and agree. There are some 2,100 kindergartens in Israel, 1,200 primary schools and some 140 secondary schools. In addition, there are special schools operated for the handicapped and working youth.

ANTI-SEMITIC GROUP DEMONSTRATES IN BUENOS AIRES; THIRTY ARRESTED

BUENOS AIRES, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- Thirty members of the Tacuara organization, which has been charged with a key role in the recent upsurge of anti-Semitic incidents in Argentina, were held today after mass arrests which followed a demonstration in downtown Buenos Aires.

The disturbances began yesterday when 1,000 members of the ultra-nationalist group went to a cemetery to pay homage to a 19th-century leader. The demonstration was unauthorized and police ordered them to disperse. The youths responded by tossing stones at the police and later making a run through downtown streets during which they scrawled swastikas and anti-Jewish slogans on walls. More than 85 of them were arrested in the melee, the police later releasing 55 of the youths.

ARGENTINE GROUP DIRECTS ANTI-SEMITES IN SO. AFRICA, DETECTIVE SAYS

JOHANNESBURG, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- A charge that an anti-Semitic organization comprising immigrants who are allegedly "affiliated and controlled by the Argentine Tacuara" movement was made here today by a former police detective, Aubrey Marais, who has resigned from the police department to become a security officer for a private firm.

Mr. Marais declared, in an interview in the Johannesburg press, that he believed members of this organization were responsible for at least two anti-Semitic outrages. One was a series of explosions at the Great Synagogue in Johannesburg in January 1961; the other was the blasting of a bomb this year at the Martyrs Monument at West Park cemetery.

Mr. Marais claimed that, in investigating the cases, he had found leaflets emanating from Buenos Aires, instructing members of the anti-Semitic group here about anti-Semitism and about the use of explosives.

GERMAN PROSECUTOR REOPENS INVESTIGATION INTO ANTI-SEMITIC INCIDENT

FRANKFURT, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- The Hamburg Chief Prosecutor's office disclosed today it had reopened an investigation into an anti-Semitic incident which occurred at the annual meeting of the German Association for the Protection of Animals.

The incident occurred when the question of Jewish ritual slaughter came up at the meeting, which was held last April. At that time one of the delegates yelled, "They ought to go back to where they came from."

An inquiry was opened then by the Public Prosecutor but the proceedings were discontinued. The issue was reconsidered on the basis of the fact that such remarks were a factor disturbing order and the decision made to renew the investigation.

GERMAN MINISTRY PREVENTS DISTRIBUTION OF ANTI-NAZI BROCHURE IN SCHOOLS

MAINZ, West Germany, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- A West German Youth Organization said today it had called a special plenary meeting to discuss a brochure on Germany's Nazi past which the Rhineland-Pfalz Ministry had refused to approve for school distribution.

The brochure was written by Fritz Bauer, Chief Public Prosecutor of Hesse and published by the province's German Youth Organization. Entitled, "The Roots of Fascist and National Socialist Action," it was intended for high school and college students in the province.

The provincial Ministry of Education declined to approve it because it considered the prosecutor's views as "one-sided and objectionable." At the urging of the youth group the rejection was raised in the Rhineland-Pfalz Parliament. The offended youth group then announced it would hold a plenary on September 26 to which it invited the prosecutor and leading members of the Education Ministry solely to discuss the publication.

SENATE CONFIRMS KLUTZNICK AS MEMBER OF U. S. DELEGATION TO U. N.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- Ambassador Philip M. Klutznick, former international president of B'nai B'rith, was confirmed by the Senate today as a member of the United States delegation to the United Nations. He had previously been reappointed by President Kennedy to the delegation which, again, is headed by Adlai E. Stevenson.

The Senate also approved the President's re-appointment of Mr. Stevenson as well as of Mr. Stevenson's two top deputies on the delegation, Francis T. P. Plimpton and Charles W. Yost. Mr. Plimpton has represented the delegation, most of the time, in the last 18 months, at UN debates concerning Arab refugees and similar matters of major interest to Israel.

KILLER OF JEWISH YOUTH INDICTED FOR MURDER; SENT FOR MENTAL TESTS

FAIRFAX, Va., Sept. 11. (JTA) -- Following a grand jury indictment for the murder of Lewis Goldfein, 17-year-old Jewish youth, a county judge today ordered John C. Vinson, Jr., 17-year-old linked by police with anti-Semitism and neo-Nazism, committed to a state insane asylum for mental observation. Before the Goldfein murder, Vinson had a record of mental illness.

ALL PARTIES IN BRAZILIAN CITY BACK LOCAL JEW FOR POST OF MAYOR

RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- An unusual fusion of all political parties around the candidacy of one nominee was reported here today from Barra do Piraí, a city in the State of Rio de Janeiro, where all parties have united on a local Jewish industrialist as the sole candidate for mayor.

The man is Meilech Cukier, a naturalized citizen of only a few years' standing. He emigrated to this country from Poland and established himself so firmly at Barra do Piraí that all the parties have agreed this year to run him for mayor in the local elections to be held soon.

CHICAGO RABBIS SANCTION ABORTION WHEN MOTHER'S LIFE IS ENDANGERED

CHICAGO, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- Rabbis polled in Chicago were reported in agreement that Jewish religious law sanctions abortion when the mother's life or mental well-being is at stake.

The poll was taken by the Chicago Sentinel as an outgrowth of the controversy which developed when an Arizona television personality, Sherri Finkbine, sought a legal abortion after taking Thalidomide, a drug which was found to have caused many births of deformed infants in Europe. Refused a legal abortion in the United States, she went to Europe for the operation.

The Chicago rabbis said that the embryo is nothing more than "a limb of the mother," until it is fully developed and that limbs may be amputated, if necessary, without violation of Jewish law. Several references were made to Jewish sanction of "therapeutic abortion," one rabbi saying that his approval of such abortion was contingent on a group of physicians approving the operation.

YAAKOV TSUR, J.N.F. WORLD PRESIDENT, ARRIVES IN ARGENTINA ON MISSION

BUENOS AIRES, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- Yaakov Tsur, world president of the Jewish National Fund, arrived here today on the last leg of a tour of South American countries to discuss cultural exchanges between Israeli and Latin American students and scholars.

Mr. Tsur, who formerly was Israel's Ambassador in Argentina, met with Dr. Miguel Ussini, Argentine Minister of Education, and later disclosed that plans were being formulated to establish a chair of Latin American literature at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Other visitors who arrived in Argentina today were Sir David D'Avigdor Goldsmid of London, president of the board of the Jewish Colonization Association and Victor Girmounsky, general manager of the JCA, who came here to study the situation in the Jewish settlements assisted by the Association.

80,000 PERSONS ATTENDED ISRAEL'S FESTIVAL OF MUSIC PERFORMANCES

JERUSALEM, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- Eighty thousand persons attended the 38 performances of Israel's Second Festival of Music and Drama which ended here last night with a final concert by the National Philharmonic. Ten thousand of the viewers were tourists.

Teddy Kollek, director general of the Prime Minister's office and head of the Government Tourist Corporation, in disclosing the attendance, said plans were already well underway for the Third Festival next summer. He expressed hope that the New York City Center Ballet would participate. The most popular of the performances were those of Sir John Gielgud, Pianist Van Cliburn, Composer Igor Stravinsky, I Musici and the Amadeus quartets.

NEW GROUP OF BRAZILIAN JEWS LEAVE COUNTRY TO SETTLE IN ISRAEL

RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- With 30 Jews scheduled to leave for the Jewish State on September 20, the total of Jews from this country leaving in 1962 for settlement in Israel will have reached 177 by the end of this month, it was reported here today. Most of the Brazilians going to Israel plan on joining various pioneering enterprises.

BENJAMIN MASSEL, PROMINENT JEWISH COMMUNAL LEADER, DIES IN ATLANTA

ATLANTA, Ga., Sept. 11. (JTA) -- Benjamin J. Massell, one of the outstanding Jewish communal leaders in this country, died here at his home at the age of 76.

Mr. Massell, who had been in the real estate and construction industry in Atlanta since 1910, served as a member of the National Cabinet of the United Jewish Appeal, president of the Atlanta Jewish Welfare Board and regional president of the State of Israel Bond Organization. He was also a member of the national advisory council of the American Jewish Committee.

In 1950, he was awarded a testimonial bronze plaque of the Jewish War Veterans. He also received the Jewish Theological Seminary Award for outstanding leadership and had been cited by the National Jewish Welfare Board and the Zionist Organization of America. He was born in Vilkomor, Lithuania, and came to the United States in 1888.