



# Jewish Telegraphic Agency

## DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Reproduction only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXIX - 44th year

Monday, December 24, 1962

No. 245

### HALF OF RUSSIANS EXECUTED FOR 'ECONOMIC CRIMES' ARE JEWS, SURVEY SHOWS

LONDON, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- Of 90 citizens of the USSR sentenced to death for "economic crimes" since the death penalty for such offenses was reintroduced by the Soviet Government a year and a half ago, 50 were Jews, the Sunday Telegraph stated here today in a summary of recent anti-Jewish actions in Russia.

Characterizing the number of Jews executed during the Soviet campaign against "economic criminals" a point of "significance," the newspaper called the facts a reflection of "a deliberate policy of making the Jews the scapegoats for widespread embezzlement and profiteering."

Recent examples of the manner in which Jews are chosen for treatment much harsher than that accorded other Soviet citizens were cited by the Sunday Telegraph in connection with trials held at Kishinev and Chernovits, where 10 persons were executed -- all of them Jews. Another instance noted by the newspaper was the case of a man named Tespuro, a non-Jewish director of a state farm at Irkutsk, who was tried and convicted for "numerous offenses." Tespuro was given a 10-year prison sentence, but his subordinate, a Jew named Yudin, was sentenced to death.

### Russians Arrest Jewish Physicist, Charge Him with 'Espionage for U.S.A.'

LONDON, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- Rudolph Friedman, a Russian-Jewish scientist and professor of physics, has been arrested on a charge of "espionage" on behalf of the United States, according to information received here today from the Soviet Union.

The information was contained in an article in the Leningrad Pravda, dated December 20, received here today. According to the Leningrad organ of the local Communist Party, Professor Friedman had become friendly with an American with whom he shared admiration for abstract paintings which the two were viewing together at a Leningrad museum. (Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev recently condemned abstract art as being untrue to "Socialist realism.") Prof. Friedman, the newspaper alleged, later tried to mail to the American some "writings in invisible ink" that dealt with Soviet defense secrets.

### MOROCCO SENTENCES 3 BAHAI MEN TO DEATH, ALLEGES AID TO ZIONISM

CASABLANCA, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- Three Moroccan Arabs who are members of the Bahai faith have been sentenced to death as "heretics," it was announced here today. A statement by the Minister for Moslem Affairs issued today charged that the Bahai movement "is in league with Zionism," and accused the three victims of having "worked in the interests of Zionism."

The daily newspaper Maroc Information declared here that "the Bahai movement makes common cause with Zionists" and alleged that the adherents of the faith constitute "a Zionist instrument for the destruction of the Arab world." The Bahai movement maintains two shrines in Israel, one at Haifa and another at Acre. The headquarters of the international organization of Bahai, managing the worldwide affairs of this universal religion, are located at Haifa.

(A Cairo dispatch to London this weekend reported that three men were hanged in Egypt on charges of "spying for Israel." Two of the men were Egyptian-born Armenians and the third was an Egyptian, the dispatch stated. The men were arrested two years ago and received their death sentences last year.)

### Bahai Petitions Queen Elizabeth for Help; British Lawyers Try to Save Men

LONDON, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- A petition to Queen Elizabeth II to intervene with the Government of Morocco on behalf of three members of the Bahai faith sentenced to death in Morocco was addressed today by the National Assembly of the Bahai movement in the British Isles. Telegrams were also sent to 50 members of Parliament, representing constituencies where members of the Bahai live in this country, requesting the representatives in Commons to use their influence in an effort to save the lives of the three condemned men in Morocco. In addition, members of Amnesty, an organization of British attorneys, have taken up the case in the hope of being able to save the men's lives.

# ANTI-SEMITIC BOOK SENT BY NEO-NAZIS TO PRELATES AT ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

ROME, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- Widespread general indignation was the reported response in Rome today to the publication and distribution to all delegates to the Ecumenical Council of a viciously anti-Semitic book published under the auspices of the neo-Nazi "New Order" movement. The movement is known to have neo-Nazi affiliations in this country and in many other European lands.

The 600-page book, a quality printing job, bears the signature of Maurice Piney, a pseudonym, and was published in 4,000 copies. It was sent free to all the delegates. Since the publication was not placed on public sale, it and its sponsors, who were estimated to have spent about \$8,000 on the project, were presumed to be immune to punitive action by the authorities in Rome.

The volume contains a painstaking collection of anti-Semitic quotations, dating back several hundred years, including copious excerpts from the frequently exposed anti-Semitic classic, the Protocols of the Elders of Zion. In addition, the book, called "The Plot Against the Church," offers an innovation in such hate literature--a theory about the alleged existence of a "Jewish fifth column" among Catholic clergy.

# YOSSELE'S GRANDMOTHER TESTIFIES AT SHTARKES TRIAL IN JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- The trial of Shalom Shtarkes, charged with complicity in the kidnaping two years ago of his nephew, Yossele Schumacher, continued in a Jerusalem court here this weekend with testimony by Miriam Shtarkes, mother of the defendant and grandmother of the boy.

In her testimony, as the first defense witness, Mrs. Shtarkes told the court that she and her husband cared for her grandson while the boy's parents were busy getting settled, following their immigration to Israel from Russia in 1957. She said that they sent the child to a yeshiva, and did everything to enable him to be brought up as a good Jew. When she heard that the boy's parents contemplated returning to Russia, Mrs. Shtarkes testified, she and her husband were concerned over their grandchild's future religious upbringing.

# ISRAELI TORCH BEARERS TOUCH OFF CHANUKAH; 60,000 TOURISTS AT EILAT

JERUSALEM, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- Some 2,500 members of the Maccabi Sports Club participated today in the traditional Chanukah procession of torch-bearers, a relay event starting at Modiin, the birthplace of the Maccabees, and terminating at the home of President Izhak Ben-Zvi in Jerusalem. Parades were also held in Tel Aviv and Haifa, where torch-bearers passed through the main streets lined with thousands of Israeli schoolchildren. Other ceremonies were held at the graveside of the late President Chaim Weizmann in Rehovot, in Ramat Gan and at Eilat.

Some 60,000 tourists and other visitors are spending Chanukah in Eilat, at the southernmost tip of Israel's Negev. Special celebrations, concerts and Chanukah festivals are scheduled in various parts of the country during this week.

# ISRAEL ISSUES 6,000 PERMITS FOR CHRISTMAS VISITS TO BETHLEHEM, AIDS PILGRIMS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- Israeli officials reported today that approval had been given to about 6,000 applications from Israeli Christians to cross into Jordan to celebrate Christmas at Bethlehem. They said that only 5,600 would make the trip, because the Jordanians so far had refused to approve 350 of the applications. The number approved by Israel was the same as that in 1961.

For the first time, the Israeli Christians will be able to tour Jordan under special tourist permits, according to Jordanian reports. The Israeli treasury is providing foreign currency for each pilgrim.

# U. S. PLEDGES \$24,700,000 FOR ARAB REFUGEE AID, 70% OF ALL GOVT. GIFTS

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Dec. 23. (JTA) -- The United States pledged \$24,700,000 of a total of \$32,400,000 contributed by 25 member governments, for next year's operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, figures compiled here today showed. All members of the United Nations had been called into a special pledging conference just before the 17th session of the General Assembly concluded its deliberations this weekend. UNRWA funds are given on a voluntary basis, and not as UN assessments.

Part of the American contribution to UNRWA will be in the form of foodstuffs. A total of \$1,700,000 of the American funds are to be earmarked for vocational and teacher training, according to a stipulation made by the U. S. A.

The United States delegation announced that, once again, the Washington Administration will contribute total funds aggregating not more than 70 per cent of the grand total given to UNRWA by all other governmental contributors. The U. S. A. has been paying 70 per cent of the UNRWA costs given by governments since the Arab refugee aid agency was established in 1950. Since that date, the U. S. UNRWA contributions have totaled more than \$425,000,000.

NEW HEAD OF ALGERIAN JEWISH COMMUNITY PAYS TRIBUTE TO BEN BELLA GOVT.

PARIS, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- Dr. Henri Goslan, newly elected president of the reconstituted Algerian Jewish community, paid tribute to the Ben Bella Government for its "understanding attitude" to Algerian Jewry, it was reported here today from Algiers.

Dr. Goslan presented Algerian Jewry's good wishes to the Algerian Government. Later, in an oral report, he said that some 25,000 Algerian Jews still remained in Algeria out of a total of 125,000 who lived there when it was a French colony. Jewish sources in Paris questioned Dr. Goslan's figure, indicating that actually there were no more than 6,000 Jews now living in Algeria.

ITALIAN TOWN TO ERECT MUSEUM COMMEMORATING VICTIMS OF NAZI HOLOCAUST

ROME, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- Plans were launched today in the town of Carpi, in northern Italy for the establishment of a museum there in memory of deportees, including many Jews, who perished at the hands of the Nazis during World War II. The town is near the notorious Fossoli concentration camp, where the majority of Jews killed by the Nazis were interned before they were deported to death camps.

Details of the project, to cost an estimated \$160,000, were announced at a press conference at the home of former Prime Minister Ferruccio Parri, attended by Mayor Bruno Losi of Carpi, who heads a special committee sponsoring the project. The museum will be located in the famous Renaissance castle located in the center of the town. A competition will be held for original designs for various aspects of the project with prizes totaling \$2,600.

Also present at the press conference was Professor Sergio Piperno, president of the Union of Italian Jewish Communities, who pledged the maximum effort of Italian Jewry in support of the project.

GLOBAL SURVEY REPORTS 12,915,000 JEWS; FRANCE NOW 4TH LARGEST COMMUNITY

NEW YORK, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- There are now 12,915,000 Jews in the world, living in 122 lands, a new survey of global Jewish population, compiled by the World Jewish Congress, revealed here today. Carried out by the WJC's Institute of Jewish Affairs, the survey reported that 10,000,000 Jews live in three countries: 5,500,000 in the United States, 2,200,000 in Israel and about 2,300,000 in the Soviet Union. (The Russian figure was based on the 1959 Soviet census.)

With the recent influx of Jews from North Africa, particularly Algeria, France has moved ahead, becoming the fourth largest Jewish community in the world with a population of 500,000 Jews. Next are Argentina and Britain, with 450,000 each; Canada, 250,000; Rumania, 150,000; Brazil, 140,000; Morocco, 125,000; and the Union of South Africa, 110,000.

The 11 largest communities, in which 12,175,000 Jews live, comprise 93 per cent of the total world Jewish population. There are communities of between 20,000 and less than 100,000 in 14 lands, totaling in all 570,000, the largest of these being Iran, with about 80,000 Jews; Hungary, 75,000; Australia, 70,000; and Uruguay, about 50,000. Fourteen other countries have Jewish communities of between 5,000 and 20,000; while Jewish populations of between 1,000 and 5,000 live in 18 lands. Jews in numbers ranging between just a few and several hundred live in 64 countries and regions.

In announcing completion of the new statistical survey, Dr. Nehemiah Robinson, director of the Institute of Jewish Affairs, said that no basic changes had occurred in the geographic distribution of the Jewish people in 1962, with the exception of a move on the part of North African Jews into France. Algerian Jewry was reduced from an old-established, prosperous community of about 130,000 to between 10,000 and 15,000. There were also reductions in the numbers of Jews in Morocco and Tunisia, many of whom, with Algerian Jews, moved to France, boosting that country's community to become the fourth largest in the world.

ELATH CALLS FOR MORE AMERICAN JEWISH STUDENTS TO ENROLL AT HEBREW U.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- Dr. Eliahu Elath, president of the Hebrew University, today called for an increase in the number of American Jewish students attending the university in Jerusalem. In a statement here prior to his return to Israel, following a month-long visit to the United States, Dr. Elath said that there were about 200 Americans among the 300 students from abroad currently attending the university.

Expressing satisfaction over the increase in the number of American students during the past few years, Mr. Elath urged more American Jewish young men and women to attend the university to contribute to the development of a fuller understanding of American Jewry among the youth of Israel.

Referring to the expansion of the university, which now has a student body of 8,000 and an academic staff of 1,100, Mr. Elath pointed out that more than 50 per cent of the faculty members are graduates of the Hebrew University. During the course of his one-month stay in this country, Dr. Elath visited 13 cities, and met with the heads of several American universities.

## NAZI HOLOCAUST, ZIONIST HISTORY DISCUSSED AT YIVC INSTITUTE CONFERENCE

NEW YORK, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- The annual conference of the Yivo Institute for Jewish Research opened here last night with addresses by Dr. Jacob Robinson, an expert on the history of the Nazi holocaust, and Dr. Arthur Hertzberg, a prominent Zionist historian.

The conference, which will run through Thursday, will also include addresses by Dr. Simon Segal, director of the foreign affairs department of the American Jewish Committee; Dr. Victor D. Sanua, associate professor of psychology at Yeshiva University; Dr. Samuel Kucherov, librarian of the Library of Congress; and Dr. Nathan Susskind, associate professor of Yiddish and German at Yeshiva University and City College.

## CANADIAN-ISRAEL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO AID IN MONTREAL WORLD FAIR

MONTREAL, Dec. 23. The Canadian-Israel Chamber of Commerce has announced plans for a committee to aid Canadian and Israeli authorities for maximum gains to Israel from its participation in the 1967 Montreal World Fair.

The committee will be assisted by Valmore Gratton, head of the economic planning bureau of the City of Montreal, a top aid in Montreal World Fair planning. Sam Steinberg, president of Steinberg's, Ltd., assured Mr. Gratton that the Chamber would do everything it could to aid the planners of the fair.

A luncheon of the Chamber, at which the plans to aid Israel participation in the Montreal fair were discussed, heard some members of the recent Canadian Government mission of 14 manufacturers and businessmen to Israel.

## H. LEIVICK, WORLD'S FOREMOST YIDDISH POET, DIES AFTER LONG ILLNESS

NEW YORK, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- H. Leivick, considered by most literary critics the world's foremost Yiddish poet, died here today after a long illness--two days before he would have celebrated his 74th birthday. Born Leivick Halper, on December 25, 1888, in Igumen, Russia, he came to the United States in 1913, after escaping from Czarist exile in Siberia.

Mr. Leivick's outstanding work--The Golem, a dramatic poem based on the legend of the Maharal of Prague--is considered one of the greatest works of Modern Yiddish literature. It was translated into Hebrew and was produced by the Habima Theater of Moscow for the first time in 1927.

In his youth, Leivick studied for the rabbinate in the yeshiveth of Berezhino and Minsk. Later he joined the Bund, the Jewish revolutionary movement in Russia, and came into contact with Yiddish literature for the first time.

In 1906, he was sentenced to four years' imprisonment for his revolutionary activities, but managed to smuggle his writings out of his cell. These were published in the Zeitgeist of New York in 1907. Arrested again in 1912, he was sent by the Czarist authorities into lifetime exile in Siberia. He escaped, however, and came to the United States.

Mr. Leivick wrote numerous poems and dramas which were published both in the United States and abroad. In 1936, he joined the editorial board of the New York Day-Jewish Journal. In 1951, he became associated with Zukunft, a Yiddish literary monthly, which he edited prior to his illness. One of his last poems appeared in the Jewish Day-Morning Journal today.

He was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Hebrew Letters by the Jewish Theological Seminary of New York in 1958 as well as the P. Hoffer Prize for excellence in Yiddish literature in 1954, and the Louis LaMed Prize for outstanding work in Yiddish poetry in 1946. He was very popular in Israel, where he had been a guest of the Israel Government five years ago, as well as wherever Yiddish is spoken and read throughout the world.

Funeral services will be held on Wednesday in the Riverside Memorial Chapel. Many prominent leaders in Jewish cultural life are expected to attend the services.

## MICHAEL GELBART, CANTOR, COMPOSER, WORKMEN'S CIRCLE MUSIC HEAD, DIES

NEW YORK, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- Michael Gelbart, a prominent cantor and composer of Yiddish melodies, died here today at the age of 73. He was for many years in charge of music programs at the Workmen's Circle schools in this country.

Born in Poland, Mr. Gelbart became choir director of the largest synagogue in Lodz, Poland at the age of 16. He came to the United States in 1912, and served as cantor in various synagogues in this country before settling in New York. He was the author of numerous books of children's melodies, and set to music many outstanding Yiddish poems. He also composed the music for a number of operettas and several children's publications.