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STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE IN JERUSALEM AGAINST MILITARY RULE IN ARAB AREAS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Hebrew University students and Israeli Arabs staged separate demonstrations here today in support of legislation pending in Parliament to drastically modify military government in Arab-populated areas of the country. Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion has warned that he would take the issue to the electorate, posing the possibility of a Government crisis. Five bills will be voted on tomorrow.

The Hebrew University Students Committee for Abolition of Military Government staged a protest march for which they were initially denied permission. Permission was granted after the Supreme Court called on the Jerusalem district representative and the district police commander to justify refusal to permit the demonstration. Several hundred students took up positions in Jerusalem's main thoroughfare. They carried banners. An accompanying van broadcast anti-military rule slogans.

The Arab Jewish Committee Against Military Government sponsored a protest at the Beit Haluzoth where speakers called for the ending of military rule, calling it undemocratic and harmful to relations between Israel Arabs and Jews.

Supporters of the bills lobbied actively among hesitant Knesset members seeking a majority which might result in the fall of the Government. Although some Knesset members openly expressed the view that military rule was no longer necessary, those who are members of coalition parties must stick to the principle of collective responsibility and support the Government on this issue.

The exception is the left-wing Achdut Avodah which has been released from the collective responsibility agreement on this issue. The five bills were submitted by members of the Liberal, Herut, Mapam, Achdut Avoda and Communist parties.

ISRAELIS DEMONSTRATE OPPOSITION TO TAX INSPECTION OF BANK ACCOUNTS

TEL AVIV, Feb. 19. (ITA) -- The Finance Ministry announcement that income tax authorities would exercise their right to examine bank accounts in search for tax evaders evoked sharp negative reactions today in Israel's financial markets, including a sharp drop in Stock Exchange prices.

Other responses included a rise in "black market" dollar transactions and in gold and some refusals to accept checks. A number of depositors even closed out their accounts but generally, officials declined to view the reactions as a "rush" to avoid tax examinations.

The projected ending of banking transactions secrecy was condemned by most financial spokesmen who said there would be additional adverse reactions to the announcement. However, they also argued that the situation would return to normal when it became apparent that the tax officials intended to use their right in only a few cases.

BISHOP IN ISRAEL ASSURED OF COMPLETE FREEDOM OF ALL RELIGIONS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- The Israel Government will afford fullest protection to every religious community, and will support the constructive activities of every denomination in Israel, Dr. Zorach Warhaftig, Israel's Minister for Religious Affairs, declared here today. His statement was contained in a reply to Bishop Pierro Chippero, Israeli vicar of the Latin Church, who asked the Ministry yesterday to disassociate itself from "attacks" and "slanders" against Christian missionary schools in Israel.

A Ministry spokesman earlier reacted to the Bishop's allegations by describing as "unfounded" a charge that the Ministry financed a "smear campaign" against educational institutions of any church in this country.

In his letter to Bishop Chippero, Dr. Warhaftig asserted that there is complete freedom of religion in Israel and that the Ministry always fostered amicable relations among the various denominations. He expressed regret that a clergyman, Father Gaetani Pieri, of the Latin monastery in Acre, was involved in a fracas with a neighboring shopkeeper which resulted in each charging the other with assault and damage. He also regretted that the Bishop's apprehensions, though unfounded, were first aired at a press conference.

LEADING YIDDISH NEWSPAPERS SCORE STATE DEPT. FOR EXCLUDING J. T. A.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Sharp criticism against the State Department over the barring of Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent Milton Friedman from a press briefing on the Arab refugee problem, conducted by Robert C. Strong, director of the Near Eastern Office of the State Department, was voiced here today in an editorial by the Jewish Daily Forward, largest Yiddish-language daily newspaper in the world. Similar criticism was also voiced in the Jewish Day-Morning Journal, another leading Yiddish-language daily newspaper published here.

The Forward emphasized that "something which is fully in opposition to the spirit of freedom of the press--and also a direct insult to the Jewish press in the United States--has taken place in the State Department" by refusing admission to the JTA correspondent to the press briefing. It pointed out that the readers of the Jewish press in this country are interested in the U. S. policy with regard to the Arab-Israel problem, and expressed hope that Secretary of State Dean Rusk will see to it that no such further discriminations against the Jewish press take place in any section of the State Department.

The Jewish Day-Morning Journal, in a column written by Dr. S. Margoshes, noted Jewish editor and commentator, said: "It is clear that the State Department, by barring Mr. Friedman and maligning the JTA, has committed a grievous wrong not only against an outstanding American Jewish journalist and a uniquely important American Jewish news agency, but against the entire Jewish press that is serviced by the JTA and the hundreds of thousands of Jewish readers throughout the country."

PROTESTANT MINISTERS INTERVENE FOR RUSSIAN JEWS IN SOVIET EMBASSY

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- A group of Protestant ministers from Allentown raised the question of anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union during an interview today at the Soviet Embassy here.

The subject of Soviet mistreatment of Jews was broached by the clergymen during a non-related discussion of disarmament with Embassy officials. The Embassy officials did not reply directly to the question, turning it aside with a reference to official USSR policy, claiming that Soviet citizens are "recognized only as members of national groups."

FINANCE MINISTERS IN GERMANY BACK ACCELERATION OF RESTITUTION LAWS

BONN, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- The need to accelerate work on drafting of legislation to close gaps in the existing West German restitution and compensation laws was affirmed unanimously today by Finance Ministers of the West German states here.

The Finance Ministers agreed on the need at the close of talks with Dr. Rolf Dahlgrun, the new West German Finance Minister.

GERMAN POLICE OFFICER ARRESTED; CHARGED WITH KILLING 18,000 JEWS

OLLENBURG, W. Germany, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Emil Kassner, a police inspector in Cloppenberg, was arrested here today at the request of the Central Office for the Investigation of Nazi Crimes in Ludwigsburg.

Officials said Kassner was suspected of having participated in the 1942 murders of some 18,000 Jews in the Kowel region of Nazi-occupied Ukraine. The suspect, who has been a member of the Social Democratic party for many years, was ousted from the party because of his arrest.

REQUEST TO CANCEL PERMISSION FOR MOSLEY MEETING REJECTED IN LONDON

LONDON, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- The Kensington Borough Council, in London, refused today to withdraw permission to fascist leader Oswald Mosley to hold a meeting in Kensington Town Hall next Monday despite protests from the Yellow Star anti-fascist movement.

Yellow Star officials said they would sponsor a silent demonstration around the town hall to be followed by an opposition meeting at the nearest available site. Kensington officials said it was the borough council's policy to grant use of the hall for meetings, regardless of views expressed at such meetings, as long as they remained "within the law."

PARTS OF \$1,333,000 COMPUTER ARRIVES IN ISRAEL FROM UNITED STATES

TEL AVIV, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Parts for a \$1,333,000 computer arrived in Israel from the United States in 100 cases and were brought to the Weizmann Institute where it was assembled today. The computer is expected to be put in operation within the next 24 hours, officials of the Institute's Department of Applied Mathematics, said.

A Rothschild Memorial Foundation grant made it possible for Israel to acquire the computer.

300-MAN DELEGATION OF JEWISH GROUPS ASKS FOR 'FAIR SABBATH' LAW

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Confidence that the New York State Legislature would enact a "Fair Sabbath" bill this year was expressed here today after 300 representatives of six Jewish organizations met here with key state officials and legislative leaders. The objective of the delegation was to urge an amendment to New York's "blue" laws, to exempt Sabbath observers from provisions requiring Sunday closing of business enterprises.

The organizations were the American Jewish Congress, the Jewish War Veterans, the metropolitan region of the United Synagogue of America, New York Board of Rabbis, the New York Federation of Reform Synagogues and the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations.

Howard Squadron, chairman of the metropolitan council of the American Jewish Congress, who led the delegation, disclosed that Jewish groups met a month ago on this issue with Governor Rockefeller and Assembly Speaker Joseph Carlino. Confidence in the view that legislative enactment would come at the current session of New York State House and Senate was expressed by Mr. Squadron "relying on the encouragement received from legislative leaders and from Gov. Rockefeller himself to believe that a 'Fair Sabbath' bill will become law this year."

"The interest and encouragement of the Governor and many legislative leaders," he said, "has strengthened our belief that the law will be changed, to correct the grave injustice and serious discrimination which those who observe a day other than Sunday now suffer under the laws of New York State." He said the law works a special hardship on Sabbatarians--Orthodox Jews, Seventh Day Adventists and others--who keep another day as their religious day of rest. Thousands of small merchants who close their stores on Saturday for religious reasons must suffer the economic loss of closing on Sunday as well.

"It is these small merchants who have been the major targets of police enforcement of Sunday laws. More than 20,000 summonses for Sunday law violations were given out in New York City in 1961--almost all of them to small merchants," Mr. Squadron said. He noted that there were at least a dozen states that exempt Sabbath observers from Sunday law restrictions against the sale of goods.

Fight Over Sunday Closing Law to be Resumed in Illinois

CHICAGO, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Illinois State Senator Michael F. Zlatnik warned here today that members of the State Legislature would attempt to reword and amend the state's Sunday Closing Law to eliminate the technicality upon which it was declared unconstitutional. The State Supreme Court struck down the law last year on the grounds that it singled out one group--automobile dealers.

Senator Zlatnik, who addressed the tenth annual convention here of the Council of Traditional Synagogues of Greater Chicago, said that only a united Jewry could prevent the new legislation from passing. He deplored the fact that the only opposition to it during the 1961 session of the Legislature "came from the American Jewish Congress and the militant editorials in the Chicago Sentinel."

The legislator predicted that another bill of special interest to Illinois Jewry--a humane slaughtering act--was "not likely to pass."

JEWS HAVE NO GREAT MORAL INFLUENCE ON AMERICA, DR. FINKELSTEIN ASSERTS

NEW YORK, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Jews in the United States "know virtually as little about Judaism as the Christians do," Rabbi Louis Finkelstein of the Jewish Theological Seminary declared in a study on religion in this country conducted by the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions founded by the Fund for the Republic, Inc. "We have a terrific problem just trying to explain Judaism to Jews," he said.

"Jews, as Jews," he asserted, "have no great spiritual or moral influence on America except insofar as individual Jews who are very close to their tradition might influence others by their example."

"The Sabbath day," Dr. Finkelstein stated, "was the day set aside by Judaism for Jews to be Jews and nothing but Jews. It was strictly observed as a day for study and for living as a Jew. It is a day on which Jews should mingle with fellow-Jews on a spiritual plane, on which they should contemplate, on which they should sit home with their families, a day of complete rest, of cessation of work, cessation of worry and anxiety. If you abandon that to play golf or to go shopping or to go to work or to do a million and one other things, that is a great calamity, and it has befallen us as Jews."

MAYNARD TEPLER, JEWISH ATTORNEY, ELECTED MAYOR OF COUNCIL BLUFFS

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Maynard Tepler, leading 34-year-old attorney, has been elected mayor of this city of 60,000 after serving four years on the Council Bluffs City Council. He is a leading member of the local B'nai B'rith.

CANADIAN SUPREME COURT RULES VALID A BEQUEST OF \$350,000 TO J.N.F.

VICTORIA, B.C., Feb. 19. (JTA) -- A Supreme Court Justice here has ruled valid the will of a bachelor who left most of his \$350,000 estate to the Jewish National Fund to be used to buy land in Israel for establishment of a Jewish colony. The ruling was made by Justice R.A. Wooton in rejecting challenges to the will of relatives of Frank Schechter, a bachelor, who died May 2, 1961 aged 74. The relatives all live in the United States.

Schechter made some specific bequests to charities and to sisters, a brother, a nephew and two nieces, with the bulk of his estate deeded to the Jewish National Fund with instructions to buy "the best lands available, in Palestine, the United States, or any British Dominion, and establish a Jewish colony or colonies, to be known as the Frank Schechter Colony."

The Jurist, in issuing his ruling, wrote that he had examined more than 50 cases for precedents and that "contemporaneous history shows us that there was persecution of the Jews within Europe at the time when the testator made his will in the year 1932 and the results of the persecution of the Jews under the Hitler regime will remain for many years" after the donor's death.

He added that in applying the residual clause in the will, which left the money to the JNF, "we find a condition existing in the world where it is indeed a charity and a worthy one that there should be a relief for the Jew who has suffered the destruction of his relatives, his fortune and his home."

JEWS PHILANTHROPIST IN BELGIUM HONORED BY KING ON 100TH BIRTHDAY

BRUSSELS, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Mathieu Mayer, honorary president of the board of Grands Magasins a l'Innovation, Belgium's greatest department store, and prominent Jewish philanthropist, was honored by King Baudouin and many other Belgians today on reaching his hundredth birthday. The King awarded him the coveted title of Commander of L'Ordre de Leopold.

Mr. Mayer, who was born in Alsace 100 years ago, is one of the most colorful personalities in Belgian and French business circles. For many years, he was counsellor here for the French Ministry of External Trade, and has received many high decorations from the French as well as the Belgian Government. An influential member of the Jewish community here, he is also one of the country's most generous contributors to Jewish causes. He is hale and still goes to his office every day.

BRITISH NOTABLES ATTEND MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR LATE LORD HERBERT SAMUEL

LONDON, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Representatives of Queen Elizabeth II, Prime Minister Harold Macmillan, the House of Lords, Commons, the British Jewish community and the Liberal Party were among the mourners who attended memorial services at the West End Synagogue here, yesterday, for the late Lord Herbert Samuel. Viscount Samuel of Mount Carmel and Texteth, who died two weeks ago at the age of 92, had been a member of that Orthodox synagogue for 80 years.

Among the 600 attending the rites, which followed earlier, private interment, were Lord Hailsham, representing the House of Lords; Lord Monckton, representing Balliol College; Jo Grimond, leader of the Liberal Party; and Sir Barnett Janner, representing the Board of Deputies of British Jews, which he heads in addition to representing the Labor Party in Commons.

In his eulogy, Dr. Chaim Pearl, spiritual leader of the synagogue, pointed out that Lord Samuel combined in the title he assumed when he became a Viscount in 1937, "the place of his birth and the place of his greatest work--Texteth in Liverpool and Carmel in Palestine." Lord Samuel held, among many other high posts during his long career, the position of Britain's High Commissioner for Palestine under the League of Nations Mandate.

PROF. ANNA WEIZMANN, SISTER OF ISRAEL'S LATE PRESIDENT, DIES IN REHOVOT

TEL AVIV, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held at Rehovot today for the late Professor Anna Weizmann, sister of the late first President of Israel, who died at her home there yesterday, aged 72.

A noted researcher in organic chemistry--which was Dr. Chaim Weizmann's major field in science--she was born in the township of Motele, Russia, as he was. She received her basic scientific education at the University of Zurich, taught at the Weizmann Institute, and was, at her death, professor-emeritus of the Institute.

EXHIBIT IN WASHINGTON MARKS 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF TOURO SYNAGOGUE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- An exhibit commemorating the 200th anniversary of the Touro Synagogue in Newport, R.I., was opened here today by B'nai B'rith. Senator Claiborne Pell, Rhode Island Democrat, was guest speaker at the opening ceremonies which were also attended by Rabbi Theodore Lewis of Newport, Morris Morgenstern of New York and Maurice Bigyer, executive vice-president of B'nai B'rith. The exhibit features more than 60 objects depicting the pre-Revolutionary War activities of Touro Synagogue's founding members.