



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

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Vol: XXXI - 46th year

Monday, March 30, 1964

No. 63

SOVIET JEWS OBSERVE SEDER WITHOUT MATZOH; CROWD SYNAGOGUE SERVICES

LONDON, March 29: (JTA) -- Religious Jews throughout the Soviet Union observed the seder but without matzoh since only a few families succeeded in baking matzoh for themselves, it was established here today on the basis of reports from Moscow. Most of the matzoh parcels sent by relatives from abroad to Jews in Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, Odessa, Minsk, Kishinev and other Soviet cities remained undelivered.

The Central Synagogue in Moscow, as well as the two smaller congregations in the capital and its environs, were reported filled beyond capacity for services during the first two nights and days of Passover. Large crowds of worshipers were reported having attended synagogue services also in the other principal Jewish centers around the USSR.

The Israel Ambassador in Moscow, Yosef Tekoah, conducted a seder in his Embassy Friday evening, with 57 persons in attendance. But not one Moscow Jew had been invited to the Embassy seder this year, as had been the custom in previous years.

ISRAEL ENJOYS PASSOVER; PREMIER ATTENDS SEDER IN AIR FORCE HANGAR

TEL AVIV March 29: (JTA) -- Israel celebrated Passover joyously, the observance being marked only by the knowledge that Russian Jewry is suffering a lack of matzoh, engineered by the Soviet authorities. The situation of Soviet Jewry was reflected in hundreds of Israeli homes where a vacant chair was placed at each seder table, symbolically reminding Israelis of the sad fate of the Jews in Russia.

Undeterred by the constantly lurking Arab dangers, Israeli army kitchens had prepared festive Passover meals, while chaplains conducted service in every Israeli army camp and frontier post. At one Israeli Air Force hangar, 1,200 soldiers gathered for one of the biggest mass sedorim. Attending that feast were Prime Minister Levi Eshkol and his family; Gen. Yitzhak Rabin, Chief of Staff of all of Israel's defense forces; and Gen. Ezer Weizmann, commander of Israel's Air Force. There, the services were conducted by Brig. Shlomo Goren, chief chaplain of Israel's army.

Foreign guests were entertained at sedorim in scores of Kibbutzim and other settlements. In many of the kibbutzim, the traditional "omer" celebration--marking the ingathering of the spring's first harvest--was observed with songs and dances. The second seder was conducted in Tel Aviv mainly for tourists from abroad in many of the large hotels. Nearly 1,000 tourists gathered at one mass seder at the Sheraton Hotel, where the services were conducted by cantor Moshe Koussevitsky.

Tourists began flocking into Israel late last week. Ships brought thousands to Haifa from the United States and Europe. At Lydda Airport, nearly 3,000 foreigners arrived aboard 25 planes in one day just prior to Passover. Hotels were crowded to capacity, and many tourists had to be sent to private homes.

Every road in Israel was crowded with buses, jitneys, taxicabs and private cars. The Egged Bus Company here announced just before Passover that it expected to handle about 1,500,000 passengers, including not only tourists but also Israelis visiting friends and relatives away from their homes. The markets were well stocked with everything needed for the Passover observance. A rainy year had resulted in huge supplies of fruits and vegetables at moderate prices. Meat and fish were also available in adequate quantities, and there are ample supplies of matzoh.

The security forces, alert as ever in spite of the holiday, killed four Arab infiltrators who had crossed Israel's frontiers last night. One would-be infiltrator was shot near Mishmar Ayalon, in the Latrun area, close to the Jordanian border. Three others were killed when an Israeli border patrol intercepted another group of infiltrators in the southern Negev.

(Chief Rabbi Yitzhak Nissim's office disclosed today that it has received a cable of Passover greetings from Moscow Chief Rabbi Yehuda Leib Levin.)

SALE OF SOVIET ANTI-SEMITIC BOOK STOPPED IN MOSCOW; SOLD IN UKRAINE

LONDON, March 29 (JTA) -- Obviously perturbed over the protests which the anti-Semitic book "Judaism Without Embellishment" -- published by the Ukrainian Academy of Science in Kiev -- has provoked throughout the world, even among Communist parties in the free world, the Soviet authorities have stopped the sale of the book in Moscow book stores; However, the book is still sold in Soviet Ukraine, it was reported here today from Moscow.

The stoppage of the sale of the book in Moscow is of no importance, since the book, with its Nazi-like anti-Jewish cartoons, is printed in the Ukrainian language, which Russian residents of Moscow do not understand. It has been printed in 12,000 copies, and was intended primarily for distribution among Ukrainians who maintain their own language, their own newspapers, their own schools and other cultural institutions.

In Kiev, where the book was published, the Ukrainian-language newspaper, Radyanska Kultura published an article criticizing the drawings in the book as being "of low artistic standard and can only insult believers." This criticism was disseminated yesterday by Tass, official Soviet news agency. Last week, another Soviet news agency, Novosti, distributed an article citing the book as an example of the constitutional right of an atheist to engage in anti-religious propaganda.

The article disseminated yesterday by Tass criticized the book for linking its attack against Jewish religion with "criticism of the internal life of the State of Israel." The article said that Israel has "democratic, progressive institutions of workers who support peace, peaceful coexistence and democratic freedom and who are against colonialism and imperialism."

French Communists Insist on Moscow's Formal Repudiation of the Book

PARIS, March 29. (JTA) -- The storm among Communist and pro-Soviet groups in France over the Soviet anti-Semitic book, "Judaism Without Embellishment," continued to rage today. Leftist groups took the lead in what amounted to a plea to the Soviet Union to speak out and ease the popular hostility evoked by the book and its virulently anti-Semitic cartoons.

For the third time, L'Humanite, the organ of the French Communist Party, continued its unprecedented criticism of the Soviet Union by the technique of reprinting without comment the wide-ranging protests of other organizations over the Soviet Union's refusal to repudiate the book, published last year by the Ukrainian Academy of Science, written by T. K. Kitchko.

Among the protests which have been pouring into the Soviet Embassy in Paris were denunciations from the leftist Deportees and Resistance Volunteers. The left-wing "Liberation," normally an apologist for the Soviet Union, printed a lengthy editorial citing the long history of anti-Semitism in the Ukraine. The editorial said that: "Even while saying we know what the Soviet Union has done against this -- had the brochure been an individual manifestation of anti-Semitism, there would have been no reason to become excited. Unhappily, this is not the case."

"Kitchko's book involves not only its author," the editorial declared, "but numerous other persons who certainly read it. It received the approval of the authorities, and that is what we do not understand. We do not understand either why, until this day, the only Soviet reaction to the feelings aroused by this affair has been a commentary by a press agency which, as far as can be seen, does not deal at all with the true problem."

Christian Groups in Belgium Protest Soviet Anti-Semitic Book

BRUSSELS, March 29. (JTA) -- Protests against the anti-Semitic book, "Judaism Without Embellishment," and the Soviet ban on matzoh in Russia spread today in the Belgian press and among Christian groups.

The Independent "Le Soir," largest-circulation evening daily in Belgium, published a severe criticism of the publication on its first page. The progressive Catholic paper, Le Cite, also protested against "these new manifestations of anti-Semitism in the USSR."

A lead article appeared in the official daily of the Belgian Socialist party, Le Peuple, by Victor Larock, former Belgian Foreign and Education Minister and a leader of the Socialist International. He asked: "What is the meaning of this insidious anti-Semitism?"

MOSCCOW SHOWS CONCERN OVER WASHINGTON JEWISH PARLEY ON SOVIET JEWRY

WASHINGTON, March 29. (JTA) -- Soviet authorities are apparently displaying considerable concern over the forthcoming two-day meeting of the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry, which is to open here April 5.

The Soviet Embassy today transmitted to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency office here two releases from the Soviet Novosti press agency on this subject. One is published in the name of a number of Soviet rabbis and "Jewish community leaders in the Soviet Union" -- the usual method employed in refuting charges of anti-Semitic actions in the USSR. The other is a statement by the Jewish workers of the Krasny Proletary plant in Moscow, describing the Washington conference as an "insult" to the Soviet Jews.

The Jewish workers are quoted as saying "the aim of the Washington conference is to ascribe to our state what is not to be found in it, which means to slander the Soviet Union. A discreditable undertaking! We protest against it." The "protest," signed by the Soviet rabbis and Jewish community leaders, asks: "In whose interests are you acting, spreading lies about the Soviet Union, about our life?"

Asserting that "we fully enjoy the civil rights enjoyed by all Soviet people," the statement concludes, "On behalf of the congregations in Moscow, Kiev and Minsk, we strongly protest against slanderous attacks on our Soviet country which has done so much for the Jewish people."

CARDINAL CUSHING ACKNOWLEDGES CHRISTIAN DEBT TO JEWS IN EASTER MESSAGE

BOSTON, March 29. (JTA) -- A call to Christians to remember that "the spiritual ancestry of Christians is Jewish" and that the Christians are "the sons of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob" as are the Jews, was voiced here by Richard Cardinal Cushing in an Easter message.

"Lenten reflection," Cardinal Cushing declared, "makes us realize again that Christ was born a Jew. Mary and Joseph were Jews. Christ worshipped in the synagogue. His disciples were Jews. He said Jewish prayers. He observed the Jewish Holy Days. He revered the books sacred to the Jews and to us. The Golden Rule that Christ preached was taught in the temple. The 'Lord's Prayer' that Christ gave his disciples is almost identical with the sacred Kaddish that begins: 'Extolled and hallowed be the name of God. May His Kingdom come and His will be done in all the earth.'"

"Christians must remember when Jews do not accept Christ as the Promised One, they do not reject the ideals that Jesus preached: humility, justice, mercy, brotherhood, love. The spiritual ancestry of Christians is Jewish. We are the sons of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, even as they. The Cross is a point of separation in our spiritual traditions, but we must all be keenly aware of the essential Christian doctrine: Christ died for the sins of all men, those prior to His time, His contemporaries, those who came after him.

"Anti-Semitism is a profoundly unchristian attitude. The only answer the Christian can give to the question, 'Who put Christ to death?' is: 'I did, as often as I have committed a serious sin.'"

SEN. JAVITS CALLS FOR 'PROMPT' STEPS TO ASSURE SECURITY OF ISRAEL

NEW YORK, March 29. (JTA) -- Addressing 2,000 guests at the Histadrut Third Seder tonight at the Waldorf-Astoria, Senator Jacob K. Javits called for "prompt and decisive steps, now, while there is still time, to assure the security of Israel and the entire Middle East region." The Third Seder, which is a supplementary Passover function inaugurated 32 years ago as a tribute to the present-day pioneers of Israel by the National Committee for Labor Israel, also marked the 40th anniversary of the Israel Histadrut campaign.

Presenting greetings on behalf of the State of Israel, Ambassador Katriel Katz, Israeli Consul-General in New York, hailed the historic contributions of Histadrut, the Israel labor movement, to the development of the "new social forms which are the very opposite of the system of oppression imposed by all dictators since Pharaoh."

Pointing out that "Israel has gone far toward realizing the universal dream of Isaiah, to bring peace among the nations," Ambassador Katz declared: "It is not in the power of Israel to establish peace, but it is in the power of Israel to instruct the under-privileged masses of the African continent, now emerging into freedom, in the dignity and pleasures of labor. It is in the power of Israel to show them the examples of successfully applied mutual aid and cooperation. What Israel offers the African states and other nations is patterns of communal and cooperative living, of authentic brotherhood in action."

AMERICAN ISRAEL PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES REORGANIZATION

NEW YORK, March 29. (JTA) -- The reorganization of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, and the expansion of its governing body, were announced here today. The new governing body will now consist of 43 American Jewish leaders representing major communities throughout the United States. The Committee will celebrate its 10th anniversary at a national policy conference to be held in Washington early in May.

600-YEAR-OLD ILLUMINATED HAGGADAH PRESENTED TO JEWISH SEMINARY

NEW YORK, March 29. (JTA) -- The Jewish Theological Seminary announced acquisition of a unique, 600-year-old manuscript Haggadah, presented by anonymous donors who reportedly paid more than \$10,000 for the manuscript.

Only one of 15 such hand-written Haggadot are known to be in existence. The incomplete Haggadah is considered to be a most important example of the work of the medieval book illustrator in Spain. The manuscript was understood to have been created in 13th Century Spain, but its whereabouts during most of the succeeding centuries is unknown. It was last reported to be in private hands in Israel.

The artist left many illuminated illustrations for the polished parchment pages of the 86-leaf book undone or in various stages. Because it bears a Papal Censor's stamp, the Haggadah was demonstrated to have been in northern Italy in the early 17th Century, in Prague in 1938 and in Jerusalem in 1951. Menachem Schmeltzer, associate librarian of the Seminary, said the new acquisition was "one of the most remarkable examples of medieval book artistry of its kind."

ADMIRAL STRAUS GIVES \$100,000 FOR YM-YWHA BUILDING IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, March 29. (JTA) -- Gifts totaling \$220,000 toward the construction of a new 11-story addition to the 92d Street YM-YWHA were announced here today by Judge George Frankenthaler, president of the institution. He said the gifts included \$100,000 from Admiral Lewis L. Straus and Mrs. Straus, in memory of Jerome and Carrie Hanauer, parents of Mrs. Straus, who had been members of the 92d Street Y's board for many years. Admiral Straus is the former chairman of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission.

Judge Frankenthaler, just re-elected for his fourth term as president of the Y, announced at the same time the following gifts: \$50,000 from the Mayer family; \$40,000 from Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Abraham; and \$30,000 from Mrs. Setia Sopkin, in memory of her brothers, Alfred W. and Joseph S. Heil. Mr. Abraham is a vice-president of the Y's board of directors. The Y Building Fund is a joint undertaking of the YM-YWHA and the "City of Life" campaign of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York.

"The new addition to the 92d Street Y, so urgently needed by the thousands upon thousands of families streaming into the upper East Side of Manhattan will shortly be an actuality," said Judge Frankenthaler in announcing the new gifts.

1,000,000 SIGNATURES SOUGHT TO SECURE RESTORATION OF JEWISH GRAVES

NEW YORK, March 29. (JTA) -- Announcing that two prominent West Germans have assured backing for a demand that desecrated Jewish graves in East European countries be repaired, the New York section of the World Center of European Rabbis launched a campaign to obtain 1,000,000 signatures during the Passover week, supporting that demand.

Rabbi M. J. Rubin, a member of the organization's American predidium, and chairman of the World Center, received letters backing the plan from Emil Hirsch, head of the indemnification committee of the Bundestag, lower house of the German Parliament, and Willy Brandt, mayor of West Berlin. The plan, said Rabbi Rubin, is to restore graves destroyed by the Nazis during the war under the supervision of the International Red Cross. There are at least 2,000 such graves in various East European countries, he said.

MONUMENT TO MEMORY OF 350,000 MURDERED JEWS TO BE UNVEILED IN CHELMNO

LONDON, March 29. (JTA) -- A monument to the memory of the 350,000 Jews murdered in the Chelmo camp in Poland will be unveiled next September, on the 25th anniversary of the German invasion of Poland, it was reported here today from Warsaw.

This will be the third such monument in Chelmo. One had been erected eight years ago to commemorate a revolt of a group of Jewish inmates against the Nazis; another is in memory of thousands of Poles murdered by the Nazis. The Poles had been kept as hostages of the German army in Chelmo, and eventually murdered. The third monument will consist of sculptured figures symbolizing the tragedy of war and the martyrdom of the victims of the Nazis.