



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

Contents Copyright: Reproduction only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXX - 44th year

Friday, February 23, 1962

No. 38

SYRIA COMPLAINS TO U.N. ON JORDAN RIVER PROJECT; VOICES THREAT

LONDON, Feb. 22, (JTA) -- Syria has warned the major powers that if Israel proceeded with plans for diversion of Jordan River waters, this would be a threat to peace and security, it was reported here today from Beirut.

Syrian Premier Maarouf Dawalibi received the envoys of Britain, the United States, Rumania and Russia, the only Security Council member states represented diplomatically in Damascus to hand them a memorandum which asserted that Israel was continuing construction work to pump Jordan River waters from the Sea of Galilee into channels leading to the Negev.

The memorandum, as published later in a Foreign Ministry statement, recalled that Syria had resisted similar efforts by Israel in 1953 and would do so again. At that time, Syrian gunners repeatedly fired on Israeli workers.

The memorandum said that the Israel-Syrian armistice agreement provided that neither party should achieve any gains by unilateral action. The memorandum argued that successful diversion of the Jordan River would enable Israel to absorb a few million people "thus causing a new threat to the Arab world."

Syria also contended that Israel could not, under international law, change riparian states rights by unilateral action and that the project would increase the salt content of the Sea of Galilee "thus harming Arab lands." The memorandum added that "the plan was no less dangerous to the Arabs than the creation of Israel."

Premier Dawalibi told newsmen that Syria had other measures in mind to "face the situation" but declined to elaborate.

RUSK REPORTS 'PROGRESS' IN ENDING ARAB BIAS AGAINST UNITED STATES JEWS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22, (JTA) -- "Some progress" in efforts by the United States to break down discrimination by Arab countries against American Jews was reported today by Secretary of State Dean Rusk.

The Secretary's optimistic characterization of American efforts to overcome Arab trade and travel restriction against American Jews was made in a telephone conversation with Congressman Leonard Farbstein of New York. Secretary Rusk's telephone call was a follow-up to a personal meeting the two men held on the subject of Arab discrimination at the State Department last week. The Secretary had promised, following that meeting, to advise Rep. Farbstein "shortly" about the status of continuing talks with Arab leaders.

That the State Department was continuing to look into the matter was made clear from the following statement which Secretary Rusk authorized Rep. Farbstein to release: "We are very much interested in the matter; We are working on it continuously. We are not discouraged and think we are making some progress."

No other details of the talks between State Department officials and Arab leaders--some of which apparently have taken place within the past week--were made available.

SENATE, HCUSE HEAR DENUNCIATIONS OF SOVIET TREATMENT OF JEWS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22, (JTA) -- Senator Jacob Javits of New York told the Senate again today that Russian Jews were being made "the economic scapegoats" by Soviet authorities;

It was the second time in less than a month that the Senator had taken the floor to point up the situation facing Russia's Jewish Community;

In his speech today, the New York Republican said that new evidences of the crisis facing Soviet Jewry were the recent reports of death sentences for currency speculation in black markets against four Jews in Vilna and 12 within the USSR itself. "There is a long and tragic series of these," Sen. Javits said;

The Senator said that although Kremlin authorities "have been very sensitive to any alleged anti-Semitism" and hence try to "identify these people being tried without actually

being tagged anti-Semitic," the reports themselves "negate this attempt;" "I think this, if anything, is the same thing dressed up in different clothes, with a very calculated effort being made to identify Jews as enemies of the Soviet people in terms of these black marketing activities," Javits said; "Apparently these authorities are trying to warn people against currency speculation in black markets, but the means chosen can only lead to serious consequences for Jews as a group in the USSR."

Rep. Herbert Zelenko, New York City Democrat, taking up the same theme in the House, said yesterday that he had urged the United States delegation to the United Nations to introduce a resolution censuring the Soviet Union "for the violation of its obligations under the United Nations Charter in that it has persecuted its Jewish citizens and those of other faiths because of religion."

He said that the Soviet Union "exposed its perfidy" by persecuting Jewish citizens solely for their religious beliefs; He added he was "happy to report" that the Department of State "has taken cognizance of this derogation of human rights of the Soviet Union."

NEW FRENCH LAW ENABLES FORMER STATELESS JEWS TO OBTAIN DAMAGES

PARIS, Feb. 22; (JTA) -- A new ordinance of the French Government was published today which will enable a large number of French Jews, who were stateless during World War II, to apply for damages for wartime Nazi persecutions;

The ordinance, published in the Official Gazette, permits persons who were not French citizens during the war to apply for reparations on condition they acquired French nationality before July 1960;

HEIRLESS PROPERTY TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR AUSTRIAN NAZI VICTIMS

VIENNA, Feb. 22; (JTA) -- Liquidation of unclaimed or heirless property will yield 140,000,000 schillings (\$5,600,000) for the benefit of persecutees living in Austria, Finance Minister Josef Klaus told a press conference here today;

He also disclosed that about 1,000 restitution cases still were pending and he confirmed reports that payments made possible by the West-German-Austrian compensation agreement would begin in mid-summer for aged and needy victims of the Nazi era in Austria;

He said that since the end of World War II, Austria had spent 2,000,000,000 schillings (\$80,000,000) in compensation to political and racial persecutees out of a total of 20,500,000,000 schillings (\$820,000,000) in compensation to all World War II victims;

MAILMEN'S STRIKE WIDENS IN ISRAEL; COMMERCE CRIPPLED

TEL AVIV, Feb. 22; (JTA) -- Almost total chaos prevailed today in Israel trade and commerce and many other areas because of a spreading strike by Israel mailmen in which postoffice workers joined;

Temporary arrangements to distribute mail from emergency stations proved a total failure as people waited in long lines for hours but none managed to reach the clerks who were to distribute the mail; An arrangement to employ temporary mailmen also failed;

With the walk-out of the postoffice workers, all postal services except telephones and telegraph, ground to a halt; There were fears that telegraph and teleprinter services would be interrupted if postoffice technicians joined the walk-out;

Many letters were feared lost and the strike caused the cancelation of many events because of unreceived invitations and notices; Banknotes and vouchers also were undelivered; Some banks operated messenger service today to deliver urgent mail;

GRANDFATHER OF MISSING ISRAELI BOY STARTS HUNGER STRIKE

TEL AVIV, Feb. 22; (JTA) -- Nachman Shtarkes, the elderly Orthodox Jew who was sent back to jail for failing to produce his long-missing grandson, Yossele Schumacher, began a hunger strike today to obtain his release;

The grandfather, who was reported to be very ill, was visited in his cell by a doctor; It was indicated that if his condition worsened, he would be transferred to the prison hospital;

Meanwhile, two members of the Agudat Israel settlement, Komemiyut, who were recently detained for questioning in the disappearance of the boy, were released and returned to their village;

1962 INAUGURAL CONFERENCE FOR ISRAEL BOND DRIVE OPENS TODAY

MIAMI BEACH, Feb. 22; (JTA) -- The National Inaugural Conference for the 1962 Israel Bond campaign, which will seek the sale of a minimum of \$66,500,000 in bonds, will open here tomorrow with 2,000 delegates from all parts of the United States and Canada in attendance; Louis H. Boyar is conference chairman;

The three-day conference will hear an address by Eric A. Johnston, who went to the Middle East eight years ago as President Eisenhower's special ambassador to draft a plan for a Jordan Valley Authority;

EASING OF MILITARY GOVT. FOR ISRAEL ARABS FOLLOWS KNESSET DEBATE

JERUSALEM, Feb. 22; (JTA) -- A series of relaxations in the military rule of Israel in Arab-populated border areas were scheduled today to be put into effect soon following a debate on the issue in the Knesset, Israel's Parliament.

Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion announced his agreement to the proposed measures after the debate. They included the right of appeal for Arabs convicted by military courts, the lifting of night curfews where they still existed, the granting of freedom-of-movement permits good for a year instead of shorter periods, and the ending of all restrictions on movements in Druse communities.

Insisting that some form of military rule was still needed in the border areas, the Prime Minister told the Knesset before a series of votes on the issue, that he considered abolition of military government "an abandonment of the state to the intrigues of the enemy in the neighboring countries and the intrigues of those who hate Israel in this country." He said military rule was necessary both to the security of Israel and "to the peace of the Arabs in Israel who wish to live in tranquility and hope for peace between Israel and her Arab neighbors." He said there were many Israeli Arabs who supported President Nasser of Egypt and who were still unreconciled to the existence of Israel.

Menahem Beigin of Herut and Yaacov Hazan of Mapam contended the Government did not need such means to cope with security problems at the borders. Pinhas Rosen of the Liberal party and Israel Bar-Yehuda of Achdut Avoda said that depriving Israeli Arabs of their civil liberties hurt Israel's prestige.

The Knesset defeated five separate motions to abolish military rule 59 to 55 on all five motions, with coalition lines scrambled in the voting. The Prime Minister won the backing of one Arab deputy of his Mapai party and one Druse deputy by agreeing to the list of relaxations, which he announced after the voting.

FIRST SHIPMENT TO U.S. OF JAFFA ORANGES SOLD OUT QUICKLY

NEW YORK, Feb. 22; (JTA) -- The first export to the United States of Israel's Jaffa oranges were sold out quickly yesterday at the New York Fruit Auction Corporation Market to dealers and buyers from a half dozen major cities.

Yechiel Krieger, deputy trade commissioner of Israel in the United States, who attended the auction, said that the quick sale indicated possibilities of an eventual market for the Jaffa oranges of several hundred thousand cases a year with an export value of \$2,000,000.

He said that the choice Jaffa oranges had not been previously exported to the United States in commercial quantities because sanitation procedures, applied with special strictness to imports, had discouraged efforts at sales in this market. He added that the problem had been met and that another shipment was en route to New York. The Commissioner helped to negotiate the new addition to Israeli exports to the United States.

MRS. MEIR REPORTS EXCELLENT RESPONSE DURING FAR EAST TOUR

JERUSALEM, Feb. 22; (JTA) -- Burmese-Israel friendship is "axiomatic," Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, told a press conference here today following her return from a five-week tour of the Far East.

Mrs. Meir said she had explained to Burmese Prime Minister U Nu Israel's position on the situation of the Palestine Arab refugees but did not indicate how the Burmese leader had reacted.

She emphasized she had not discussed with U Nu the matter of the joint declaration between him and Egyptian President Nasser issued at the close of U Nu's recent visit to Cairo.

NEW ZIM LUXURY LINER TO BE BUILT IN FRANCE FOR N.Y. - HAIFA RUN

NEW YORK, Feb. 22; (JTA) -- The keel will be laid next month for a new 23,000-ton luxury liner, the *Sis Shalom*, to be built for the Zim-Israel Navigation Co; for use on the firm's New York to Haifa run, it was announced here today by Gottlieb Hammer, president of the American-Israeli Shipping Co., which represents Zim in this country. The vessel will be built by Chantiers de l'Atlantique, of St. Nazaire, France.

Addressing a luncheon of the American-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Hammer said that steamship travel will continue to grow despite competition jet air transportation. He said "We are on the threshold of the greatest upsurge of travel in history."

HEBREW U. GETS \$108,000 ROCKEFELLER GRANT FOR IRRIGATION STUDIES

NEW YORK, Feb. 22; (JTA) -- The Hebrew University of Jerusalem has been awarded a \$108,000 grant by the Rockefeller Foundation here to help finance the continuation through 1965 of the university's investigation of irrigation methods and agricultural systems used more than 2,000 years ago in the Negev desert.

The project, under the direction of Dr. Michael Evenari, will involve a continuation of researches which have already indicated that agriculture could be reestablished in the Negev desert areas by utilizing millions of cubic yards of water which fall directly in the area.

CANADIAN HADASSAH PRESENTS GIFT TO BEN-GURION AT CONVENTION END

TEL AVIV, Feb. 22; (JTA) -- A first group of delegates to the Canadian Hadassah-Wizo convention left yesterday for Europe en route back to Canada. The convention was the first held in Israel. Before leaving, the delegates heard a report by Mrs. Harry Cohen, president, and Mrs. Sidney Celbaum, convention chairman, on the presentation to Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion of an antique French-Canadian rocking chair and footstool to mark the convention in Israel.

The two Canadian leaders, who made the snowbound Tel Aviv to Jerusalem visit, reported that at the meeting, the Prime Minister recalled his visit to Canada and his meeting with Prime Minister John Diefenbaker, as well as with leaders of major Canadian Jewish communities.

The Prime Minister told the Canadian Jewish women leaders that he hoped "you will send more Canadian boys and girls to Israel and I will be able to have them sit in this chair."

The 14th World Wizo conference opened in the Mann Auditorium last night before more than 180 delegates from 26 countries and hundreds of guests. Principal speakers at the conference will be Mrs. Ben-Zvi, Israel's First Lady; Mr. Ben-Gurion; Dr. Israel Goldstein and Mayor Mordechai Namir. Working sessions of the convention began today at Herzliah.

BROOKLYN COUNCIL APPEALS TO MAYOR ON SUNDAY FUNERAL THREAT

NEW YORK, Feb. 22; (JTA) -- The Brooklyn Jewish Community Council warned Mayor Robert Wagner yesterday that the curbing of Jewish funerals on Sunday would cause "serious difficulties" for the "traditional American religious freedom of 1,900,000 Jews in this city."

The appeal to Mayor Wagner from Surrogate Maximilian Moss, president of the council, was evoked by the contract demands of Local 613 of the Teamsters Union, representing 1,000 funeral car drivers, who are seeking a five-day week. Their demands make no provision for servicing Jewish funerals on Sundays, when many Jewish burials take place because of the religious ban on Saturday burials. The local threatened to strike for its demands but the strike was postponed until February 28 for further negotiations.

SOCIAL WORK UNION BACKS WILDCAT STRIKE AT JEWISH HOME

NEW YORK, Feb. 22; (JTA) -- Signing of a new contract between the Jewish Board of Guardians and a social workers union was threatened today by a new dispute in which 75 workers at four offices of the board went on strike.

The 75 workers, members of Local 1707, Community and Social Employees Union, AFL-CIO, walked out yesterday in support of the local's demand for reinstatement without penalties of fellow-workers who called an unauthorized walk-out last week at the board's Hawthorne-Cedar Knolls School in Hawthorne, N.Y. The 54 cottage parents, professional and clerical employees at the school walked out in protest against working conditions.

The local at first declared the Hawthorne walkout illegal. When the workers were fired and refused reinstatement without penalties, the local announced support of their walkout. The Board of Guardians was one of six Jewish welfare agencies with which the union reached agreement last week after extending prior contracts with a threat to strike.

DAVID DALLIN, JEWISH EXPERT ON RUSSIA, DIES AT 72; WROTE 10 BOOKS

NEW YORK, Feb. 22; (JTA) -- David J. Dallin, a prominent American-Jewish writer and an outstanding expert on the Soviet Union, died here yesterday at the age of 72. Author of ten books on Russia, Mr. Dallin dealt frequently with the situation of the Soviet Jews in his books.

Born in Rogenev, Byelorussia, Mr. Dallin was imprisoned for anti-Czarist activities when he was 20 years old. He was later exiled to Germany and was expelled by the Nazis in 1935. He came to the United States at the outbreak of the Second World War. He was a contributing editor of the New Leader.

MOROCCAN JEWISH LEADER, FORMER COUNCILMAN, DIES AT 75

CASABLANCA, Feb. 22; (JTA) -- Isaac Abbou, former president of the Rabat Jewish Community and a leading Moroccan Jewish personality, died here suddenly at the age of 75.

He had also served as the president of the Jewish Community of Casablanca and of the Council of Jewish Communities of Morocco. He had been a municipal councilman in Rabat and secretary of the Rabat Chamber of Commerce. He also was a vice-president of the Federation of General Zionists and a delegate to the 23rd World Zionist Congress in Jerusalem in 1951.

The Grand Rabbi of Casablanca and David Amar, secretary of the Council of Jewish Communities of Morocco delivered eulogies at the funeral.