

WORLD BEAT

edited by Marta Garelik

Swiss Army To Buy Israeli Arms

GENEVA (JTA) — The Defense Ministry announced that the Swiss army intends to buy from Israel engines and cannons for the 300 Centurion tanks the army bought from England. Apparently the tanks did not function properly and the British manufacturing firm could not rectify the problem.

A contract to be signed with Israel stipulates that Israel will be paid two million Swiss Francs for every Centurion it converts. The entire deal is expected to net Israel 600 million Swiss Francs.

Exports to U.S. Top \$ Billion Mark

WILMINGTON, DEL. (Jerusalem Post) — A ceremony held here recently to mark the handing over of an Israel Aircraft Industries Westwind plane to the Atlantic Aviation company also marked the first time Israel has topped \$1 billion in annual exports to the U.S.

Exports to the U.S. of the Westwind will this past year reach \$160m., an Israel Aircraft Industries spokesman said. Of the 52 planes the company has marketed this past year, 75 percent are to go to the U.S.

Israel Can Produce All It Needs

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Rafael Eitan says that Israel can produce all its needs. He told the Industry and Commerce Club that Israel, despite its size, has unlimited potential in the military, industrial and security fields and is able to produce everything it needs to protect itself. The only limiting factor was the economic one, and defense production over a period of time would come at the expense of consumer goods.

Improving Kibbutz Lifestyles

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Color TV in every home, telephones in every room and free calls for members, cable TV for all members (when it reaches Israel) — these are some of the services to be enjoyed by 11 kibbutzim in the Negev under a contract signed between them and a local communications company, Tel-Gal of Tel Aviv.

Each of the 11 kibbutzim has put a reported \$450,000 into the project, designed to markedly improve and ease the lifestyles of their members.

Large Corporations More Open

PHILADELPHIA (Jewish Post & Opinion) — A profound change in the attitude toward Jews of large corporations has taken place in the last five years — a change that has meant the

emergence of high-level Jewish executives at such firms as AT&T, General Motors and Conoco. So said Irving Shapiro, retired chairman and chief executive of DuPont, in a recent interview with the Philadelphia Jewish Exponent. Speaking of big business in general, he said, "There are still pockets of bias, but no pervasive problem."

Shapiro had some advice to young Jews who wish to climb the corporate ladder. "Don't worry about being Jewish," he said, "worry about being good."

Anti-Semitic Acts on The Rise in Massachusetts

BOSTON (JTA) — An official of ADL has charged that law enforcement agencies are not taking seriously the alarming upsurge of anti-Semitic acts of vandalism and defacement of property reported in Massachusetts during the past year. According to ADL, the number of such incidents in the state nearly doubled, rising from 34 in 1980 to 64 in 1981.

Most frequent were the scrawling of swastikas and graffiti such as "Hitler should have burned all Jews," "Jews should be buried," "kike" and "Kill Jews" found on homes, synagogues, businesses, schools and public transportation facilities.

Move to Reduce the Number of Children Of Emissaries Abroad Who Study in Non-Jewish Schools

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The joint government-Jewish Agency coordinating body will discuss ways to reduce the number of children of official emissaries abroad who study in non-Jewish public and private schools. Many Israeli youngsters whose parents were sent abroad on government or other public missions do not attend Jewish schools in their local communities. According to the written contract signed by all emissaries these school-age children must be given a Jewish and Zionist education while abroad.

Thoroughbreds Boost Hopes

TEL AVIV (Jerusalem Post Reporter) — The recent sale of three Israeli thoroughbred racing horses in Newmarket, England has boosted hopes among Israeli breeders that horses may soon become a successful export product. British agent

Valerie Barnes of Newmarket stated that Israel has great potential in this field.

Yael Artzi Tishby, who deals with horse exports at the Export Institute, said that there are fewer than 20 farms and breeders in this new branch. But the favorable climate and the great expertise of Israeli breeders makes it likely that horses will become a profitable export branch.

Company to Make Artificial Pancreas

TEL AVIV (Jerusalem Post Reporter) — A new company called Omicron Scientific Inc., which will specialize in manufacturing an artificial pancreas and an advanced heart pace-maker, has been set up here.

Mennen Medical developed a pace-maker several years ago which is now widely used in Israel and abroad. Its know-how will be transferred to Omicron, which will start working on the development of the advanced pace-maker.

Work on the artificial pancreas, which will regulate insulin for sufferers of diabetes, was started several months ago.

First Application Of Solar Power Produces French Fries

TEL AVIV (JTA) — The first application of solar power for commercial purposes began in Israel on December 13. A specially built computer activated 500-square meters of solar energy collectors to produce steam running an electric generator at the Tapud food factory in Shaar Hanegev. The product: French fried potatoes.

The solar power plant, known as the Luz system or LS-I, was designed by Arnold Goldman, an engineer who recently immigrated from the U.S. American experts described it as the most efficient solar generator in the world. The Tapud factory is the first to use it on a commercial basis.

The system is composed of a battery of long parabolic mirrors in the form of troughs which reflect sunlight on an oil-filled pipe in the center of the trough. The liquid in the pipe absorbs the sun's heat and transforms it into steam energy at temperatures of up to 250 degrees C. The computer keeps the troughs pointed directly at the sun for maximum efficiency.

My Synagogue Education In Brooklyn

By Saul Brenner

Attending synagogue in Brooklyn was a crucial part of my education. In the 1950's I lived with my family in the Midwood section of Brooklyn, one of the more affluent Jewish neighborhoods in that borough. The area contained many single family homes as well as the high-rise apartment houses of Ocean Parkway. Most of the Jewish men in this neighborhood were successful businessmen or professionals and it was usual for their children to go to Ivy League colleges or professional schools. There were numerous synagogues in the area. The one my family attended was Young Israel of Flatbush.

Every Shabbat morning the Young Israel was packed with people and often latecomers were compelled to stand in the back or in the aisles. There was much *davening* and loud singing during the service. Everyone was involved and participating. But in addition to the *davening* there was also a great deal of conversation taking place. In the men's section downstairs the principle topics of conversation were: the stock market, American politics as it pertained to Jewish interests, shul politics, neighborhood news, and, at times, the por-

tion of the week.

During the reading of the Torah I would leave my father to go up to the men's section in the balcony, where a number of my friends were sitting. There we participated in heavy intellectual discussions, informed by our amateur knowledge of psychology, philosophy, comparative religion, and a host of other fields. I still remember a talk I had with Zev Wanderer, who is now a psychologist in Beverly Hills, concerning the power of God and his failure to intervene during the Holocaust. This conversation took place years before Richard Rubenstein wrote his famous book on the same topic. I also remember talking with a friend who was studying to be a Conservative rabbi concerning the Bible as seen through the eyes of modern scholarship.

In a sense our combination of prayer and talk was simply a newer and more secular version of the mixture taking place in the men's section downstairs. We wanted to attend the synagogue, both because we liked the service and because of parental pressure, but we also had a strong drive to learn. In any event the shul we attended was very much alive with all kinds of noise and singing.

First Arab-Jewish Class

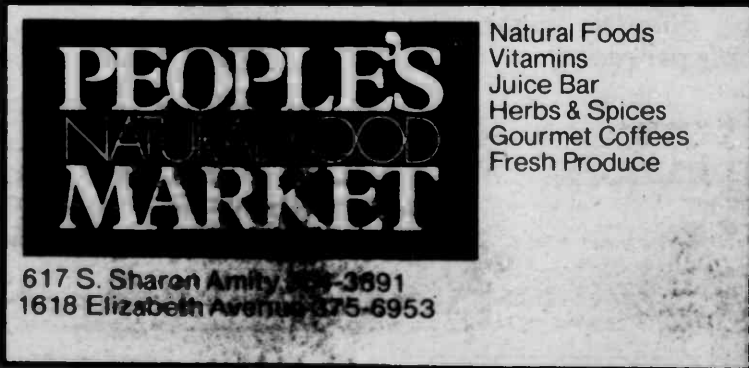
(Jerusalem Post) — The country's first Jewish-Arab integrated class has just been opened in Nazareth, an Education Ministry spokesman announced. The class is made up of about 50 volunteer Arab and Jewish eighth and ninth graders, selected from several schools in the Jewish Upper Nazareth and Arab Nazareth. The pupils all want to specialize in mathematics and science.



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