

**JEWISH AGENCY'S BUDGET DOUBLES**

JERUSALEM (WNS)—The Jewish Agency's Board of Governors, meeting in Jerusalem for the first time since the war, has approved an increase in the Agency's budget from \$410 to \$720 Million.

All of the funds will be spent on housing, health, welfare, education and absorption. The board also approved a \$40 million program to aid the absorption of college-educated immigrants. Also approved was a target of \$1.25 million for the fund raising bodies, United Jewish Appeal and Keren Hayesod, over an 18-month period starting in April.

The main items in this goal are: \$235 million for absorption; 308 million for immigrant housing; \$92 million for welfare; \$41 million for health; \$190 million for higher education and another \$75 million for other educational projects, grants and stipends, and \$125 million for agricultural settlements.

Board chairman Max Fisher of Detroit said the war had deepened Jewish identity with Israel. But at the same time it has vastly increased the Agency's duties and responsibilities. He noted that the new target had been established by diaspora leaders, not in response to Israeli appeals as had been in the case of the \$1.25 billion pledged during the Yom Kippur War.

The Agency's acting chairman, Leon Dulzin, reported that 14,344 immigrants had arrived in Israel in the last three months of 1973

and 54,866 throughout the year. Of these, 33,600 were from Soviet Russia.

Albert B. Adelman, United Jewish Appeal, national chairman from Milwaukee, and Board member of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, has been named chairman of the Agency's Absorption Committee. A veteran campaigner, Adelman is chairman of the 1974 UJA Study Conference Planning Committee, vice president of the UJA and a member of the Agency's board of governors. The Agency's Board also appointed Sam Morgenstern, an international manpower expert, as a permanent advisor for a new project to create job opportunities for college-trained immigrants.

**URGE BILLION ISRAEL BOND SALE**

TEL AVIV (WNS)—Some 500 Israel Bond Campaign leaders were told by Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir that \$1 billion in Israel Bonds must be sold to restore the momentum of Israel's economic growth, slowed by the Yom Kippur War, and to stimulate industrial production in the years ahead.

Speaking at the 1974 International Bonds Conference convened by Premier Golda Meir, Sapir said the direct cost to Israel of the war was IL 30 billion and the dislocation of the economy cost

several billions more. He said that there will not be a resurgence in the economy as after the Six-Day War since the "October war came at a time of peak economic effort and the adverse effect on the economy cannot be overcome because of the fact that a larger part of the labor force is still in uniform."

The Bond leaders assured Sapir that they would make every effort to reach the \$ billion goal.

The North American delegation, led by Sam Rothberg, Israel Bonds Organization general

chairman, had arrived in Israel by landing at an Air Force base where they witnessed a military exercise. "We have come to commit ourselves to the strengthening of Israel during this period of momentous decisions," Rothberg said at the welcoming ceremony.

**CHAYEFSKY BRUSHES FRANCE**

NEW YORK (WNS)—Paddy Chayefsky has demanded the withdrawal of all of his plays scheduled for television production in France because of "the behavior of the French government during the recent Middle East war."

Chayefsky declared: "The picture of France on its knees groveling before the Arab oil producing countries has aroused in me so profound a contempt for France that I no longer wish to have any of my works done in that country."

**ISRAELITE ADS PAY**

**VALENTINE'S DAY**

Valentine's Day is a whirl of hearts, candy, and good wishes in the form of red and white cards saying, Be My Valentine."

The day derives from the old Roman feast of Lupercalia, the 'lovers' festival, celebrated on February 15. However, in 496 Pope Gelasius changed the date to Feb. 14, St. Valentine's Day. The romance and fun of the Roman Holiday have remained mingled with many ancient customs and superstitions.

In England, custom decrees that if a single girl walked around a certain church twelve times at midnight and said, "I sow hempseed hempseed I sow, he that loves me best, come after me now," her true Valentine will appear. In Sicily, it is said that if a young lady gets up at sunrise on Saint Valentine's Day to peer through her window, the first single man to walk by, is the man she will marry.

By: Cathy Trapani

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