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Qattara Project Nasser's Newest Plan for Egypt

By DAVID BISAI
United Press International
Cairo (UPI) — President Abdel
Gamal Nasser offers the Qattara
Depression Project as his latest
scheme to make the Egyptian desert
green.

If completed it will rival the
Aswan High Dam in economic po-
tential.
The plan calls for transferring
water from the Mediterranean Sea
through a 35-mile canal into Qat-
tara Depression, a huge, 10,000-
square-mile crater that dips as low
as 420 feet below sea level.

From the resulting waterfall some
3.1 billion kilowatt-hours could be
generated annually during the first
25 years of the project's operation.
When the water level in the crater
reaches its highest level power
could be turned out at a steady 2
billion kilowatt-hours yearly, en-
gineers report.

The entire project — digging the
canal and building a power station
and electrical power network —
would take five years. Cost has
been estimated at \$380 million.

West Germany is considered the
most likely candidate to undertake
the construction of the project. A
team of German experts is sched-
uled to arrive in Egypt this month.
Informed sources said Japanese and
British firms have also shown inter-
est.

Electricity is only part of the
economic benefits the Egyptian
government seeks from Qattara.

The transfer of water from the
Mediterranean would create a 7,000-
square-mile lake — three times the
size of the lake resulting from
construction of the Aswan High
Dam — in the depression area some
160 miles northwest of Cairo.

The artificial lake would link a
mineral producing area in the west-
ern desert with the shipping facili-
ties of the Mediterranean. The
man-created water surface would
also result in more rainfall in the
arid area, aiding in cultivation.

South of the Qattara Depression
the Egyptian government is already
at work on a large-scale desert
reclamation project paralleling the
Nile River. Since reclamation there
depends upon subterranean water,
experts believe a new artificial lake
would raise the level of these
underground waters.

With more water in this area the

government estimates it could re-
claim an additional four or five
million acres of land in the western
desert.
A major problem blocking start
of construction of the Qattara pro-
ject is removal of
British minefields of World War II.
The Ministry of Work has secured
maps locating the mines, dating
back to the battle of El Alamein,
from the American Sahara Petro-
leum Company which has been
prospecting in the area.

But it estimates that it will take
two years and cost \$5.6 million to
remove all the mines.

Appointment

(Cont. from page 10)

vities, Mr. Meiri will be engaged in
the following projects: Israel Sum-
mer Institute; Institute for Jewish
Youth Leaders from Abroad, in
Jerusalem; AWPPI — American

Work and Study Project in Israel;
PATWA — Professional and Tech-
nical Workers Aliyah; Institute on
Zionism and Israel; Program Ser-
vices to Summer Camps; Educa-
tional Publications of the Depart-

ment; co-ordination of Zionist
Youth Work in Canada.
Mr. Meiri is a veteran educator
of Youth Aliyah, has served for
many years on the directors board
of the Magdiel and Neveh-Hada-

sah Youth Village. In recent years
he has been principal of the ele-
mentary school in Ramleh.

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B'NAI B'RITH BUILDS IN ISRAEL

B'nai B'rith president Label A. Katz addresses an outdoor gathering at
cornerstone exercises to mark construction start of a B'nai B'rith House in
Tel Aviv. U. S. Ambassador Ogden Reid, Israel Cabinet Minister Abba Eban
and other Israeli civic and religious leaders joined in the ceremony. Katz
also met with Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion (right) who praised the
B'nai B'rith project. Planned as a focal point for expanded B'nai B'rith
activities in Israel, the \$350,000 two-story structure will feature a
museum, dining hall and an auditorium that will seat one-thousand.



GERMAN-ISRAEL TRADE PACT TO FOLLOW?

By SAUL CARSON
JTA Staff Correspondent

Hamburg — Seven top leaders of the Hamburg Chamber
of Commerce predicted this week that the West German-
Israel reparations pact will be replaced at its 1963 expiration
with a stronger agreement based on a possible substantial
expansion of private trade between the two countries.

The bankers and industrialists declared that if West
German-Israel trade could be developed on a "give and
take" basis, there could be a very high level of commerce
between the two countries. The statement was made
to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency at a round table of

West German affairs held at the Anglo-American club.
Rudolf Berckholtz, vice-president of the Hamburg
Chamber of Commerce and a leading export-import
merchant, presided.

While such trade now is fairly sizable, most of it is tied
to the reparations agreement. The dimensions of such trade
were described by G. E. Susse, general director of the office
of Economic Affairs of the West German Ministry of Econ-
omics at Frankfurt. He also revealed that West German
trade with the United Arab Republic was almost four times
as much as with Israel.

It was affirmed meanwhile in Bonn that the West
German Government will not enter into a new repara-

tions agreement with Israel on expiration of the present
agreement. The announcement was made by Felix von
Eckhardt, Minister of State and chief aide of Chancellor
Konrad Adenauer. He told a visiting group of five
United Nations correspondents that "neither the Govern-
ment nor the Parliament nor Israel envisages a new
reparations agreement after 1963."

An agreement detailing the list of goods to be sent to Israel
this year under the German reparations pact, was signed by
Dr. F. Shinner, head of the Israel Mission, and Dr. Hans
Goers, an official of the West German foreign ministry. The
amount of West German reparations in 1960 will total about
\$60,000,000.

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World News In Brief

Cairo

According to the Middle East News Agency, the Jewish community of
Qamishli participated in the 'Union Day' which marked the second anni-
versary of the creation of the United Arab Republic. Members of the
community are reported as having paraded with placards hailing the
anniversary and proclaiming their loyalty to Nasser and Quwatli.

Geneva

Some 1,500 of the 2,300 Jews who lived in Agadir were killed in the earth-
quake and tidal wave that smashed great sections of the Moroccan
coastal town, it was reported here this week. The city's Jewish section
and the Moslem quarter on the seaside which it adjoined were wiped out.
The world Jewish Congress in New York has sent a message of sym-
pathy to King Mohammed of Morocco on the Agadir disaster. World
Jew Congress President Nahum Goldmann also dispatched a \$1,000 gift
to the Moroccan Red Crescent for Agadir victims.

Haifa

Seven steel-shielded cases, containing 6.5 kilograms of enriched uranium,
arrived here this week by steamer from the United States for Israel's
first atomic reactor. The reactor, constructed with American aid, is
expected to go into operation by the end of April.

Jerusalem

Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik of Boston withdrew his candidacy as
Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi of Israel because of the political turmoil that
had surrounded the campaign. He said that his decision "was final".
There were reports that he might be persuaded to change his mind.

An agreement was signed this week between Kaiser-Frazer of Haifa and
the Studebaker-Packard Company providing for the assembly of Stude-
baker's Lark model compact cars in the Haifa plant. The Lark will sell
in Israel for about 11,000 pounds (\$6,000). Assembly by the Haifa plant
of the Renault cars was discontinued last year, when the French firm
surrendered to the Arab boycott and canceled contracts for the assembly
of the car by Kaiser-Frazer.

Minneapolis

Jewish federations and welfare funds have raised close to two billion
dollars for social service and health needs since World War II, Irving
Kane of Cleveland, president of the Council of Jewish Federations and
Welfare Funds, declared at the 30th annual meeting of the Federation
for Jewish Services of Minneapolis last week.

New York

The National Welfare Board this week announced that Jewish Youth
Week will be observed this year from March 25 to April 1. Theme of
the 1960 observance will be "Values To Live By — As Jews and as
Americans." Locally, Jewish community centres, YM-YWHA's, syna-
gogues, youth councils and other groups will conduct programs and
activities keyed to the Week.

Paris

An impressive ceremony of renaming a Paris street "Place d'Israel" —
decided recently by the Paris Municipal Council — took place this week.

Rome

Pope John XXIII received in audience a group of 84 Canadian Jewish
community leaders who stopped here en route to Israel on a tour
organized by the Israel Bond Organization. The group, which includes
Mayor Nathan Phillips of Toronto, was given a reception during the
week-end by Israel Ambassador Elisha Sasson. On Saturday, the Cana-
dian Jewish leaders were honored at a reception at Rome's main syna-
gogue. Earlier in Madrid, the city's mayor gave a reception in honor
of the visitors, the first time in four centuries since the expulsion that
Jews were honored by a Spanish city. When passing through Prejus,
near the French-Italian border, the group gave a \$500 donation to help
the victims of the flood disaster which hit that town several months ago.

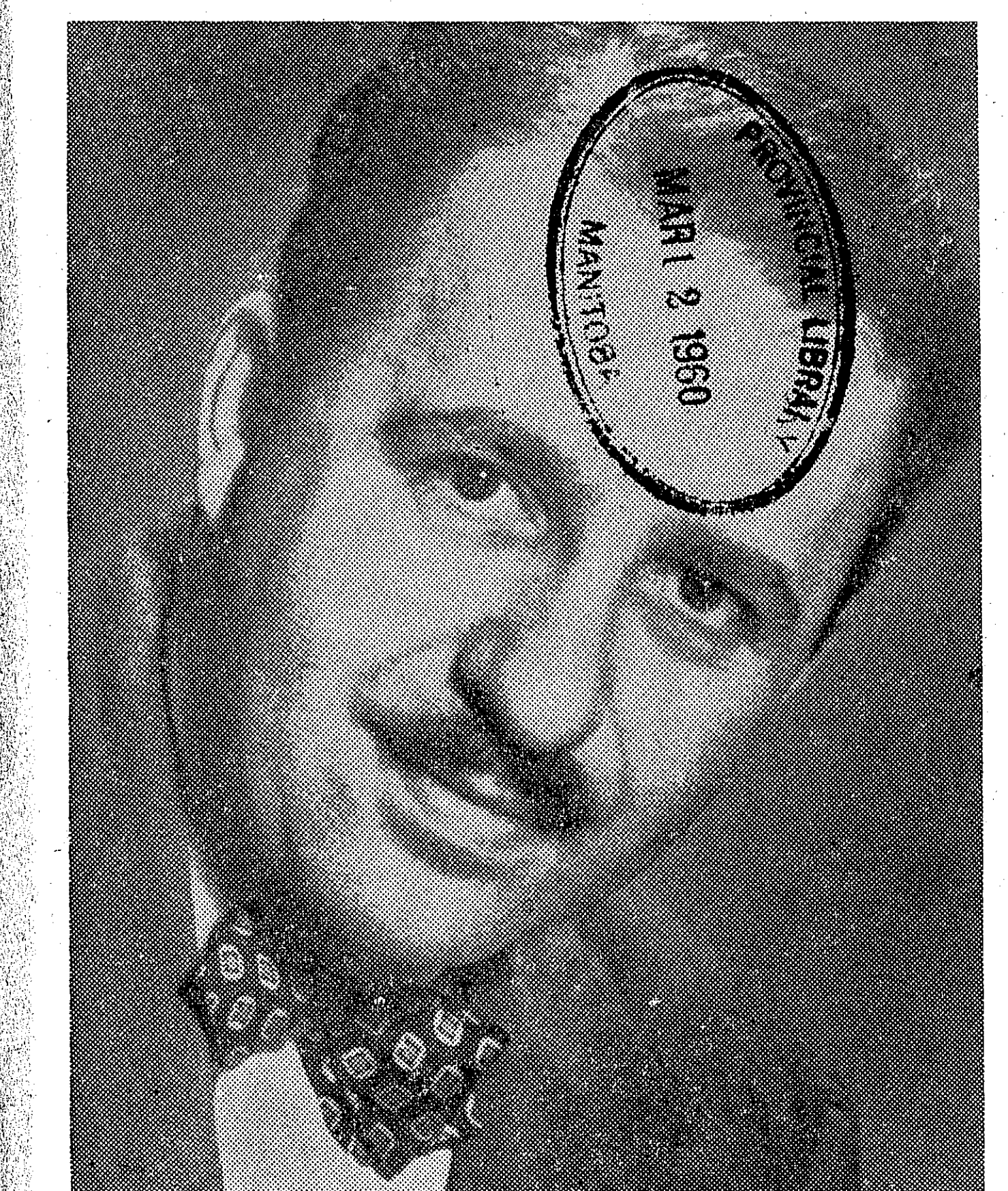
Tel Aviv

Reports of large-scale infiltration into Israel territory of Egyptian-trained
fedayeen units received confirmation when a unit was intercepted by
an Israel Army patrol several miles inside Israel's western Negev border.

The ninth annual convention of the Association of Americans and Cana-
dians in Israel opened here with greetings by the Canadian Ambassador
to Israel, Miss Margaret Meagher and by U.S. Ambassador Ogden Reid.
One of the major problems to be dealt with at the convention will
be that of suitable housing to encourage immigration from countries
with high living standards.

Winnipeg

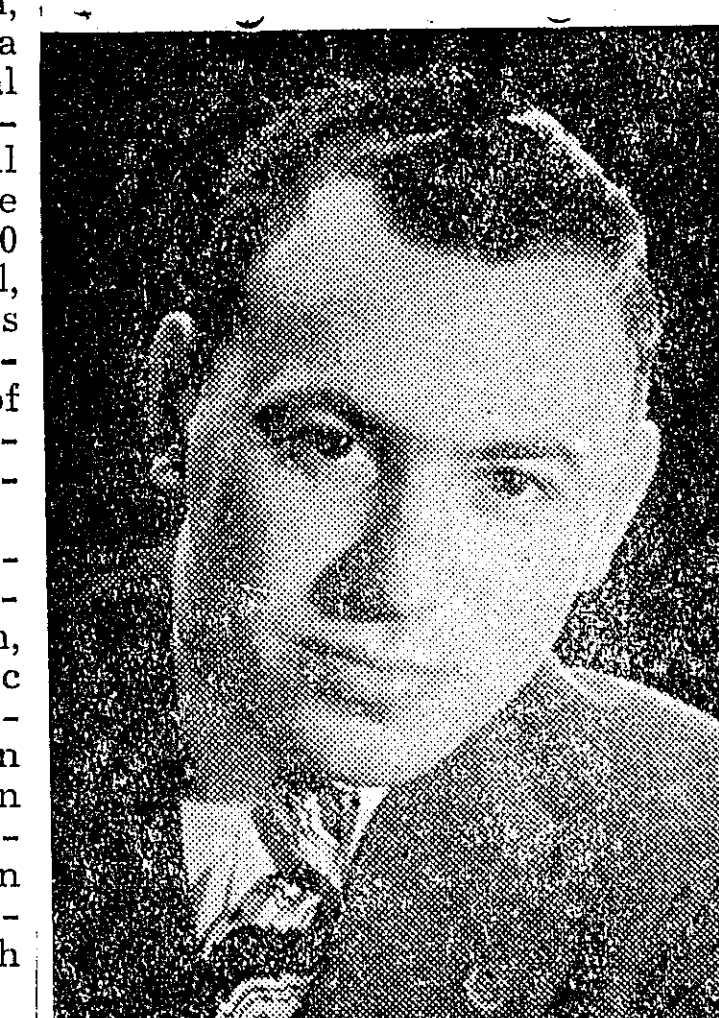
The Attorney General of the Province of Manitoba has introduced a bill
in the provincial legislature to ban discrimination in places of public
accommodation on grounds of race, religion, color and ethnic or national
origin. The measure is expected to receive the support of all parties
in the legislature.



I. L. KENEN — Dinner Guest Speaker

Men's Child Rescue Dinner Set For Wednesday Evening, March 16

Dinner chairman A. L. Simkin, who has just returned from a
pilgrimage to Israel, said unusual
interest has been stirred up through-
out the city in the tenth annual
Men's Child Rescue Dinner to be
held Wednesday, March 16, at 6:30
p.m. at the Royal Alexandra hotel,
sponsored by Pioneer Women's
Organization. Mr. Simkin also dis-
closed that a dedicated group of
sponsors will host the dinner, re-
leasing total proceeds for Child Res-
cue operations in Israel.



A. L. SIMKIN
... dinner chairman

A compact program has been ar-
ranged for the dinner with the spot-
light on guest speaker I. L. Kenen,
director of American-Israel Public
Affairs committee, and who cur-
rently is engaged in a vital role in
Washington in promoting American
friendship for Israel and in com-
bating Arab propaganda. Mr. Kenen
is an outstanding writer and lec-
turer known for his grasp of Jewish
affairs and his ready wit.

Dinner music will be supplied by
an ensemble of the Jewish Com-
munity Orchestra, sponsored by the
Jewish Musical Club.

Mr. Kenen will also address the
Pioneer Women's Awards Luncheon
at 12:30 noon, March 16, in Royal
Alexandra hotel, hosted by Alex

Cham. The luncheon will honor
those women who have distin-
guished themselves in efforts for

See A Movie Tonight!



NOW PLAYING AT THE FOLLOWING THEATRES

- CAPITOL — Kenneth Moore and Dana Wynter in "Sink the Bismarck." (General)
- METROPOLITAN — Walt Disney's "Toby Tyler." Technicolor. (General)
- GAITEY — Nominated for 5 academy awards including best picture of the year. Laurence Harvey, Simone Signoret in "Room at the Top." (Restricted Adult)
- GARRICK — Two blood chilling shock hits, "The Mummy," all new in terrifying technicolor. Special added shocker, "Curse of the Undead." (Adult)
- ODEON — Held over third week, Gregory Pack, Ava Gardner, Fred Astaire, "On the Beach." (Adult)
- DELUXE — "The Diary of Anne Frank," plus "Davy." (General)

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