...y Desert Declared Important ...e in Current Palestine Fight

By Relman Morin
AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

...e is one of the stakes, in ...e, in the Palestine con-

...eli government announ- ...h troops have taken an- ...tsba in the very heart ...ev, a wasteland.

...ght for a wasteland? In ...of appeasement, Musso- ...offered a similar territory ...and he rejected the of- ...the scornful wisecrack, ...collector of deserts."

...ny nation if it has a ...e Israel, there is not ...ion. Her spokesmen con- ...she must have the Negev, not only for future expansion, but to achieve the Jewish dream of a modern state with an economy evenly balanced between agriculture and industry.

The Negev is a pretty poor area. It is a little smaller, in square miles, than Connecticut, but there is no further resemblance between them. The Negev is barren, waterless, bleak, brown and unfriendly. It looks incredibly old, and if it ever had any value for humans, none is apparent now.

Never Mapped

For this reason, it has never been mapped. Probably it has never been entirely explored.

Nevertheless, Israel claims it, and is expending blood and treasure to get it. These are the reasons:

The new state is already feeling population pressure. Immigration since the end of the war, and particularly within the past year, has brought the population mark to nearly 800,000.

Many thousands more are waiting in Europe to go into Palestine. The planning of the Jewish agency, before the end of the year, embraced about 1,000,000 people. Some 600,000 Jews were then living in Palestine.

To carry out this program, the Israeli government contends that it must have that desert territory. And, in fact, the original United Nations plan, proposed last November, alloted most of the Negev to Israel.

(Meanwhile, of course, many of the key points in it are occupied by the Egyptian army.)

The new state cannot expand northward, except at the expense of Lebanon. On the east are Syria and Trans-Jordan. The sea is on the west. Hence, the Jews must look to the south, toward a desert.

Population is not the only factor. Industrial potentiality—and it is only a potentiality now—is equally important.

During the years of the British mandate, the Jews conducted extensive experiments, and with considerable success, in areas not greatly different from the Negev.

They were able to organize collective farms in other desert lands, and make them produce. They went into the weird land bordering on the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea, prospecting for minerals and setting up chemical works.

They propose to do the same thing now in the Desert of Negev. They argue that a state of Israel based on agriculture alone cannot exist. It would have no coal, iron or oil. To import these commodities, even for light industry, would be beyond the resources of the country, they claim.

Unknown Resources

Whether the Negev holds any mineral or other resources is unknown, of course. But it is the best hope of Israel, and in fact the only one.

Thus, though it be a poor choice, the Jews have taken it. Unlike Mussolini, they do intend to collect a desert.

...ross Groups ...et in Corvallis

...Red Cross student repre- ...and teacher sponsors ...rounding counties will ...Corvallis Saturday, Oct. ...plans for the 1948-49 ...program of the organiza-

...ting Lane County Red ...Chapter will be Joan Pain, ...Brown and Suzanne Mills, ...City. They will lead two ...discussion groups for the ...section.

...al meeting in the morn- ...precede afternoon sec- ...ings on JRC chairmen ...ittee members, teachers ...-sponsors, high school ...and elementary school ...Student leaders who at- ...the JRC leadership train- ...this summer and dele- ...the National JRC con- ...last June will report on ...y, national and inter- ...phases of Junior Red

...entertainment and lunch- ...be provided by the Ben- ...ty Chapter. During ...and November there will ...similar meetings in seven ...states.

...ion Kills One ...g-Shrouded Road

...(AP)—A two-car colli- ...the fog-shrouded Pacific ...15 miles south of here ...Seattle man and injured ...her Washington state resi- ...Friday night.

...victim was Dale R. Cleve- ...Delbert W. Cleveland, rid- ...the same car, was hurt. ...Mrs. Jack Larson, Long- ...dents at Willamette Uni- ...here, who were riding in ...automobile, were also

...three injured persons were ...in Albany hospital.

V. Edwin
...OHNSON
for
...AYOR

...endly, open-minded ...date for a better town ...ich to live.

...Mayor Comm. ...Adv. Phil Nordling, Chm.,

Local Men Enlist

Two Eugene men and one from Saginaw have enlisted in the U.S. Regular Army, according to M/Sgt. Lewis Hammack, U.S. Army Recruiting station in Eugene.

James F. Rouse, 20, of Saginaw, son of Mrs. Clara M. Rouse, has enlisted in the Army Air Force, unassigned, for three years.

Albin F. Sokolosky, 18, 685 Lincoln St., son of Henry Sokolosky, enlisted for the First Infantry Division in Germany, and Donald N. Hickey, 18, 1591 High St., son of Niles Hickey, enlisted in the Regular Army, unassigned, for three years.

Parker Gets Ticket From Brother Cop

BELVIDERE, Ill.—(U.P.)—Patrolman LeRoy Kaschub of the Belvidere police department saw his duty and did it.

On the first day after the city's 259 parking meters were officially in operation, Kaschub gave a ticket to his brother Carl.

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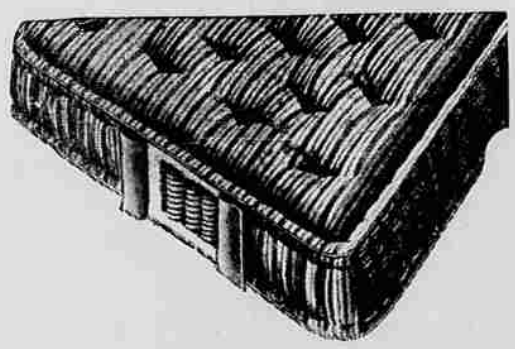

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