

TRUMAN MOURNS DEATH OF ABRAHAM CAHAN; SECRETARY OF LABOR TO REPRESENT HIM AT FUNERAL

NEW YORK, Sept. 3. (JTA) -- President Truman today expressed his sorrow over the death of Abraham Cahan, retired editor of the Jewish Daily Forward, who died Friday evening in Beth Israel Hospital, at the age of 91.

In a message addressed to Alexander Kahn, general manager of the Forward, Mr. Truman emphasized Mr. Cahan's services "as teacher and guide to generations of Jewish immigrants" and said that his death will be mourned by all citizens in the country who saw in him the personification of true Americanism. The President will be represented at the funeral by Secretary of Labor Maurice Tobin.

The funeral, which is scheduled to take place on Wednesday afternoon and to start from the Jewish Daily Forward building, will be attended by representatives of the New York City Government, Israel Government, Jewish Agency, numerous labor unions and all major Jewish organizations. Messages of condolence have been pouring into the offices of the Jewish Daily Forward from all parts of the world. (At a meeting of the newly-elected executive of the World Zionist Organization, held in Jerusalem, Berl Locker eulogized the late Forward editor.)

The New York Times and the Herald Tribune carry editorials depicting Mr. Cahan's role in Jewish life. The Herald Tribune points out that much of the amelioration of working conditions in the needle trades and other industries was due to Cahan's work and writings. "Today thousands of people live better because Abraham Cahan lived," the editorial says. The New York Times emphasizes that Cahan's main aim was to serve the masses.

Mr. Cahan, who built the Jewish Daily Forward into one of the most powerful foreign language newspapers in the United States, was also well known for his novels. Born in Vilna in 1860, he arrived in the United States at the age of 22 with two dollars in his pocket. In the first three months he learned enough English to begin giving lessons to other immigrants. Later he joined the editorial staff of "The Commercial Advertiser" and wrote short stories for various English magazines. In 1917 came his best-known book "The Rise of David Levinsky."

Mr. Cahan was one of the founders of the Jewish Daily Forward, which started publication in 1897. He edited the newspaper for a short time and left it to work in the English press. However, in 1907 he was invited to resume editorship of the Forward which at that time had a circulation of 6,000. He agreed to return, provided he would receive a free hand. It did not take him long to increase the circulation of the newspaper to more than 200,000.

AGUDAS YOUTH GROUP ENDS CONVENTION; CALLS FOR "TORAH CHALUTZIM" FOR ISRAEL

HURLEYVILLE, N.Y., Sept. 3. (JTA) -- The three-day 29th annual convention of Zeirei Agudath Israel of America, religious youth movement, closed here today after adopting a resolution calling on American Orthodox Jewish youth to serve as "Torah Chalutzim" in Israel's immigrant camps and labor villages and to spread religious education among newly-arrived children in Israel.

The 500 delegates also accepted a resolution sharply criticizing the World Zionist Organization for asking for recognition as the sole representative of world Jewry in relation to immigration and fund-raising for Israel. Other resolutions urged expansion of the organization's servicemen's bureau and for Orthodox groups to establish a bureau to license Orthodox Hebrew teachers.

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U.J.A. LEADERS CONFER WITH ISRAEL GOVT.; WILL CALL PARLEY IN N.Y.

JERUSALEM, Sept. 4, (JTA) -- A national conference of the United Jewish Appeal will be called for October 27-28 in an effort to mobilize the largest possible cash sums for Israel before the end of the year, it was announced here today. The conference will take place in New York.

The announcement was made following a conference here of U.J.A. leaders and top officials of the Israel Government, including Premier David Ben Gurion. The U.J.A. delegation is headed by Edward M.M. Warburg, general chairman of the U.J.A.

U.N. AWAITS EGYPT'S ACTION ON ORDER TO LIFT SUEZ BLOCKADE

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Sept. 4, (JTA) -- The United Nations is waiting to hear what the Egyptians intend to do about the Security Council directive calling on them to lift their traffic restrictions in the Suez Canal, U.N. officials said today. There was no time limit to such a response in the Security Council resolution passed last Saturday so there is no telling how long the waiting period will be.

Officials said, however, that if Egypt refused to comply, presumably the members of the Security Council would meet and decide what to do about that non-compliance. The previous outstanding case of non-compliance with a Security Council order was the series of Dutch refusals to cease fire in Indonesia on order of the Council. In those cases the Council kept pressing its demands and eventually brought a settlement of the Dutch-Indonesian conflict.

Were any nation, such as Israel, to decide that the Council was waiting too long for compliance with its Suez order, U.N. officials pointed out, that nation could call the Council's attention to the situation. It was stressed that there is no reason why the blockade issue should merely lapse because of inaction by Egypt.

Egypt Warned to Obey U.N. Order on Suez Canal

LONDON, Sept. 4, (JTA) -- A warning to Egypt to comply with the decision of the United Nations Security Council on the lifting of the Suez Canal blockade against Israel was voiced today in an editorial in the London Times. Analyzing the decision calling on Egypt to stop interfering with Suez Canal shipping, the paper declares:

"The only meaning to be given to statements made by members of the Egyptian Government is that Egypt will still defy the world. If she does, the world--spurred on no doubt by Israel and the maritime powers which have suffered patiently--will have to take steps to ensure her compliance with the law. Anything else will discredit the law and the United Nations."

RUSSIA QUESTIONS JEWISH EMPLOYEES ABOUT RELATIVES IN ISRAEL

LONDON, Sept. 4, (JTA) -- Between March and June of this year Jewish employees of state-owned stores in the Soviet Union were called in by the authorities and questioned about friends and relatives in Israel or about their contacts with Israeli diplomatic personnel stationed in Moscow, according to a letter published in the London Daily Telegraph and signed by one Jan Olechowski.

The writer, who says his information was furnished by Jews who recently fled from Minsk and Odessa and from Eastern European countries, declares that four such Jewish employees were expelled from Odessa and that others are under the constant watch of the police. One Jew who received a bulletin from the Israeli legation in Warsaw was arrested and has not been heard from since, the letter states, adding that other Jews who had been in contact with the Israel legation sought to escape a similar fate and fled to the Middle East.

The writer maintains that anti-Semitism was always alive in Russia, but that from the moment the Jewish state was established the secret police and the civil administration was ordered to purge all Jewish elements suspected of sympathy with it. "Jews working in Soviet propaganda and information offices or on newspapers or in clubs or cultural centers are now under close, constant scrutiny," he writes. "Cosmopolitanism or Jewish nationalism is among the chief reasons for dismissals, expulsions and arrests."

The letter concludes: "Another example of this anti-Semitic trend in Soviet policy was the expulsion in June from the Academy of Science of three well known Jewish professors of Chemistry--Kabacznik, Woikensztein and Syrkin."

RUMANIA CONTINUES TO HAMPER EMIGRATION OF JEWS TO ISRAEL

HAIFA, Sept. 4, (JTA) -- The difficulty Rumanian Jews are encountering in obtaining exit visas continues to keep down the number arriving here. For the third successive time, the Rumanian immigrant vessel Transylvania arrived today with considerably fewer passengers than it can accommodate. The latest group numbers 859. It is composed mostly of elderly people.

(An official announcement issued this week in Bucharest said that about 55,000 Jews in Rumania are presently employed in machine, metal and other heavy industries. Many Jews are working in the management, engineering and technical levels of these industries, but most are skilled craftsmen, the announcement added.)

COUNSELLOR OF ISRAEL EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON TRANSFERRED TO LONDON

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4, (JTA) -- Dr. Moshe Keren, Counsellor of the Embassy of Israel here for the last two years, has been transferred to the Israel Legation in London and will leave about October 1. Dr. Keren is held in high esteem in Washington diplomatic circles. During the absence from Washington of the Ambassador, Dr. Keren served as charge d'affaires.

Yosef Ben-Simcha who was an honorary research associate in the food research division of the University of California at Berkeley last year, has been appointed scientific counsellor of the Israeli Legation in London. Mr. Ben-Simcha is an expert on citrus products which are Israel's main export to Britain. He was graduated from Harvard in 1921 and established the Central Citrus Products Research Laboratory in Israel four years ago.

### GERMANS PLAN TO EXCLUDE NAZI VICTIMS ABROAD FROM COMPENSATION

LONDON, Sept. 4. (JTA) -- The Council for the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Jews from Germany has sent a letter to West German authorities protesting against the draft of a German claims law which would exclude from compensation Nazi victims living outside Germany. The draft was drawn up by the North Rhine-Westphalia State Government in the British zone.

The Jewish Agency's legal department in London says that if the draft is approved by the provincial legislature, it would be the severest blow yet struck against the idea of indemnifying victims of the Nazis. The department points to the fact that legislation in the American and French zones of Germany, as well as in Berlin, makes no distinction between residents and non-residents.

### SCHACHT REAFFIRMS PLAN FOR PAYMENT OF REPARATIONS TO JEWS

SYDNEY, Sept. 4. (JTA) -- Hjalmar Schacht, former Nazi financial expert, who has been hired as an economic expert by the Indonesian Government, today reaffirmed support for his plan for German payment of reparations to the Jews.

Interviewed here by newsmen, Schacht said that his plan is being developed by his assistant, Dusko Popov, in Germany while Schacht is in the Pacific area. The former president of the Reichsbank has suggested that Germany issue reparations bonds negotiable in dollars which would be backed by mortgages on German shipping. The payment of reparations to the Jews he described as an "inescapable moral necessity."

### GERMAN EDITOR ARRESTED FOR ATTEMPT TO BLACKMAIL JEWISH LEADER

HAMBURG, Sept. 4. (JTA) -- Heinz Beversdorf, press officer of the rightist German Party has been arrested here, together with a Hungarian stateless person named Helig, on charges of attempting to blackmail the Jewish Central Committee of Germany.

Beversdorf, who is also editor of the "Deutsche Stimme," approached the Central Committee with an offer to sell it 8,000 copies of a pamphlet slandering Joseph Rosensaft, chairman of the Central Committee, written by Helig. The Central Committee refused to buy the pamphlets, for which Beversdorf asked 4,600 Deutsche marks. When he threatened to distribute them throughout Germany, the Central Committee called in the police who made the arrests. Beversdorf has been relieved of both his posts.

### NON-GOVERNMENTAL BODIES WANT GENOCIDE PACT RATIFIED

JAKARTA, Indonesia, Sept. 4. (JTA) -- Unless a large number of nations ratify the United Nations Convention Against Genocide the document will be no more than a "pious declaration" on the part of the countries concerned in drafting it, representatives of various non-governmental organizations declared in a resolution adopted here at an information conference.

The parley also adopted other resolutions dealing with the Declaration of Human Rights and with non-governmental organizations. Rabbi H.M. Sanger of Melbourne represented the Executive Council of Australian Jewry.

## U.S. JEWISH YOUTH URGED TO CONVENE WORLD JEWISH YOUTH CONGRESS

NARROWSBURG, N.Y., Sept. 4. (JTA) -- The convening of a World Jewish Youth Congress was proposed today at the fourth annual assembly of the National Jewish Youth Conference, which is being held at camp Wel-Met near here. The conference, which is sponsored by the National Jewish Welfare Board, represents 300 local, regional and national youth organizations whose combined membership totals more than 300,000 young men and women between the ages of 16 and 30.

The proposal was made by M. David Weiss of Munhall, Pa., Conference chairman, as part of his annual report. Mr. Weiss said that the World Jewish Youth Congress should be composed of youth representatives from all of the free nations of the world and would have its headquarters in Jerusalem. One of the aims of the Congress would be to achieve emigration for Jewish countries "where they are still denied their basic rights." He made it clear that he was referring to Iron Curtain countries.

Mr. Weiss called upon local communities to provide funds for scholarships to enable American youth leaders to study in Israel and to enable field workers (shlichim) from Israel to work and study in America. He asked the National Jewish Youth Conference to seek, in cooperation with the National Jewish Welfare Board, a broader sponsorship which would include all adult youth-serving agencies. He disclosed that the Conference has grown to include most major national Jewish youth organizations and virtually all local and regional youth and young adult councils.

Speaking to the delegates today, Dr. Israel Knox, Assistant Professor of Philosophy at New York University, predicted that for the next 20 or 30 years, "America will be a cultural reservoir" for Israel. "Israel's most important concern at the moment," Prof. Knox said, "is building of a new country. It has to provide food, shelter and jobs for thousands of immigrants. It has to develop its resources and its fortifications. It has very little time to develop and expand its culture."

## UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS MOVES TO NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Sept. 4. (JTA) -- The Union of American Hebrew Congregations, parent body of Reform Judaism in this country, today began functioning in its new \$1,000,000 headquarters here. The transfer of the Cincinnati office of the organization to New York marked an important development in the history of the U.A.H.C., which was founded more than 75 years ago in Cincinnati.

The new seven-story structure will house the Union and its affiliates, the National Federations of Temple Sisterhoods, Brotherhoods and Youth, the Jewish Chautauqua Society, the New York Federation of Reform Synagogues and the combined Campaign of the Union and the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

The move from Cincinnati, which has been the home city of Liberal Judaism since its inception in 1873, was authorized at the Union's biennial convention in Boston in 1948. The building itself was made possible through a gift by the late Dr. Albert A. Berg, noted surgeon and philanthropist, and by funds raised in the House of Living Judaism Campaign conducted by the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods. Formal dedication services of the new religious center will take place over a three-day period beginning Friday, October 26.