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Z. O. A. CONVENTION OPENS; SHAPIRO WITHDRAWS IN FAVOR OF REDELHEIM

NEW YORK, June 12. (JTA) -- The 55th annual convention of the Zionist Organization of America opened here tonight with a surprise withdrawal by Ezra Shapiro and Max Bressler, two candidates for the Z. O. A. presidency, in favor of Abraham Redelheim, the candidate sponsored by a group headed by Benjamin G. Browdy, outgoing president of the organization.

The announcement was made late in the afternoon, a few hours before the opening of the convention, which is attended by 2,000 delegates from all parts of the country. The race for Z. O. A. presidency was thus reduced to two candidates: Rabbi Irving Miller and Mr. Redelheim.

Following the announcement, about 50 prominent members of the three groups which joined forces to support Mr. Redelheim issued an appeal to all delegates for the formation of a coalition administration headed by Mr. Redelheim and based on the principles of non-identification with any party in Israel and collective responsibility in the conduct of the affairs of the Zionist Organization of America.

Among the signatories of the appeal were Dewey D. Stone, Louis Lipsky, Robert Szold, Judge Louis E. Levinthal, Louis P. Rocker, Jacob M. Alkow, Samuel H. Daroff, Fred Monosson, Louis Falk, Albert D. Schanzer, Abraham Finkelstein and others. The agreement on which the appeal was based also provided that in place of the so-called Inner Committee hitherto functioning as the president's advisory committee, the president shall name a committee - to be known as the cabinet - to be submitted for approval to the first meeting of the executive committee.

"The Cabinet shall include the president, the chairman of the national executive committee, the chairman of the administrative council, the treasurer, and the chairmen of all standing sub-committees," the agreement said. "Each member of the cabinet shall have a specific duty or portfolio assigned to him. The cabinet shall be collectively responsible for the policies and administration of the Z. O. A. subject to review by the executive committee and the administrative council."

The opening session of the Z. O. A. convention tonight was devoted to a lengthy discussion of youth problems. Dr. Morton J. Robbins, national chairman of the American Zionist Youth Commission, who presided, declared that "the Youth Commission, which is maintained jointly by the Z. O. A. and Hadassah, made it possible for thousands of young people from every conceivable background, to drink the life-giving waters of all that Israel and positively motivated Judaism connote." He called upon adult Zionists, with "vision, resources and strength" to support the program of the Commission.

JEWISH AGENCY WELCOMES ISRAEL GOVERNMENT'S COMPULSORY LOAN

JERUSALEM, June 12. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency welcomes the Israel Government's decision to impose a compulsory loan, an Agency spokesman said here today.

The spokesman added that the Agency was inquiring whether Agency funds also are subject to the loan, and said that the entire question would be considered at the next meeting of the Agency executive. The spokesman's statement followed the publication in the local press of a report that the Agency had converted \$1,000,000 into 720,000 Israeli pounds, after which the Treasury deducted 10 percent for the compulsory loan.

Meanwhile, the Finance Ministry reported today that more than one-third of the old money in circulation has been converted without any trouble, and that the government expects the entire currency exchange operation to be completed smoothly. It was pointed out that prices are expected to rise, but a Ministry spokesman said that the government had taken such a possibility into consideration but believed that it would be able to level off the trend shortly.

Embassy Issues Instructions for Exchange of Israel Money in U.S.

WASHINGTON, June 12. (JTA) -- The Israel Embassy here today issued specific instructions for the deposit of old Israeli one pound and one-half pound banknotes by holders throughout the United States and Canada. The deposits will be credited against a blocked account in Israel.

Holders of the notes will be able to deposit them for official receipts in person at the Israeli consulates in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles between the hours of 11 A.M. and 1 P.M. until June 22. They may also mail the notes to the same consulates. After June 22 the banknotes will be valueless.

KAISER FRAZER WILL ASSEMBLE MACK TRUCKS IN ISRAEL FOR EXPORT

HAIFA, June 12. (JTA) -- The Kaiser-Frazer assembly plant here will soon begin assembling Mack trucks under an agreement reached between the two American automotive concerns, it was announced here today by Ed Bransom, president of Mack Truck Corporation.

The assembled trucks will be exported to Greece and Turkey which have already placed millions of dollars worth of orders. When the Mack truck assembly set-up is in full operation, the plant will turn out three trucks a day.

TEL AVIV SHOPKEEPERS THREATEN STOPPAGE TO AID STRIKING MILK MEN

TEL AVIV, June 12. (JTA) -- All shopwindows in this city were blacked out at 7 P.M. tonight in a demonstration of sympathy by shopkeepers for striking milk delivery men.

The milkmen have been unable to come to an agreement thus far with the Food Controller, who has ordered them to make daily deliveries of milk rather than the three times a week deliveries of the past. In the event that the deadlock continues, the storekeepers association will call a one-day stoppage of all shops in the city.

RUMANIA RECALLS TOP DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES FROM ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, June 12. (JTA) -- The Rumanian Minister to Israel and the First and Second Secretaries of the legation here left for Bucharest yesterday. It was reported that they had been "urgently recalled."

U.S. AND ISRAEL SIGN TECHNICAL AID AGREEMENTS IN JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, June 12. (JTA) -- The United States and Israel yesterday signed a number of technical assistance agreements calling for the United States to provide \$800,000 and Israel to supply an equal sum in pounds, it was announced here last night. The agreements were the first ones signed between the two states in Jerusalem, Israel's capital.

They provide that assistance will be given to Israel in the form of experts to advise her personnel, in the form of equipment for various laboratories and as books for use in the public libraries. This assistance will be made available in the fields of irrigation, industrial efficiency and production, health services and development of minerals.

ISRAEL PREPARES TO RESUME EXPLOITATION OF DEAD SEA MINERALS

JERUSALEM, June 12. (JTA) -- Herman Cohen, Israeli Attorney General, will leave for London next week with the final draft of an agreement between the Palestine Potash Company and the Israel Government, under which the government becomes a partner in the company.

When the final agreement is approved the company will once again begin exploitation of Dead Sea mineral resources at its plant at Sodom, on the southern end of the Sea. Meanwhile, a road from Sodom to Haifa, via Beersheba, is nearing completion. It will be used to bring Palestine Potash Company products to the port of Haifa for export.

The Cabinet committee to draft an oil prospecting law has completed its work and will submit the draft to the full Cabinet sometime next week, it was learned here today. After that, the measure is due to go to the Knesset for approval.

INDIAN JEWS LEAVE ISRAEL AFTER STAGING SIT-DOWN STRIKE

TEL AVIV, June 12. (JTA) -- A group of 32 Indian Jews emplaned today for India after staging a sit-down strike outside the Jewish Agency headquarters here for several days.

(The Jewish Agency will do everything possible to increase immigration to Israel from Anglo-Saxon countries, it was reported today in London by S. Levenberg, Jewish Agency representative, upon his return from Israel. A special sub-committee of the Agency's executive is now reviewing the problem, he said.)

PROF. MAIZLER NAMED RECTOR OF HEBREW UNIVERSITY FOR NEXT YEAR

JERUSALEM, June 12. (JTA) -- Prof. Benjamin Maizler, an historian and archaeologist, was today named rector of the Hebrew University for the coming academic year.

JEWISH AGENCY SAYS GERMAN REPARATIONS OFFER NOT YET ACCEPTED

JERUSALEM, June 12. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency today warned the public "not to be misled" by newspaper accounts that Jewish organizations had accepted the West German Government's proposals for resumption of the reparations negotiations. An Agency spokesman stressed the following three conditions which must be met before the Jewish groups consent to negotiate:

1. The sum to be paid as reparations--the Jewish organizations have not yet consented to Bonn's alleged offer.
2. The duration of repayment -- the Jewish organizations demand reimbursement in the shortest period, within a "couple of years."
3. The form of reimbursement-- the Jewish organizations want the bulk of the payment in cash, with only a small fraction in goods.

BRITAIN REJECTS JEWISH CONGRESS PROPOSAL ON AID TO JEWS IN ADEN

LONDON, June 12. (JTA) -- The Colonial Office has turned down a World Jewish Congress proposal that government loans totalling 80,000 pounds advanced to members of the Aden Jewish community after the anti-Jewish riots in that protectorate in December 1947 be converted into grants, the W. J. C. announced here today.

Immediately after the riots, it was estimated that the Jewish population suffered property losses amounting to nearly 900,000 pounds. An investigating commission accepted "as fully substantiated" losses amounting to 400,000 pounds and recommended the payment of grants totalling 200,000 pounds to victims of the disorders. A government assistance scheme eventually made outright grants of about 60,000 pounds and gave individual 15-year loans amounting to about 80,000 pounds. Repayment was scheduled to start this past April.

In March, the Aden Jewish community, in a memorandum to the Aden Administration, stressed that an economic slump in 1951 complicated by the insecurity of the Jewish population after the pogroms and the inadequacy of the government assistance scheme had made repayment impossible. The community also sought the assistance of the W. J. C. in this matter.

After the Congress had raised the question with the government and the Colonial Office had consulted the Governor of Aden, the Colonial Office informed the Congress that it agreed with the Governor's view that the assistance rendered was the "maximum that could be expected" and that "by far the majority of the members of the Jewish community who remained in Aden had successfully re-established themselves." The W. J. C. today pledged itself to new efforts in behalf of the Aden community.

JEWISH COMMUNITY IN GERMANY SEEKS ACTION AGAINST ANTI-SEMITE

FRANKFURT, June 12. (JTA) -- The Jewish community of Bielefeld has asked the state prosecutor to initiate proceedings against a former employee of the nearby town of Minden for insulting the Jewish community and instigating anti-Semitism.

The German stated publicly that "it was a pity that all the Jews had not been gassed or burned" in concentration camps. Legal circles here doubt that the community will be successful in getting state action since the German law acknowledges "collective insult" in very few instances.

AMERICAN JEWISH EDUCATION PROBLEMS DISCUSSED AT THREE-DAY PARLEY

PHILADELPHIA, June 12. (JTA) -- The need to initiate scholarships and fellowships for young men and women who would dedicate themselves to service in the field of Jewish education in this country was emphasized at the three-day annual meeting of the American Association for Jewish Education held here. Representatives of school boards and central agencies for Jewish education of 53 communities in the United States participated in the session.

Speakers at the parley pointed out that it is an urgent necessity to intensify Jewish education for all age groups, to give special consideration to the Jewish education of the adolescent and young adult and to encourage the recruitment of promising young men and women who would prepare for the Jewish teaching profession.

Harry Starr of New York, president of the Littauer Foundation, was elected president of the A. A. J. E. to succeed Michael Stavitsky of Newark. Samuel H. Dargoff of Philadelphia was elected chairman of the Board of Governors.

Reporting on community progress in Jewish education, Dr. Judah Pilch, executive director of the Association, said that while there was considerable progress in all quantitative and administrative aspects of the Jewish educational enterprise, the scholastic achievements in the schools throughout the country leave much to be desired.

He said that two special committees were set up by the organization: 1. To evaluate the present day school curricula with a view to the recent changes in American Jewish education, and 2. To re-examine the textbooks used in the different schools, so as to encourage the use of those books which meet authentic educational criteria.

Dr. Pilch also called upon the delegates to the Conference to give greater support to those agencies that are engaged in organizing and maintaining pre-school and kindergarten classes and to those who endeavor to provide educational facilities for post-elementary school education. He also called upon them for a more positive attitude to the all-day school which, if properly staffed and financed, may serve as a reservoir for leadership training and for experimentation in Jewish education.

CONVENTION OF REFORM RABBIS OPPOSES PRAYERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BUFFALO, June 12. (JTA) -- The Central Conference of American Rabbis, at its annual convention here, went on record as opposing the recommendation made by the New York Board of Regents that every school day begin with a non-sectarian prayer. The introduction of such a prayer may lead to further encroachment upon the principle of separation of church and state, the Conference emphasized.

The convention denounced what it called "a virulent campaign against the public schools." Endorsing the report of the Committee on Church and State of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the convention criticized the "wild allegations of subversion by self-appointed vigilantes, mounting irresponsible criticism of textbooks, the familiar and frightening techniques of witch-hunting and book-burning, intimidation by super-patriots and pressure from the sincerely misguided and uninformed, suspicions and insinuations which would confine the genuine, earnest disagreement are the signs of the crisis and conflict."

Dr. Nelson Glueck, president of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, addressing the convention said that Reform Judaism does not believe in the union of church and state in America and "finds it no more palatable" in Israel than in the United States. "We are eager for intellectual and spiritual interchange in all-possible measure with our brethren in Israel, but we can accept only those interpretations and forms of faith which are in harmony with our understanding of Judaism," he told the 400 Reform rabbis attending the parley.

HADASSAH PRESIDENT REPORTS ON ORGANIZATION'S PLANS FOR ISRAEL

NEW YORK, June 12. (JTA) -- The new Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center in Israel, for which ground was broken last week in the vicinity of Jerusalem, will not only provide urgently needed medical care for the growing population of Israel, but will become a focal point for medical healing, teaching and research for the Jewish State and the entire Middle East, Mrs. Samuel J. Rosensohn, national president of Hadassah, reported today following her return from Israel.

Mrs. Rosensohn also revealed that Hadassah's new community health program would soon be launched in Israel. Based on a group of health welfare stations operated by Hadassah in the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv corridor, the community health program "will seek to stress the preventive aspects of medicine and treat the members of a given community on a family rather than an individual basis," she said.

She also reported that Hadassah's vocational education program "was being expanded to help meet the urgent demand for skilled personnel in Israel's stepped-up industrialization program. In addition to our Brandeis Vocational Center in Israel, Hadassah will shortly be completing a new \$200,000 vocational complex in the Romema sector of Jerusalem to increase our facilities for training young men in the fine mechanics, precision instrument and printing fields," she stated.

Mrs. Rosensohn said that on her trip through Israel she noticed that "the only thing that remained unchanged in Israel was the indomitable spirit and determination of its people in the face of overwhelming odds to carry on and secure their nation's destiny."

ARGENTINE JEWS GIVE IMPRESSIVE FAREWELL TO ZALMAN SHAZAR

BUENOS AIRES, June 12. (JTA) -- More than 1,200 prominent Jews attended a farewell function here last night for Zalman Shazar, former Israel Minister of Education, who completed a 25-day visit in Argentina and in Uruguay launching the local united Jewish campaigns.

Mr. Shazar's role in stimulating greater giving to the campaigns among the Jews here was lauded by leaders of the Argentine Jewish community, including Dr. Israel Yagupsky, co-chairman of the United Campaign, Isaac Harkavi, chairman of the Zionist Central Council. The gathering was also addressed by Israel Minister Yakov Tsur and by Gedalia Zakiff, director of the United Campaign. Mr. Shazar, who is proceeding from here to Brazil, warmly thanked the community for the reception given him here.

FIRST HABONIM YOUTH WORKSHOP GROUP RETURNS FROM ISRAEL

NEW YORK, June 12. (JTA) -- The first Habonim Youth Workshop group, 42 young men and women, returned here yesterday after spending a year in Israel working in collective settlements and as volunteers in immigrant work villages. An official reception, featuring a Workshop exhibit, was held for them by the Labor Zionist movement here.

TWO-DAY CONFERENCE OF MIDWEST AGUDAS ISRAEL GROUPS OPENS TODAY

DETROIT, June 12. (JTA) -- A two-day conference of the Midwest branches of the Agudas Israel of America will open here tomorrow with 200 delegates in attendance. The conference will consider religious problems facing Orthodox Jewry in the United States and Israel.