

VOL. XIX No 174 - 34th year

Monday, September 8, 1952

AJC, ADL THREATEN WALK-OUT IF NCRAC VOTES REORGANIZATION

ATLANTIC CITY, Sept. 7. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Committee and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith served notice today that they would walk out of the National Community Relations Advisory Council if the tenth annual conference now in session here voted acceptance of pending proposals for reorganization of community relations work and allocation of functions among the six participating national organizations.

Spokesmen for the two organizations submitted an alternative plan for reorganization of the work. Jacob Blaustein, president of the American Jewish Committee, asserted this plan "represents the farthest we can go," He appealed to the conference to take no action to precipitate the "totally avoidable tragedy" of a walk-out by the two organizations.

Frank Goldman, president of B'nai B'rith, told the conference that its acceptance of the proposals by its special Evaluative Committee would compel the ADL and the AUC to leave the NCRAC. He rejected suggestions by Irving Kane, NCRAC chairman, that the two organizations could remain within the NCRAC even though they dissented from the reorganization plan. He said the joint proposals "contain the maximum to which at this time we can go and retain our membership in this organization."

The joint proposals called for establishment of "joint operating committees" in each of the six fields of community relations work. These committees would be composed of representatives of agencies with a "record of activity" in the specific fields, organized on the following basis:

- Veterans Affairs Committee, in which the American Jewish Committee, ADL and Jewish War Veterans would have equal representation with the JWV representative as permanent chairman.
- Intercultural Education Committee, with equal representation for the American Jewish Committee and ADL, "the only two now operating in this area," with the Possibility of Inclusion of the National Conference of Christian and Jews which is not a member of NGRAC.
- 3. Interreligious Activities Committee, with three representatives each for the American Jewish Committee and ADL and six for the Synagogue Council of America which is not now a member of NCRAC.
- 4. Labor Committee, representing the Jewish Labor Committee, American Jewish Committee and ADL.
- 5. Civil Rights Committee, with equal representation for the American Jewish Committee and ADL. Sponsors of the plan said it has not been possible to achieve col-

laboration with the American Jewish Congress but called for "practical steps" to enlarge the committee to include this agency.

6. A committee "to extend and increase coordination" between the American Jewish Committee and the ADL in the field of investigation of anti-Semitism.

The joint proposals also would give representation in the Joint Defense Appeal to the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

Division of Functions Proposed by Evaluative Studies Committee

The fireworks in the year-long battle was centered around the two proposals for division of functions among the national organizations in the community relations field with the NCRAC in the role of coordinator and policy agency, and for a national budget review commission which would appraise the requirements for the entire community relations field and for the individual organizations and make recommendations to the organizations and to the welfare funds.

The American Jewish Committee and the Anti-Defamation League, in their bitter opposition to both proposals charge that they would lead to "authoritarianism" and a deterioration of the work being done.

Under the division of functions proposed by the Special Committee on Evaluative Studies after studies inspired by the MacIver Report, maintenance of relations with labor would be assigned to the Jewish Labor Committee; with veterans, to the Jewish War Veterans and with religious groups, to an instrument including Orthodox, Conservative and Reform elements.

Legal and legislative services for removing discrimination would be the responsibility of the American Jewish Congress. To the American Jewish Committee and Anti-Defamation League would be assigned jointly investigative and corrective action and development of a positive program of inter-group relations. The two organizations would be expected to agree between themselves, within a time to be fixed by the conference, on a division of responsibility.

AJC-ADL Joint Proposals Come Under Fire

These proposals came under immediate attack. David L. Ulman, of Philadelphia, NCRAC treasurer, pointed out that the plan gave the two dissenting organizations a majority in each of these six new committees. He said these committees would operate outside the NCRAC and that no provision whatever was made for representation of the communities.

In a twelfth hour appeal to the delegates not to accept the proposals of the Evaluative Studies Committee, Mr. Blaustein assailed them as designed to convert the NCRAC into a "centralized authoritative overall agency," based on the concept of a "Jewish peoplehood constituting a separate enclave in the American communities in which Jews reside." He called this a "nationalistic concept."

Isaac Toubin, associate director of the American Jewish Congress, told the conference that "what is now at issue is the continued existence and expansion of forms of community organization which we Jews have come to accept as the norm in our communal life in America." Urging adoption of the committee report, he declared

there was nothing in the recommendations which sought to set up a "unitary or monolithic agency or which in any way threatens the integrity of existing national agencies"

NCRAC Head Asks "End to Endless Jewish Panmunjom"

An appeal to the constituent organizations associated in the NCRAC to subordinate individual interests to the overriding interests of the American Jewish community was sounded last night by Irving Kane, of Cleveland, chairman of the agency, addressing the opening session of the three-day annual conference which is attended by 150 delegates representing the six major national organizations and the 27 community councils affiliated with the NCRAC.

In his plea for agreement, Mr. Kane stressed the advisory nature of the NCRAC and the fact that it could not enforce its decisions on its participating organizations. He described the unsuccessful efforts to achieve unanimity on the report covering the recommendations and exclaimed, "we must put an end to this seemingly endless Jewish Panmunjom," He told the session that "if it is in the interest of all American Jews that the individual organizations participate in this joint endeavor, how can it possibly succeed unless the participating organizations think not only of their rights and prerogatives but also of their responsibilities and obligations to each other and to the Jewish community as a whole."

Isaiah Minkoff, executive director of NCRAC, in his report to the conference stressed the value of cooperation and coordination in the community relations field. He warned that the alternatives to cooperation and coordination were, on the one hand, authoritarianism and, on the other, anarchy and chaos. And the latter condition, he said, would result in a "dog eat dog competition" from which the strongest organization would emerge in an authoritarian position. In presenting the report of the committee to the session, Harry I. Barron, of Cleveland, committee chairman, stressed that the proposed division of functions was not an end in itself but a means to make the joint planning program more effective.

Z.O.A HEAD TO VISIT ISRAEL; WILL CONFER WITH PREMIER BEN GURION

JERUSALEM, Sept. 7. (JTA) -- Rabbi Irving Miller, president of the Zionist Organization of America, has cabled Israel Premier David Ben Curion accepting his invitation to come to Israel to discuss various Zionist problems with him, it was learned here today.

Last week, the Premier invited Rabbi Miller, through Abba S. Eban, Israeli Ambassador to the United States, to come to Jerusalem to confer on "rallying American Jews to aid Israel, strengthening the U.S. Zionist organization and intensifying Zionist pioneering education." Rabbi Miller, who plans to make the trip immediately after Yom Kippur, said he welcomed the opportunity to discuss these points and others including "a.Z.O.A. program for Israel, the views of the Zionist membership and to transmit to them and to American Jewry generally your views."

TRIAL OPENS IN ISRAEL OF PAIR WHO BOMBED MINISTER'S HOME

TEL AVIV, Sept. 7. (JTA) -- The trial of two men charged with the attempted bombing of the home of the late Communications Minister David Zvi Pinkas opened in District Court here today. The defendants are Amos Kinan and Shalteil Ben Yair, members of the fanatic Kanaanite group.

The first witness for the prosecution was the son of the late Minister who described the bombing, which damaged some property but resulted in no injuries. He was followed by police officers who described the arrest of the defendants near the scene of the blast minutes after it occurred.

ISRAEL APPROVAL OF REPARATIONS PACT WILL AWAIT GERMAN ACTION

JERUSALEM, Sept. 7. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet will not approve the Israel-West German reparations agreement until after the Bonn Cabinet has done so, a government spokesman announced here tonight after the Cabinet met for a second time in less than a week to discuss the agreement. The German Cabinet is scheduled to act on the na@tomorrow.

After the pact is approved here, Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett will fly to Luxemburg to sign it. This ceremony is now expected to take place before Wednesday. The government spokesman, who said the entire agreement would be published after its signing, said that the Israel Government has "some objections on minor points." He would not specify what the objections were.

Earlier this week-end, the Knesset Foreign Affairs Committee voted to give the Cabinet full authority to approve the agreement which was reached at The Hague.

ISRAELI SCHOOLS OPEN WITH RECORD PUPIL ENROLLMENT

TEL AVIV, Sept. 7. (JTA) -- A record 350,000 pupils of kindergarten and elementary school age returned to school throughout the country this week to find the school week reduced by from two to four hours.

The reduction in the school week, along with the request to teachers to work two additional hours per week without overtime pay, are designed to cope with overcrowded conditions and the lack of qualified teachers.

In villages where new immigrants live, the school week will remain at 26 to 36 hours per week. Schools in these villages will also not be subject to the two and three shift-a-day arrangement devised for the overcrowded cities.

ISRAEL TO PROTEST VIOLATION OF TERRITORY BY ARAB LEGIONNAIRES

JERUSALEM, Sept. 7. (JTA) -- Israeli authorities were this week-end preparing to file a complaint with the Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission over violation of Israel territory by Jordan troops following the capture of two Arab legionnaires captured on Israel soil in the northern part of the country.

U.S. WILL NOT OFFEND ISRAEL BECAUSE OF "JEWISH VOTE," "TIME" SAYS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7. (JTA) -- Time magazine has charged that the United States Government has "antagonized" the entire Arab world but is determined not to offend Israel because of the "Jewish vote in November."

This allegation is made in the current September 8th issue of the magazine in an article of the new Egyptian military dictator Gen. Mohmadded Naguib, whom it characterizes as a "good man." It quotes Naguib as referring to Israel as "the enemy on our eastern frontier." Discussing the question of American military aid to Naguib, Time says: "U,S. foreign policy has already antagonized the whole Arab world by giving aid to Israel, but the State Department still seems determined to do nothing that would offend Israel. Thought of the Jewish vote in November is an added reason for the administration's attitude."

ISRAEL JEWISH CONFERENCE LEADERS STUDY REPARATIONS PROBLEMS

PARIS, Sept. 7. (JTA) -- Leaders of Israel's reparations delegation have been holding talks here during the past week with Dr. Nahum Goldmann and other leaders of the Jewish Claims Conference on draft treaties and the future status and organization of the purchasing mission to be established by Israel in West Germany, it was learned here today.

The "stability clause" which has delayed the negotiations for some time was also reviewed in the talks. A policy committee of the Jewish Claims Conference will meet in New York September 17 to consider an agreement between the Conference and West Germany.

FIGL PROMISES TO INVESTIGATE JEWISH COMPENSATION CLAIMS

VIENNA, Sept. 7. (JTA) -- Chancellor Leopold Figl has promised to set up a committee to investigate the compensation claims of Austrian Jews who were formerly interned in Nazi concentration camps and were conscribed for slave labor.

The Chancellor made this pledge in a letter to Simon Wiesenthal, president of the Jewish Central Committee of Linz who, in the name of 30,000 former inmates. wrote to Fig1 pointing out that thousands of Jewish victims of Nazis had been assigned to Austrian firms as slave laborers on construction and industrial work. In his letter, Wiesenthal suggested that a special fund be set up to which Austrian firms who employed Nazi slave laborers would contribute.

(The New York Times reported from Vienna this week-end that as a result of United States pressure and representations made in the last few days by Dr. Maurice Ferlzweig, director of international affairs of the World Jewish Congress, the Austrian Government may get around to a general settlement of Jewish claims for damages suffered under the Nazi regime, such as West Germany is about to make.

(The Times report added that if Chancellor Figl and Foreign Minister Karl Gruber are able to make good on their assurances to Dr. Perlzweig four large Jewish organizations will be asked to draft proposals for a settlement. The groups are the World Jewish Congress, American Jewish Committee, Joint Distribution Committee and Jewish Agency)

NEWS AGENCY CHARGES GERMAN RESTITUTION OFFICIAL IS EX-NAZI LEADER

LONDON, Sept. 7. (JTA) -- Dr. Walter Brahtz, head of the West German Federal Property and Buildings Department, which handles the restitution of Jewish property to victims of Nazism, is a "former Gestapo group leader and senior official of the Nazi Finance Ministry," the East German News Agency delcared in a report received here today.

The Agency quoted the Frankfurter Rundschau (West German) as stating that Brakts was named to his post "although the Adenauer Government and the Hamburg Senate knew all about his past as a fanatical Nazi." The news agency added that "his appointment is to guarantee that the West German Federal Republic will not fare too badly and that the Jews will not fare too well."

JEWISH GROUPS STUDY ITALIAN TEXTS TO ELIMINATE ANTI-SEMITIC MATERIAL

ROME, Sept. 7. (JTA) -- Italian textbooks are being examined with a view to determining whether they contain anti-Semitic bias, it was learned here. The investigation is being supervised by Dr. Baruch Sermonetts, under the auspices of the Union of Italian Jewish Communities and the World Jewish Congress.

STEVENSON, EISENHOWER URGE RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS COOPERATION

NEW YORK, Sept. 7. (JTA) -- Both major Presidential candidates called for understanding and cooperation among all racial and religious groups in this country in statements made public here today by the National Conference of Christians and Jews, which had solicited the statements.

"Without tolerance, without understanding of each other or without a spirit of brotherhood, we would soon cease to exist as a great nation," General Dwight D. Eisenhower said. He called on every American to pledge that in political affairs ho taint of religious or racial animosity shall trouble our national unity."

Gov. Adlai E. Stevenson urged the removal of "fear and prejudice" and the destruction of "the myths that guaw at our vitals." He insisted that "we can ill afford to exhibit to the world either incompetence or injustice in dealing with the relations of racial or religious groups."

LOHBECK VOICES ANTI-SEMITIC TIRADE AT MACARTHUR RALLY

DENVER, Sept. 7. (JTA) -- A "MacArthur for President" rally here sponsored by Gerald L. K. Smith's "Christian Nationalist Party" was converted into an anti-Semitic demonstration when Don Lohbeck, one of Smith's key aides and principal speaker at the meeting, launched into an attack on the "internationalist-Zionist-Jew-ish combine" and bitterly assailed the Jews.

Lohbeck, who distributed petitions to get the names of Gen. Douglas MacArthur for president and Jack Tenney of Los Angeles on the Colorado ballot, said he was confident that MacArthur would accept the nomination by the party's national convention. He deplored the fact that his vice-presidential candidate, Tenney, appeared on petitions of the Constitution Party as presidential candidate.

According to the Intermountain Jewish News, 93 people attended the rally at a local hotel.

U.S. LABOR ZIONISTS TO ESTABLISH LABOR COLLEGE IN JERUSALEM

NEW YORK, Sept. 7. (ITA) -- The Labor Zionist Organization of America has decided to build a labor college in Jerusalem in honor of the organization's golden jubilee next year, Dr. James G. Heller, president of the L. Z. O. A., announced here last night at a special conference of Labor Zionist leaders in preparation for the launching of the forthcoming Israel Histadrut Campaign in the U. S. Dr. Heller said the College would provide needed facilities for adult education in Jerusalem.

Isaac Hamlin, general secretary of the National Committee for Labor Israel, which conducts the Histadrut drive, asked for 50,000 volunteers for the 29th annual Histadrut campaign which will begin on October 1. The board of directors of the National Committee for Labor Israel met today to formulate plans for the campaign.

NAHAUM CHANIN ELECTED GENERAL SECRETARY OF WORKMEN'S CIRCLE

NEW YORK, Sept. 7. (JTA) -- The annual meeting of the executive committee of the Workmen's Circle today elected Nahum Chanin general secretary of the fraternal organization succeeding the late Joseph Baskin. Mr. Chanin previously aerved as educational director of the organization.

SELDON KRUGER RE-ELECTED HEAD OF NATIONAL JEWISH YOUTH CONFERENCE

NARROWSBRUG, N.Y., Sept 7. (JTA) - Seldon M. Kruger of Newark was reelected president of the National Jewish Youth Conference at the closing session of the parley this week-end. The conference was sponsored by the National Jewish Welfare Board.