

# DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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## RESIGNATION OF AUSTRIAN CABINET MAY AFFECT JEWISH CLAIMS

LONDON, Oct. 23. (JTA) — Leaders of Jewish organizations here interested in reparations talks which Austria was about to start with major Jewish groups were speculating today to what extent the projected Austro-Jewish negotiations might be affected by the sudden resignation of the Austrian Cabinet last night.

Further developments in Vienna are being closely watched here by Jewish leaders. The major question is whether the caretaker government which will be formed in Vienna will follow the lead of the dissolved Cabinet on the Jewish claims for reparations. Only a few days ago Dr. Adolf Scherf, Vice-Chancellor of Austria, revealed that the Cabinet had decided unanimously about three weeks ago to invite Jewish organizations to send their experts to Vienna for preliminary talks on reparations to Jewish victims of the Nazi regime.

## GERMAN PARLIAMENT TO DISCUSS INDEMNIFICATION LAW TODAY

BONN, Oct. 23. (JTA) — The West German Parliament is scheduled to begin discussion tomorrow of a draft of a new Federal indemnification law which provides for payments to individual victims of the Nazi regime who were persecuted for racial, religious or political reasons. It is estimated that total payments to be made under this measure, which is modeled on legislation now in effect in the United States zone of Germany, will amount to four billion marks (approximately \$920,000,000).

The law provides that claimants must have resided in West German territory or in West Berlin on May 23, 1949. Claimants who have emigrated from Germany since the end of the war will be entitled to benefits if they can prove that they resided in Germany before May, 1945. Persecutees who have been expelled from East German territory since 1949 are also eligible for payment.

A minimum monthly payment of 260 marks will be paid to persons who are totally disabled. Partially disabled persons will receive between 40 and 180 marks monthly, while widows of victims will receive a maximum of 180 marks a month. Payment for imprisonment will be made at the rate of 150 marks for each month of detention.

A demand that the new head of the Bavarian restitution office resign if he is unable to create an effective basis for the work of the office, was voiced in Munich today by Wolfgang Hirsch, chairman of the Bavarian League for Freedom and Justice, an organization of victims of Nazism. Mr. Hirsch also blasted the local indemnification law as ineffective and expressed regret that Dr. H. Hingelmann, Bavarian Secretary of State, who was instrumental in drafting that law, had also been involved in helping draft the Federal indemnification legislation.

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BUDAPEST JEWISH COMMUNITY TRANSFORMED INTO VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION

VIENNA, Oct. 23. (JTA) -- The one-time important Budapest Jewish Community, which had a status of representative of the city's Jewish population vis-a-vis the Hungarian Government, has been transformed into an association with a voluntary membership, it was reported here today.

This change came about at a conference of representatives of the Jewish community who met to consider a new constitution for the community in the light of the "actual position" of the community and the fact that the Jewish population has decreased. After careful screening, the original 300 delegates to the convention were reduced to 180, according to the report received here.

Explaining the new constitution at a general meeting of the Budapest Jewish Community, Lajos Stoekler, its president, said that the new charter was necessary because "the life of the community had to be accommodated to new circumstances and new requirements, and must be based on a voluntary association of individuals." He also announced that the Jewish institutions maintained by the community had been centralized in one building, with the transfer of secondary schools for Jewish boys and girls to the Rabbinical Seminary. By this move, he said, the Jewish schools had been enabled to better carry out their function "to supply reserves for the training of rabbis."

ADENAUER DEFENDS PRESENCE OF EX-NAZIS IN BONN FOREIGN OFFICE

BONN, Oct. 23. (JTA) -- Chancellor Konrad Adenauer yesterday defended the presence of former Nazi diplomats in the West German Foreign Office. Speaking during a debate in Parliament, the Chancellor said that the only way to build up the Foreign Office was to use people with experience. Former Nazis compose 66 percent of the senior officials of the department.

In a move to offset Arab opposition to the German-Israel reparations pact, the Bonn Government has offered to consider requests for economic aid from various Arab states. The offer was made by State Secretary for Foreign Affairs Prof. Walter Hallstein to members of an Arab delegation including representatives of Lebanon, Egypt, Syria and Iraq.

BRITISH AUTHORITIES IN GERMANY PARDON ILL NAZI FIELD MARSHAL

BONN, Oct. 23. (JTA) -- The British authorities in Germany today pardoned 67-year-old ex-Field Marshal Albert Von Kesselring, who was sentenced to life imprisonment on charges of Nazi war crimes in Italy. The British said that clemency was being extended to the former German military leader because he was suffering from cancer.

SELMAN WAKSMAN GETS NOBEL PEACE PRIZE FOR WORK ON STREPTOMYCIN

STOCKHOLM, Oct. 23. (JTA) -- Prof. Selman Waksman, 64-year-old Rutgers University scientist, was today awarded the 1952 Nobel Prize in medicine for his discovery of streptomycin, the anti-biotic drug, it was announced here today. The prize comes to \$33,037. The American Jewish scientist immigrated to the United States from Russia when he was 22 years old.

A. D. L. OPENS FOUR-DAY MEETING; STEINBRINK RETIRES FROM PRESIDENCY

CHICAGO, Oct. 23 (JTA) -- The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith today opened its 39th annual meeting here with an agenda concentrated largely on civil rights problems. Justice Meier Steinbrink announced his retirement as national chairman of the A. D. L. -- a post he held for the past six years.

The 72-year-old Jewish communal leader, opening the four-day meeting, asked that his name be withdrawn from consideration for continuance in office "in favor of a younger man." He added that he would continue active participation in A. D. L. affairs "to the full extent that my strength and health permit." Election of his successor will take place tomorrow.

In his final report, Justice Steinbrink traced the growth of the League during the postwar years. He spoke critically of the proposals for reorganization of Jewish community relations voted last month at the Atlantic City plenum of the National Community Relations Advisory Council--a decision which precipitated the withdrawal of A. D. L. and the American Jewish Committee from N. C. R. A. C. "We must maintain our own control of our affairs and our freedom of action," he said. "At the same time we should stand ready to participate and to cooperate in every useful way with other agencies, while at the same time insisting that our primary control and support must remain in our hands."

Delegates Hear Messages from Truman, Eisenhower, Stevenson

Messages from President Truman and the two Presidential candidates, Gen. Dwight Eisenhower and Gov. Adlai Stevenson, were read to the Assembly by Justice Steinbrink. Each message cited the A. D. L. for its work.

Noting that we are in "a period when civil liberties are gravely threatened," President Truman praised the A. D. L. for its efforts "to preserve and strengthen human rights and save us from the waste of prejudice and discrimination." The President had warm words for Sen. Herbert Lehman, who will receive the League's annual America's Democratic Legacy Award at the concluding session Sunday.

Gen. Eisenhower said in his message: "We must make equality of opportunity a living fact for every American regardless of race, color, or creed." He pointed out that "when people come to understand and respect each other fully, when they have driven prejudice and bigotry from their hearts and minds, our democratic ideal will be fully reflected in the realities of American life."

Gov. Stevenson warned against "those among us who, in the name of anti-Communism, threaten to destroy our basic liberties, freedom of speech, freedom of association, freedom of thought. Often the loss of these liberties occurs in a subtle way, difficult to perceive. The process may occur solely through social pressures which have intimidating effect upon people and repress their instincts of free thought and fine expression," he emphasized.

Parallel with the meeting of the Anti-Defamation League, the executive committee of the American Jewish Committee will hold its meeting here during the weekend. The concurrent meetings of the A. D. L. and the A. J. C. will coincide with a one-day session of the Joint Defense Appeal, fund-raising arm of the two organizations.

## HADASSAH CONVENTION TO DISCUSS \$9,000,000 BUDGET FOR 1953

DETROIT, Oct. 23. (JTA) -- More than 3,000 women, representing communities in every section of the United States as well as Alaska and Puerto Rico, will attend the 38th annual national convention of Hadassah, which opens here this week-end.

The convention will be called upon to map a \$9,000,000 program of medical, social welfare, youth rehabilitation and resettlement, and vocational education in Israel in 1953. Two new proposals scheduled to reach the floor provide for the acceleration of present plans for the construction of the Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem, and for the extension of Hadassah's vocational education program in Israel to include rural as well as urban areas.

The four-day parley will be addressed by outstanding leaders of the United States and Israel. One of the principal speakers will be Jonathan B. Bingham, Assistant Director of the Technical Cooperation Administration, which charts America's far-flung "Point Four" program of assistance to friendly countries in need, will be one of the principal speakers. Mr. Bingham, who recently returned from an extensive trip to Israel and the Middle East, is expected to discuss America's plans for economic assistance to Israel in the coming months.

## JEWISH COMMUNITY ELECTIONS IN BUENOS AIRES CANCELLED

BUENOS AIRES, Oct. 23. (JTA) -- Elections for the Jewish community council of Buenos Aires, which were scheduled to take place Sunday, were cancelled last night by an agreement among the various parties involved in the campaign. The election will be held some time next July after the introduction of a proportional representation system.

Three slates had been entered in the current election: a National Bloc, consisting of the majority of the Zionist and other Jewish groups in the community; a slate composed of the General Zionists and the Progressive Party, which seceded from the National Bloc; and a leftist coalition which would have profited from the dispute.

Appeals by community leaders in recent weeks for a united slate of Zionist elements had no effect. Commenting on the postponement, Dr. Moises Goldmann, president of the community council, expressed regret that political campaigning had passed from ideological arguments to personalities.

## J.W.V. WARNS MEMBERS NOT TO INVOLVE ORGANIZATION IN POLITICS

NEW YORK, Oct. 23. (JTA) -- The membership of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States, numbering more than 100,000 American veterans of Jewish faith, has been enjoined by its newly-elected national commander, Jesse Moss of New York, from using the organization's "name, uniform, insignia and titles of rank, past or present, directly or indirectly, for the promotion of political candidates or partisan politics or issues."

The J. W. V. constitution, Mr. Moss said, "makes it plain that while no member of our organization is restricted from speaking out or acting on the basis of his personal political convictions, the public generally, and political parties and candidates particularly, should clearly understand that the Jewish War Veterans will not tolerate exploitation of its name for partisan political purposes by any member or officer."

