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Z. O. A. ASKS MOSCOW TO HALT ITS ANTI-JEWISH POLICY; FEARS POGROMS

NEW YORK, Jan. 18. (JTA) -- An appeal to the Communist governments to halt their present anti-Jewish policy in order "to avert a major catastrophe" was issued here today by the national executive committee and the national administrative council of the Zionist Organization of America following an all-day joint meeting. The appeal emphasized that the anti-Jewish propaganda, which is now being directed from Moscow, may lead to pogroms on Jews in all countries behind the Iron Curtain.

The statement, presented at the meeting by Dr. Irving Miller, Z. O. A. president, and adopted unanimously by the 200 Zionist leaders who attended the session, declared that the "Zionist Organization of America repudiates with contempt the fantastic charges against the Zionist Movement and Israel which are being fabricated by Communist propagandists in Eastern Europe." The statement voiced profound "alarm over the fate of millions of our fellow Jews in Eastern Europe who have been placed in jeopardy by the current Communist campaign of intimidation."

Pointing out that the Communist governments "have assumed a fearful responsibility before history," the statement said: "Whether or not they deliberately seek to restore the pogrom as an instrument of national policy, they are unleashing forces of hatred which may soon be uncontrollable. We call upon them to halt their present policy, while there may still be time to avert a major catastrophe. Moreover, we declare that if the so-called Jewish "bourgeois elements" and "cosmopolitans" are undesirable to those who dictate the policies of the Soviet bloc, they should be permitted to emigrate to Israel. Indeed, the Zionist movement would gladly undertake to carry out such a transfer en masse, if only the countries within the Soviet orbit would agree to it. Let them go to Israel, where they will be warmly welcomed."

Communist Propaganda Against Jews Likened to Nazism

Dr. Miller, in addressing the session, stated that "whatever the objective of Moscow may be, we are forced to the conclusion that international Communism is deliberately turning its back on its past postures of democracy and liberalism. Like Nazism, it is adopting anti-Semitism as a weapon in the cold war - an instrument of terror at home, of propaganda abroad. It is the classic weapon of those whose orgies of hatred invariably herald their own imminent downfall."

Dr. Emanuel Neumann, member of the Jewish Agency executive, warned of possibly greater shocks to come. "With profound shock," he said, "we must face the horrifying truth: the Prague trial and Moscow accusations are of one piece heralding not only an anti-Zionist crusade but a new wave of anti-Semitism staged by Communist leaders in the classic Nazi tradition. The accusations against the Jewish physicians in Moscow are too monstrous and fantastic for refutation; they can only fill us with disgust against the authors of such vicious and revolting fabrications. We must brace ourselves against possibly greater shocks."

JEWISH HOMES RAIDED IN EAST BERLIN; JEWS DEPRIVED OF DOCUMENTS

BERLIN, Jan. 18, (JTA) -- Raids on Jewish homes by Communist police authorities in East Berlin were carried out today, with many Jews deprived of their identity documents in order to prevent them from leaving their homes.

The raids followed the escape this week-end into West Berlin of a number of Jewish leaders from Soviet-held parts of Germany, including Julius Meyer, president of the Berlin Jewish Community and deputy of the East German Parliament. Mr. Meyer, who was a member of the Communist Party, resided in East Berlin where most of the Jewish communal property is located.

Among the other Jewish leaders who fled from the Communist part of Germany into West Berlin were Helmuth Loshner, head of the Jewish community in Leipzig; Leo Loewenkopf, head of the Dresden Jewish community, and Guenther Singer, president of the Jewish community of Erfurt. They reported that they had decided to flee from the Soviet zone after they were cross-examined by the political police there about their past activities.

CONCENTRATION CAMPS FOR JEWS ESTABLISHED IN COMMUNIST GERMANY

LONDON, Jan. 18, (JTA) -- A former Gestapo leader, Horst Valte, who once had charge of the Warsaw Ghetto, has been put in charge of the East German secret police's section dealing with Jews, the Sunday Chronicle reported today in a dispatch from its Berlin correspondent. The correspondent added that Valte has been instructed directly from the Kremlin to widen his purge to include all Jews classified as capitalists.

The Chronicle correspondent states that concentration camps have been erected in East Germany, including one in Thuringia, to hold Jews who seek to flee East Germany to the West. Quoting observers in Western Berlin, the correspondent says that the Jews in the Thuringian camp live under conditions of great privation: in unheated barracks in freezing weather; on a starvation diet; surrounded by electrified fences and guarded by police with instructions to shoot prisoners who approach the fences. The paper says that there are some 200 Jewish families in the camp, with more expected this week. Their daily diet is described as consisting of four ounces of bread, one-quarter ounce of meat and one-sixth ounce of sugar.

JEWS IN HUNGARY IN MORTAL FEAR FOLLOWING ARREST OF THEIR LEADER

VIENNA, Jan. 18, (JTA) -- Reports from Hungary reaching here today indicate that the 150,000 Jews there are living in mortal fear following the arrest this week-end of Lajos Stoeckler, president of the Budapest Jewish Community, who was also head of the entire Jewish relief system in the country, which includes homes for the aged, children's institutions and hospitals.

Mr. Stoeckler's arrest came 48 hours after the Hungarian Communist newspaper Szabad Nep had denounced Zionism and warned that the "hostile undermining activities" of the Joint Distribution Committee were more of a danger in Hungary where the organization operated until recently, than in the Soviet Union where the J. D. C. was last week accused of plotting the murder of Russian political leaders. The one-line announcement of Mr. Stoeckler's arrest identified him as a "former industrialist" and stated that police had "found a considerable quantity of dollars and Swiss francs."

The Jewish community, of which Mr. Stoeckler was head, administered for relief purposes funds sent to Hungary by the J. D. C. In 1949 J. D. C. director Israel G. Jacobson was arrested then expelled from Hungary for "deeds violating the interests of the state" and for "abusing the rights of foreigners." The last J. D. C. director in Hungary was Charles Jordan who left in May, 1951.

ISRAEL CABINET DISCUSSES MOSCOW'S CAMPAIGN AGAINST JEWS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 18. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet today held two meetings at which the Moscow campaign against Jews was discussed. Parliament is scheduled to debate the same matter tomorrow.

It was reported here today that Premier David Ben Gurion met with the political council of his Mapai Party to discuss the Histadrut decision to oust Communists from the trade union movement in Israel. A number of Mapai leaders demanded that the government outlaw the Israel Communist Party. In view of these demands, it was decided to establish a committee to study all aspects of the problem.

Meanwhile, the Charge d'Affaires at the Hungarian legation in Tel Aviv today refused to receive an Israeli delegation which wished to present him with a petition asking for the release of Zionist leaders arrested in Hungary and for permission for Hungarian Jews to migrate to Israel. When the Hungarian envoy hung up on a representative of the delegation who telephoned for an appointment, it was decided to mail him the petition, which had been signed by 250,000 persons in Israel.

MAPAM EXTREMISTS FORM GROUP TO FIGHT ANTI-SOVIET WING

TEL AVIV, Jan. 18. (JTA) -- Dr. Moshe Sneh, extremist leader of the Mapam Party, today announced the formal organization of a new faction within the party to fight the left-wing Socialist group's denunciation of the Soviet campaign against Jews in various countries of Eastern Europe.

Several of the other major factions of the party have called emergency meetings to consider the formation of the new group, which is expected to have among its adherents mostly extremists within Mapam groups in the urban centers. Mapam elements in the collective settlements who are sympathetic to Dr. Sneh's views are reported hesitant about joining the new faction because they fear that such an action would bring expulsion from the Mapam kibbutz movement.

Dr. Sneh's faction will defend the Communist countries, but does not favor a merger of the Mapam and Communists in Israel. It also wants the Mapam to disassociate itself from the World Jewish Congress and other world Jewish bodies.

BRITISH JEWS DENOUNCE MOSCOW'S ANTI-JEWISH ACCUSATIONS

LONDON, Jan. 18. (JTA) -- The Board of Deputies of British Jews, speaking in the name of British Jewry, today adopted a resolution protesting the Moscow accusations against Jewish organizations. The resolution, adopted with only three votes in opposition, declared the Board's "emphatic" denunciation and "abhorrence" of "this latest use of anti-Semitism as a deliberate policy by the rulers of the Soviet Union."

In a second resolution, the organization appealed to the British Government to reconsider its decision to offer jet planes for sale to the Arab states. In asking reconsideration, the Board pointed out that the Arabs consider themselves still at war with Israel, asserted that the sale of such weapons to the Arabs would precipitate an economically-disastrous arms race in the Middle East and stressed that it would hamper attempts to bring peace in the Middle East.

ISRAEL CABINET INITIATES WORKS PROGRAM TO FIGHT UNEMPLOYMENT

JERUSALEM, Jan. 18. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet today decided to initiate a program of public works designed to cut down the number of unemployed workers in the Jewish State. Official statistics list the number of unemployed last week at 16,800, with the largest number in Haifa, followed by Jerusalem and Tel Aviv in that order.

MORGENTHAU TO CONTINUE LEADERSHIP OF ISRAEL BOND DRIVE FOR 1953

NEW YORK, Jan. 18. (JTA) -- Henry Morgenthau Jr. has sent a cable to Premier David Ben Gurion of Israel advising him that he would continue to serve as chairman of the board of governors of the State of Israel bond campaign for 1953, it was announced here today following a joint meeting of the national executive committee and the board of governors of the bond organization at the Hotel Pierre, attended by more than 100 Jewish leaders from various parts of the country.

The meeting issued an appeal to American Jewry to back Israel in its economic development to help the new democracy cope with the dual threat of renewed Arab hostility and the Soviet campaign against Jews. Julian B. Venezky, chairman of the executive committee, reported that a total of \$154,500,000 in Israel bonds had been subscribed by approximately 500,000 Americans since the Israel bond issue was launched in May, 1951.

As a first step in the plans for the 1953 drive, the joint meeting voted to convene a national conference in Washington on Sunday, March 8th, to inaugurate the 1953 Israel bond campaign to provide the funds for industrial and agricultural development. Leaders from more than 300 cities throughout the country will be invited to take part in the Washington conference to launch this year's Israel bond drive.

Ehud Avriël, director general of the Ministry of Finance of Israel and Israel's first Minister to Czechoslovakia, who was the principal speaker at the meeting, said: "At the present time when Israel is confronted, on the one hand, with an increased armament program on the part of Arab neighbors who have refused to enter into negotiations with us for peace and, on the other, with a systematic propaganda campaign against Jews and the State of Israel on the part of Soviet Russia and its satellites, the Israel bond issue becomes an instrument of major importance in preserving our independence and our democratic way of life."

Declaring that the proceeds of the Israel bond issue have made it possible for the State of Israel to embark on "many vital projects linked to its primary objective of achieving economic independence within the shortest possible time," Mr. Avriël stated that the Israel bond campaign in the United States was responsible for major steps of economic progress in Israel during the past two years.

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL TO LAUNCH ITS 1953 DRIVE NEXT MONTH

NEW YORK, Jan. 18. (JTA) -- The formal opening of the United Jewish Appeal's 1953 nationwide campaign will take place February 15 at an extraordinary National Inaugural Conference to be held at the Saxony Hotel in Miami Beach, Fla., it was announced today by Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, U. J. A. executive vice-chairman.

Dr. Schwartz said that this year's nationwide campaign must bring the largest possible sums to meet urgent immigration, settlement, welfare and rehabilitation needs totalling \$144,524,250, and that the more than 600 outstanding Jewish leaders attending the conference will be faced with the responsibility for setting a standard of giving in keeping with this year's critical needs.

The U. J. A. executive vice-chairman stressed that the greatest need is for a swift strengthening of Israel's economy and that this reinforcement of the new state's economic capacity is especially urgent in the light of the new emergency in Eastern Europe arising out of the mounting anti-Jewish tension in Iron Curtain countries.

PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE REPORTS RACIAL BIAS ON U.S. CONTRACT WORK

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18. (JTA) -- Although the President's Committee on Government Contract Compliance reported this week-end that the non-discrimination clause in contracts was "almost forgotten" by some Federal departments, there were indications in the report that the Committee had achieved concrete results for Jewish workers in some instances.

The Bureau of Jewish Employment Problems, Chicago, furnished the Committee with documents alleging that a defense contractor with the Army Ordnance Department discriminated against qualified Jewish and Negro applicants and members of other groups. This complaint had been referred previously to the Ordnance Department which reinvestigated the case following notification by the Committee. The company, which employs an estimated 1,000 persons, subsequently invited the Bureau of Jewish Employment Problems to a conference to work out an arrangement designed to comply with the nondiscrimination clause.

The firm then agreed to issue a statement of merit employment policy to all supervisory and employment personnel; to eliminate discriminatory questions on religion and nationality from employment application forms; and to instruct its personnel department to employ qualified applicants from all ethnic groups. It has been verified, said the Committee, that Jewish workers now are employed by the company in office and plant occupations.

The Committee, formed by President Truman on December 3, 1951, reported it had found that "evidence of discrimination is everywhere and takes many forms. To see bias in stark boldness, one need only read the help wanted section of almost any daily newspaper and note the advertisements signifying 'white only' or 'Gentiles only.'" Dwight R. G. Palmer of New York, chairman of the General Cable Co., headed the Committee. Its members included Irving M. Engel, Boris Shiskin, James B. Carey, George Meany, and others.

U.S.N.A. PRESIDENT CALLS FOR REPLACEMENT OF NEW IMMIGRATION LAW

NEW YORK, Jan. 18. (JTA) -- A call to Americans of all faiths to unite to replace the McCarran-Walter Immigration Law with "one which truly reflects America's compassion and common sense," was voiced here last night by Walter H. Bieringer, who was re-elected president of the United Service for New Americans at the annual meeting of the organization.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the U. S. N. A., Mr. Bieringer charged that "with this intolerable law, conceived and engineered by a small but powerful group in Congress, America turns her back on the very policies which made her great." He added that the new immigration law posed major problems for the continued operation of U. S. N. A., asserting that "we must learn to operate as effectively as the new and strange conditions will permit."

The U. S. N. A. president also warned that the enactment of the legislation had "already had a deteriorative effect" on the immigration policies of other countries "who follow our lead" in such matters. It was reported at the U. S. N. A. meeting that the organization will be responsible for most of the 5,000 Jewish immigrants expected to arrive in the United States this year. It will also continue its integration assistance program for many of the recent newcomers who have settled in some 350 communities.

Sen. Hubert Humphrey who, together with Sen. Herbert Lehman, last year introduced a liberal substitute for the McCarran Act, predicted that the immigration statute would soon be abolished. Condemning the racist thinking and rigidity of the McCarran Law, Sen. Humphrey suggested its replacement with a measure which would permit a pooled quota plan and the entry of 250,000 immigrants annually.

J.N.F. MEETING IN NEW YORK CONDEMNS SOVIET ANTI-JEWISH DRIVE

NEW YORK, Jan. 18. (JTA) -- American Jewry was tonight urged by Dr. Israel Goldstein to intensify its support of the Jewish National Fund program of land acquisition and rehabilitation in Israel as the "best answer of the Jewish people to the most recent outbreak of Communist vilification of Zionism." Dr. Goldstein, who is an honorary president of the J. N. F. of America, spoke at a dinner of the organization at which 1,000 persons were present.

Dr. Goldstein told the meeting, which became a protest demonstration against the Soviet anti-Jewish drive, that "Communism has always been the foe of the Zionist movement. But to the Jewish people," the president of the Confederation of General Zionists continued, "Zionism has meant a concerted effort to establish a Jewish State on their ancestral soil and a world center for a flourishing Jewish civilization."

HEBREW UNIVERSITY'S TOTAL ENROLLMENT REACHES RECORD HIGH

NEW YORK, Jan. 18. (JTA) -- Almost twice as many students are studying science at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem during the 1952-53 academic year as in 1951-52, it was reported here today by Dr. George S. Wise, president of the American Friends of the Hebrew University. The University's total enrollment has already reached a record high of 3,200 students, he said. Since registration is still continuing, Dr. Wise expressed the belief that the figure would rise to nearly 3,400 before the semester ends. The student body last year stood at 2,542.

The new semester marks the completion of the full six-year curriculum at the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School, with the inauguration of the first year of pre-medical studies, Dr. Wise pointed out. The Hebrew University is now in its 28th year of existence. It is five years away from its permanent buildings on Mt. Scopus, the approaches to which are barred by Arab troops.

NEW YORK MAYOR RECEIVES PRESIDENT OF HAIFA TECHNION

NEW YORK, Jan. 18. (JTA) -- The desire of the people of Israel to live in peace with their Arab neighbors was emphasized in a statement issued today by General Yaacov Dori, president of the Technion, Israel's Institute of Technology, who was received here by Mayor Vincent Impellitteri, during the week-end.

"If there is to be competition with our neighbors," the Israeli educator told the Mayor, "we in Israel would prefer that it be in the fields of science and technology, and in constructive efforts to aid the entire region of the Middle East--an area which is still underdeveloped and backward in the political, social, and economic spheres." The Technion, he explained, is being rebuilt on a new campus site in Haifa, with the aid of American support.

DR. HASKELBERG, ISRAELI SCIENTIST, DIES; COLLABORATOR OF WEIZMANN

TEL AVIV, Jan. 18. (JTA) -- Dr. Leon Haskelberg, prominent Israeli scientist and former collaborator in research work of the late President Weizmann, died at Rehovoth yesterday. He was 50.

Dr. Haskelberg had been engaged in research work at the Sieff Institute of Science at Rehovoth since 1934. He collaborated with Dr. Weizmann in the production of nylon from products of the castor bean. Recently he had been working in cancer research.