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JEWISH AGENCY DISCUSSES PROPOSAL TO ADMIT NON-ZIONIST LEADERS

JERUSALEM, July 7. (JTA) -- Lengthy and intensive debate on the proposal by Dr. Nahum Goldmann for the enlargement of the Jewish Agency to include a number of outstanding non-Zionist leaders and the plan of Premier David Ben Gurion to merge all Zionist parties into territorial Zionist federations featured today's plenary meeting of the Jewish Agency.

The session is being attended by the presidents of all American Zionist parties, in addition to the regular members of the Agency executive, because the various suggestions for changing the structure of the Zionist Organization will basically affect the American Zionist parties and movement.

Rabbi Irving Miller, president of the Zionist Organization of America, vigorously opposed both the Goldmann and the Ben Gurion schemes. He dwelt on the differences in approach to Israel of the Zionists and the non-Zionists and urged the session not to "undermine" the foundations of the Zionist Organization. In addition, he opposed the expansion of the Agency.

Mizrachi, Mapam Support ZOA's Opposition to Merger of Parties

He was supported by Leon Gellman, world Mizrachi leader, and representatives of the Mapam, who demanded that the Zionist Organization should maintain all the prerogatives it has had until now. Rabbi Max Kirshblum, president of the American Mizrachi, admitted that the Zionists had not been doing enough to awaken and strengthen the Zionist Organization. However, he added that if the Zionist movement were activated it would be strong enough to rally all elements among Jewry to support Israel.

While all speakers at today's session agreed that some change was necessary to bring the Zionist Organization into line with changed conditions, some of the members of the executive rejected the idea of enlarging the Jewish Agency. However, they suggested that two organizations be set up, one to assist Israel and the other to carry out "purely Zionist tasks" such as education, pioneering and organization of a Jewish national life abroad.

Still other speakers maintained that the Zionist Organization could not live "without vision" and that the organization has a "raison d'etre" only when it is converted into a people's movement. They insisted that the organization could not be rebuilt only on the basis of educational and cultural activities.

ISRAEL CONSIDERS STEPS TO ENCOURAGE MIDDLE CLASS IMMIGRATION

TEL AVIV, July 7. (JTA) -- The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has proposed to the government that it take special steps to encourage the immigration of middle class elements from western countries to Israel, Zalman Susayeff, Deputy Minister for Commerce and Industry, reported here last night. He also stated that the government and the Jewish Agency were currently cooperating in encouraging such immigration.

He added that his Ministry had also suggested that a special department be organized to study the Israeli industrial scene and find out which types of workshops are needed by various communities. Then, Mr. Susayeff said, investors with a small amount of capital could be directed to such enterprises. The Deputy Minister expressed the opinion that the government's attitude of encouraging large industry has resulted in the expansion of major industry to the saturation point while a gap has resulted between the country's need for small factories and investors' providing such plants.

Mr. Susayeff pointed out that in view of the tightening of the internal market industry should turn its attention to foreign markets. He reported that an experimental effort in this direction last month had produced a significant increase in exports. He urged factory owners to seek foreign investors for partners in order to obtain necessary foreign capital.

Commenting on the recent pegging of the Israeli pound at 1.8 pounds to the dollar, the Deputy Minister said that it would not bring a great rise in the cost of necessities and was a recognition of the realistic relationship between the pound and foreign currencies.

ISRAEL PLACES \$5,200,000 ORDER IN GERMANY UNDER REPARATIONS PACT

COLOGNE, July 7. (JTA) -- The Israeli purchasing mission here today sent to German factories the second group of orders for industrial goods worth \$5,200,000 to be supplied under the terms of the Israel-German reparations agreement.

Three weeks ago the mission placed orders for \$8,500,000 worth of industrial products. Earlier, oil products worth substantially more were ordered from British Commonwealth countries and paid for by Germany from its sterling surpluses.

Today's shopping list is chiefly devoted to semi-finished non-ferrous products and non-ferrous alloys, with some \$2,000,000 worth of orders going to plants manufacturing copper, brass, aluminum and lead products. The second largest group of orders is for \$1,200,000 worth of electrical products, most of which are cables. One million dollars is devoted to hot rolled steel products and \$200,000 to cold rolled steel.

A total of \$285,000 worth of high tension insulators will be purchased as well as \$85,000 worth of telegraph poles and \$250,000 worth of other wood products. For the first time machinery has been ordered, but the first batch of machine orders only totals \$87,000. Lesser sums are devoted to chemicals, tires, tubes and precision instruments.

(The Zim Navigation Company, Israel's largest shipping company, is negotiating with German shipyards for the construction of ten vessels, including several liners, M. Levinson, manager of Zim, reported in Tel Aviv today. Payment for the ships will be made under the terms of the German reparations pact.)

ISRAEL RETURNS EGYPTIAN VESSEL; WAS CAPTURED IN ISRAEL WATERS

TEL AVIV, July 7. (JTA) -- The Egyptian vessel Samir, captured in Israeli territorial waters some months ago, was turned over to the Egyptian authorities today on the high seas off Gaza. The return of the ship was witnessed by Israeli and Egyptian officers and United Nations officials.

EGYPT'S VIEWS ON MIDDLE EAST DEFENSE ANNOUNCED IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, July 7. (JTA) -- The Egyptian Embassy today suggested an all-Arab Near Eastern defense organization, excluding Israel, in anticipation of the Big Three Foreign Ministers conference to be held here.

A statement issued by the Embassy said that Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and Lord Salisbury definitely will discuss the situation surrounding the Anglo-Egyptian deadlock over the Suez Canal issue. In connection with the expected course of the high-level deliberations, the Egyptian Embassy said today that Arab leaders have agreed that "the defense of the Middle East should start from within" and that an all-Arab alliance might cooperate with the West if the British would evacuate their troops from the Suez Zone.

"General Naguib believes that the healthiest situation in the Middle East would be for the inhabitants of the Middle East to play an important role in the defense of the area," the Embassy statement declared. "He recognized that in wartime they would need the technical and military assistance of other free nations to defend the area from any aggression. But he and other Arab leaders believe that the defense of the Middle East should start from within."

"General Naguib has suggested that the Arab League collective security pact be the core of any future agreements. This pact, linking eight Arab nations -- Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, and Libya -- says that any attack on any one of these nations is considered an attack on all of them. All bases within those countries would then be made available to the military forces of all the Arab nations, and their allies.

"This pact could dovetail into the defense blueprints of the Western nations, once the Arab states are convinced of the readiness of the West to treat them as equals and not as inferiors. The best way would be for the British to evacuate their troops from the Suez Canal to pave the way for closer understanding between the Middle East and the West," the statement concluded.

WASHINGTON "BIG THREE" PARLEY TO DISCUSS MIDDLE EAST DEFENSE

LONDON, July 7. (JTA) -- Reaffirmation of the 1950 United States-British-French declaration guaranteeing the borders of the Middle East states against aggression, to be followed by a new Western approach to the Arab states to participate in a Middle East defense organization in conjunction with the British forces at Suez, is expected by informed circles here to emerge from the forthcoming Washington conference of the Foreign Ministers of the three powers.

There is little indication here of how Britain views Israel's position in such a defensive arrangement, or even whether Israel's position has been considered. The British are said to be most concerned over the possibility that the State Department will be swayed by Egyptian pressure to favor an all-Arab defense pact based on the use of what is now Britain's base at Suez.

GERMAN SOCIALISTS LAUDED FOR HELPING SECURE REPARATIONS FOR JEWS

STOCKHOLM, July 7. (JTA) -- The German Social Democrats were singled out for praise for the part they played in helping achieve the German reparations agreement with Israel and the world Jewish organizations, by Adolph Held, chairman of the American Jewish Labor Committee, addressing a luncheon here for delegates to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions. Mr. Held also praised the assistance of the American, British and French trade unions.

In reply, H. Freitag, head of the West German trade union movement, declared that "we shared the Jewish fate and misery" in the concentration camps, "therefore it is a "natural part of our duty to demonstrate that there are Germans who remember what we owe the Jews."

GERMAN COURT DROPS CHARGES AGAINST LEADERS OF WUERZBURG POGROM

NUREMBERG, July 7. (JTA) -- After intermittent proceedings that dragged on for two years, the Wuerzburg Criminal Court has dropped all charges against three local Nazi leaders who had been instrumental in organizing and carrying out the pogroms of November 1938.

Although many Wuerzburg Jews who now live in the United States had sent depositions about the guilt of the defendants, including former Wuerzburg Nazi chieftain Georg Huempfer and former Nazi Party business manager Leonhard Vollmuth, the court found that their "active participation" had not been proven and that their "good behavior" after the war warranted judicial forgiveness. The prosecution had called for jail sentences ranging up to two years.

Ludwig Mueller, a laborer of Grosskrotzenburg near Hanau, has been sentenced in Frankfurt to nine months' imprisonment for wantonly wrecking Jewish homes during the November pogroms of 1938.

DENAZIFICATION ENDS IN PARTS OF GERMANY; FINES TO BE REMITTED

STUTTGART, July 7. (JTA) -- The Constituent Assembly of Baden-Wuerttemberg has almost unanimously adopted a law which closes all remaining denazification courts as of October 31, and bars all new denazification proceedings after the current month.

Most of those convicted by denazification courts will have their penalties remitted, either automatically or through a special "pardon board." Almost all the professional restrictions imposed upon top Nazis -- including the prohibition against working as an editor -- will be rescinded.

The Hamburg legislature has also adopted a law which bans further denazification trials and remits all fines not yet paid. If other penalties or professional restrictions were imposed in the past, they can be quashed upon application, the law provides.

JEWS COMMUNITIES IRKED OVER ERECTION OF MEMORIAL FOR EX-NAZIS

STUTTGART, July 7. (JTA) -- The Associated Jewish Congregation of Wuerttemberg has protested to the Baden-Wuerttemberg Minister of the Interior against the recent dedication at Castle Stauffeneck of a memorial stone for the dead of the Military SS. It pointed out that this memorial constitutes "a provocation for democratic-minded Germans, for the victims of Nazism and for everyone abroad."

A Social Democratic meeting in Stuttgart also adopted a resolution voicing indignation at the "provocatory attitude" at Castle Stauffeneck of former SS officers, "these unregenerate gravediggers of Germany."

JEWISH BRAILLE INSTITUTE WILL RECORD YIDDISH "BOOKS" FOR BLIND

NEW YORK, July 7. (JTA) -- The Jewish Braille Institute of America today announced that it will record the first Yiddish "Talking Books" to fulfill requests of elderly Yiddish-speaking blind. Each "Talking Book" will be a full book-length album of long-playing records of the outstanding works of Yiddish literature of the present and the past.

"Blindness, as a degenerative disease, is becoming a constantly more important problem of the aged because of the increase in life expectancy in our time," Dr. Jacob Fried, director of the Institute, stated. Pointing out that the result has been a comparatively large population of elderly Yiddish-speaking blind, he said that their virtually "desperate" psychological and cultural need for Yiddish "Talking Books," as made known to the Jewish Braille Institute, must be met.

Explaining that an average high fidelity "talking book" of twenty 12" long playing records, amounting to 10 hours of playing time, costs \$3500 in the smallest edition of 125 copies, Dr. Freid continued, "I know we can count upon the generosity of open-hearted American Jewry to contribute to this program." He also called upon the local Jewish communities and homes for the aged throughout the United States to send the names of those who would wish to have Yiddish "talking books."

J. D. C. SENDS RABBI WOHL ON MISSION TO LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES

NEW YORK, July 7. (JTA) -- Samuel Wohl, of Cincinnati, a prominent figure in the Zionist labor movement in this country, left New York today on a two-month tour of Latin America on behalf of the Joint Distribution Committee, it was announced by Moses A. Leavitt, executive vice-chairman.

Rabbi Wohl will visit Jewish communities in eight countries of Central and South America to describe the current needs of Jews in Europe, North Africa and the Near East, including Israel, and to urge increased aid by Latin American Jewry for JDC's relief, settlement and reconstruction programs in these areas. Since the end of World War II, Latin American groups have contributed about \$2, 300, 000 for JDC's efforts.

SENATE VOTES CITIZENSHIP TO JEWISH REFUGEE KILLED IN KOREA

WASHINGTON, July 7. (JTA) -- The Senate yesterday acted to fulfill the dying wish of a young Jewish soldier who wanted more than anything else to become an American citizen.

It passed and sent to the House a bill granting United States citizenship to 21-year-old Henry Litmanowitz of Cleveland who was killed in action in Korea last September 27. Litmanowitz, came to the U.S. from Magdeburg, Germany, in 1949 and was drafted into the Army.

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF MUSIC TO BE HELD IN ISRAEL

OSLO, July 7. (JTA) -- Next year's International Festival of Music will be held in Israel, it has been decided by the International Society for Contemporary Music.