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U. J. A. VOTES TO RAISE \$119, 921, 150; DRAFTS WARBURG FOR FOURTH TERM

NEW YORK, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- The three-day annual national conference of the United Jewish Appeal concluded here today with the adoption of a goal of \$119, 921, 150 for the year of 1954 and with the drafting of Edward M.M. Warburg for a fourth successive term as general chairman of the UJA.

The goal represents the budgetary sums required as a minimum in 1954 by the constituent agencies of the United Jewish Appeal and was adopted to provide \$91, 620, 000 for the United Israel Appeal, \$26, 186, 000 for the Joint Distribution Committee, and \$2, 115, 150 for the United Service for New Americans and New York Association for New Americans.

In a resolution adopted unanimously by the 1, 200 community leaders who attended the conference, anxiety was recorded over the fact that cash receipts of the UJA for 1953 are running behind those of 1952. The resolution urged all communities and all contributors in these communities "to undertake at once an effort to enable the agencies of the UJA to continue without interruption or delay their great humanitarian programs in Israel, Europe, North Africa and the Moslem countries."

The resolution requested that contributors make full payment of their pledges before the end of this year and urged the communities to pay in full, all outstanding amounts on account of allocations to the UJA for 1953 and prior years.

\$223, 000, 000 Raised by UJA Under Warburg's Leadership

The delegates also adopted a resolution expressing "warm affection and high esteem" of David Ben Gurion on the occasion of his retirement as Israel's Premier. "We view with admiration the great strides which Israel has made during his tenure in industry, agriculture, settlement and development of every sort," the resolution said. "It is our hope that he may find renewed strength in the rest which he has so richly earned; that many more years of good health and happiness may be granted to him and that his wise counsel may continue to be available to his people."

Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, executive vice-chairman of the UJA, who was also re-elected for another term, reported on the leadership given the UJA by the present administration which came into office three years ago under the general chairmanship of Mr. Warburg. He told the conference that since January, 1951, Mr. Warburg and his associates have led the UJA in raising a total of \$223, 000, 000 in pledges, of which almost \$215, 000, 000 has been received in cash.

Dr. Schwartz reported that of \$204, 760, 000 actually distributed for Israel and refugee aid, nearly 80 percent, or \$162, 374, 680, has been allocated for support of

settlement, development and medical rehabilitation programs in Israel; \$31,123,520 for relief, welfare and medical aid programs in European and Moslem lands, and \$11,261,800 for refugee reception, settlement and adjustment in the United States.

In an accounting of the sums raised by the UJA in the past three years, Dr. Schwartz reported that \$82,000,000 had been raised in 1951, \$72,000,000 in 1952, and \$69,000,000 in 1953, and that of the latter sum \$65,000,000 has come forward in cash. He urged strongly that this downward trend be reversed in the coming year, especially in the light of Israel's "besieged and beleaguered" position.

Israel on Way to Economic Independence, Eshkol Says

Addressing the delegates last night, Israel Finance Minister Levi Eshkol said that the Jewish State has passed the half-way mark to economic independence and is not being deterred from the fulfillment of crucial long-range development plans by Arab efforts to destroy the new state's sovereignty. Mr. Eshkol warned that Israel could be deterred only by the failure of American Jews to support urgent programs for the absorption of immigrants, the large-scale expansion of agriculture and the intensive development of industry.

The Israel Minister read to the conference a farewell message for Premier David Ben Gurion to American Jews. In his message, Mr. Ben Gurion emphasized that Israel's enemies are numerous and strong, and seek to wreck the achievements of the Jewish State. He lauded American Jewry for the "impressive part" it played in furthering the development of Israel.

Israel Ambassador Abba Eban told the delegates that while Israel is "commanded by every consideration of national and regional welfare" to actively seek an Arab-Israel peace settlement, the need for economic progress in his country's total scheme of things has a priority which "is still unchallenged." He said the Arabs were guilty of "the cheap and odious trick of destroying United Nations recommendations by violence and obstruction in the time and conditions for which they were formulated," and then "invoking these very resolutions retrospectively in order to disrupt new situations of fact and law."

Pennsylvania Governor Says Israel Seeks Lasting Peace

Edward M.M. Warburg, who presided at last night's dinner session, said that Israel is an exceptional country in its part of the world. "The democracy and progress, which are matters dear to Israel, are not indigenous to the area surrounding that little and remarkable land," he declared. "In this critical hour," he stated, "Israel must not be left to stand alone." He also asserted that the world's free nations must not allow Israel "to be cut off from deserved understanding and support."

Governor John S. Fine of Pennsylvania told the conference that this country "should exercise every influence to urge acceptance of a just peace" in the Middle East. "Israel, I am sure," the Governor declared, "seeks a peace which will be a lasting peace," adding his belief that the new State "will continue in the pursuit of such a peace."

The Governor, who returned one week ago from a visit to Israel and Europe, assured the delegates that the voluntary funds raised through the United Jewish Appeal and "the public funds our government has lent and given are being well spent

in the practical work" of Israel's reconstruction and rehabilitation. "I can think of no place where our money is being put to better use for the goals of a free and united world," he declared.

Leon Keyserling, who served as chairman of former President Truman's Council of Economic Advisors, forecast that the year 1954 would continue to see high prosperity in the United States and that this favorable economic condition was the basis for increased support of the United Jewish Appeal. He told the delegates that "even though we have been generous in the past, the level of our giving has been far short of Israel's needs."

Other speakers at the three-day conference included Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, William Rosenwald, Rudolf Sonneborn, Morris W. Berinstein, Joseph Holtzman and others. Reports on the activities of the constituent agencies were made by Moses W. Beckelman for the JDC, Ellis Radinsky for the United Israel Appeal, and Arthur Greenleigh for the United Service for New Americans.

DR. SYNGALOWSKI ARRIVES IN U.S. TO CONFER WITH J. D. C. LEADERS

NEW YORK, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- Dr. Aron Syngalowski, president of the World ORT Union, arrived here from Geneva to negotiate with leaders of the Joint Distribution Committee for the renewal of the yearly arrangement under which the ORT receives funds from JDC for its activities. During 1953, the World ORT Union received \$1,100,000 from the JDC towards its projects in Europe, Israel, North Africa and Iran on which it spent over \$3,000,000. Dr. Syngalowski stated upon his arrival.

"More than 17,000 persons--mechanics, wood-workers, electricians, radio-technicians, watchmakers--studied in ORT's schools for youth and courses for adults in the past school year," the ORT leader reported. "Of them, 3,600 were graduated as qualified craftsmen. With the exception of those graduates of schools in Israel who are serving in the Israeli Army, all of the graduates, even those in Italy, have found employment in their trade."

ORT's schools are so filled to capacity that 1,200 candidates for admission in Morocco, France and Israel had to be turned away, Dr. Syngalowski said. He emphasized that in addition to the trade school students, ORT this year had 1,338 apprentices placed in training in privately owned workshops operated by master craftsmen. Among these masters there were many who had themselves been trained by ORT.

Dr. Syngalowski stressed that great progress had been made in the field of Jewish studies in ORT schools. "In the Central ORT Institute in Geneva, where trade teachers for ORT's schools in every country are trained, the systematic study of Judaism from ancient Jewish civilization to the spiritual creation and Jewish way of life of the 20th century has been intensified," he said. "Among the students of the Institute there are over 30 young men from Israel, who are acquiring in addition to technical and pedagogic training, a knowledge of Jews and Judaism which is increasing their interest and respect for Jewry around the world," he revealed.

MOSLEY ANNOUNCES REVIVAL OF HIS FASCIST PARTY IN BRITAIN

LONDON, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- Sir Oswald Mosley, Britain's notorious Fascist leader, has announced that he intends to revive his Union Movement this coming Spring. Speaking last night at a "Christmas Reunion" of his followers in the East End of London--where many Jews live--Mosley said that his party would undertake a national campaign including entering slates for Parliament.

ACTING PREMIER SHARETT SAYS ISRAEL IS READY FOR PEACE WITH ARABS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- In his first press conference as Acting Premier of Israel who is seeking to set up a new Cabinet, Moshe Sharett pointed out that whatever government emerges from the present negotiations, it will have to continue and develop further "the great work achieved under the inspired leadership of David Ben Gurion." He said the two major tasks facing the new government would be the fullest possible development and utilization of the country's potential resources and the economic, social and spiritual integration of the hundreds of thousands of newcomers.

A major problem to be inherited by the new government, he pointed out, was Israel's relations with the Arab states surrounding it. He declared that "the conclusion of a permanent peace between us depends on them alone. We, for our part, are always ready for it and I can only express the hope that the counsels of peace will sooner or later prevail against the hatred and prejudice of the ruling classes of the neighboring Arab lands to the benefit of us all in the Middle East and as a contribution to worldwide peace and stability."

The Israeli Government head sounded a warning to the Arab states when he declared that "it is important for the Arab world to realize that, as far as we are concerned, we are prepared to hold out indefinitely, but, on the other hand, one can only hope that they will soon realize that everyone is losing through the absence of peace, they no less than we and, in some respects, perhaps more."

Says American-Israel Relations are Based on Firm Friendship

On the subject of American-Israeli relations, Mr. Sharett declared that they "are based on a firm friendship to which many factors contribute. The two governments, he said, did not always see eye to eye on a number of specific problems concerning or affecting Israel, but "we try to solve these divergencies in the friendliest spirit." Differences of opinion which may arise, he added, "need not at all affect our basic relationship and solidarity."

On the subject of Soviet-Israeli relations, the Acting Premier and Foreign Minister noted that he had previously expressed satisfaction over the resumption of relations with Moscow but added that "it is far too early as yet to say in what concrete form this renewed friendship will manifest itself in the future." He said he had nothing new to say on the question of emigration of Jews from the Soviet Union to Israel.

In reply to a question on British-Israeli relations, Mr. Sharett said recent events had placed a certain strain on British-Israeli relations which he hoped would not remain long. The forthcoming resolution in the Security Council on the Syrian complaint against Israel, Mr. Sharett said, may be a "test case" in this context.

Discussing the Israeli security situation and tension along the borders of the Jewish State, Mr. Sharett charged that the Security Council resolution on Kibya, "by its patently one-sided and discriminatory character, appears to have encouraged further offensive violations (of the Israeli frontiers) as is attested by a series of incidents occurring since then."

"I find it difficult to agree that the Security Council, in adopting that resolution, did so in the full consciousness of its responsibility for peace and security in the Middle East in this highly delicate situation."

Asked about Israel's position on the Suez Canal negotiations, Mr. Sharett declared that while Israel did not oppose achievement or fulfillment by Egypt of her legitimate national aspirations, Israel was concerned over her own national interests in a change-over of the canal. He pointed out that the change would affect the present balance of

strength between Israel and Egypt "which is of particular concern to us as long as there is no peace because of Egypt's refusal," and raised the question of free passage through the Suez Canal for Israeli or Israeli-bound shipping. Both issues, he said, had been the subject of communications to Britain.

Asked about the Jordan River hydroelectric project, now the subject of dispute in the Security Council, Mr. Sharett called it a "perfectly legitimate, highly beneficial work with which no interference should be brooked."

He affirmed that "we undertake fully the liability for the most scrupulous protection and safeguarding of the private rights which may be involved as regards the ownership of the land or the use of the water for irrigation. We are in full position to take care of that and to satisfy any unbiased authority that these interests are and will be properly safeguarded. That should not constitute a reason to paralyze a project of such eminent value and importance to our future development."

In reply to other questions, Mr. Sharett categorically denied reports of negotiations for establishment of an Arab "canton" within the State of Israel, and said that Israel was not directly interested in Jewish restitution negotiations with Austria although the Jewish groups have "our fullest support."

U.N. DECISION ON SYRIAN-ISRAEL DISPUTE EXPECTED THIS WEEK

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Dec. 13. (JTA) -- A decision is expected in the United Nations Security Council this week on the Syrian complaint against Israel's hydroelectric project at Bnot Yaacov on the Jordan River, it was learned in UN circles today.

It is understood that the Western Powers, which will sponsor a resolution designed to cover the situation, are agreed over the sense of the resolution but are still working over its wording. The British are said to prefer general language which would refer the problem back to UN truce supervisor Gen. Vagn Bennike. The Americans are more inclined toward specific language to prevent further disputes. However, both the British and the Americans are known to feel that Syria cannot be given a veto power over the Israeli project.

Last Friday the Security Council devoted its entire session to a speech by Dr. Charles Malik of Lebanon attacking Israel and the project and asserting that "to allow the work on the canal project to be resumed in the demilitarized zone without a mutual agreement between Israel and Syria is to give a de facto recognition of the annexation of the zone by one party to the armistice agreement." Any attempt to "Israelize" the zone, he said, would be a step in "the execution of a premeditated plan to gradually 'Israelize' all Palestine."

It would not be enough, he said, for the Council to limit itself to "mere formal assurances on the matter of sovereignty in the zone." He insisted that the Council should take "practical measures" to prevent the alteration of the status of the zone to the advantage of either party to the armistice agreement, without a previous understanding with the other party.

FRIGID AIR CURRENTS FROM SIBERIA BRING COLD SPELL TO TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- This city shivered today in a cold spell that caused citrus growers all along the Mediterranean coast to take special measures to try to protect their crops from frost. The cold snap followed the coldest November in the city's recent history--a cold spell attributed by weather men to frigid air currents coming down from Siberia.

30,000 JEWS SEEK EMIGRATION FROM EUROPE AND OTHER COUNTRIES

NEW YORK, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- There are some 30,000 prospective immigrants currently registered with the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society in various parts of the world; an increase of about 5,000 over last year, it was reported here today by Dr. Arthur T. Jacobs, executive director of HIAS, who has just returned from a one-month tour of HIAS installations in Europe and Israel. He added that HIAS expects to be able to move about 5,000 of these people during 1954.

Dr. Jacobs reported that HIAS' program for housing single men and women among the recent immigrants to Israel is operating successfully with some 3,000 persons living in about 100 shelters operated jointly with various Israeli institutions. He said that the 300 credit unions operated jointly by HIAS and the Jewish Agency are of "enormous benefit" in the assimilation of recent immigrants in Israel.

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY BESTOWS HONORARY DEGREE UPON ADLAI STEVENSON

NEW YORK, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- Adlai E. Stevenson received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from Yeshiva University tonight at a special convocation at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria. The affair marked the 25th anniversary year of the establishment of the University's College of Arts and Science. In conferring the honorary degree upon Mr. Stevenson, Dr. Samuel Belkin, president of the University, cited him as "an eminent statesman, man of great intellectual ability and moral integrity."

Dr. Belkin announced that the \$125,000 raised at the dinner tonight will be applied to the University's Scholarship Fund. He said Yeshiva University will spend \$455,294 during the academic year 1953-54, to provide scholarship and maintenance aid for 1,625 students, or 85 percent of its enrollment.

SEN. LEHMAN RECEIVES JEWISH EDUCATION ASSOCIATION AWARD

NEW YORK, Dec. 13. (JTA)--- Sen. Herbert H. Lehman was last night awarded the first Mark Eisner Education Award from the American Association for Jewish Education at a dinner here attended by more than 500 educational and Jewish community leaders. Accepting the award, Sen. Lehman warned against the "threat of the book burners."

The gold medal was presented to the Senator by Samuel I. Rosenman, former advisor to Presidents Roosevelt and Truman. The award was established in honor of Mr. Eisner, who was a founder and former president of the AAJE. Messages were received at the dinner from President Eisenhower, Adlai Stevenson and Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt.

BROIDO HEADS \$2,195,000 DRIVE FOR REFORM JUDAISM INSTITUTIONS

NEW YORK, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- Louis Broido, noted New York Jewish leader, has accepted the post of national chairman of the Combined Campaign for \$2,195,000 in 1954 to support the two major national institutions of American Reform Judaism--the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion--it was announced here today.

Focal point of the campaign to strengthen the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, national parent body of 462 affiliated Jewish temples, and the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, oldest Jewish seminary in the United States, will be a dinner next month at the Waldorf-Astoria commemorating the advancement of American Reform Judaism.

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