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HOUSE GROUP TO VOTE TOMORROW ON PROSECUTION OF ANTI-SEMITES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- A procedural battle developed in the House Committee on Un-American Activities today over a proposed report by the staff recommending that the Justice Department prosecute alleged "neo-Fascist" groups. The proposed report, which has yet to be submitted to committee members for a vote, attacked the anti-Semitic "National Renaissance Party" and criticized the hate sheet, "Common Sense."

A vote may be taken Friday on whether to accept the report. Meanwhile, Rep. Francis E. Walter, Pennsylvania Democrat who will take over as committee chairman, today angrily denounced the whole procedure. He charged that the committee has held no hearings relating to the report and had not even discussed the subject in executive hearings. "I have never even seen the report," he said. Rep. Walter was co-sponsor of the McCarran-Walter Act and once made a House speech attacking "professional Jews."

The chairman-designate noted that committee rules prohibit the release or disclosure of any report until after it has been approved by a majority of committee members. "This kind of thing is going to stop next year," said Rep. Walter, who takes over in January. He emphasized that he was not challenging the findings of the report, but only the procedure under which it was prepared and made public.

Chairman Harold H. Velde, Illinois Republican, could not be reached for comment. Other members of the committee said the press announcement of the possible committee report involving anti-Semitic groups was "premature" and there was no certainty that the report would be adopted. Unofficial sources, however, were confident that it would be approved.

VATICAN ASKED TO INTERVENE FOR 13 JEWS ON TRIAL IN EGYPT

ROME, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- The Chief Rabbis of all Italian cities appealed to the Vatican today to intervene with Egypt against the trial of 13 Egyptian Jews charged with espionage and organizing a regime of terror in Egypt on behalf of Israel. The appeal was also addressed to all other religious communities in Italy.

The rabbinical appeal expressed concern over the trial of the Jews and over the methods used in extorting confessions from the defendants. It called upon the representatives of all religious movements in this country to join in denouncing this "offense against humanity and justice" and in an effort to save "many young lives from martyrdom."

ALLIES DEMAND SPEED-UP OF INDEMNIFICATION TO NAZI VICTIMS

BONN, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Representatives of the Allied High Commission in West Germany conferred here yesterday with officials of the Bonn Government on methods of speeding up implementation of the Federal Indemnification Law and for improving some of its provisions.

The representatives of the United States, Britain and France, in their first meeting with Bonn officials on this problem in a long time, raised the question that the German law did not fulfill its obligations under the 1952 "Contractual Agreement" between Germany and the Western Powers and the 1954 Paris protocols. The Germans agreed to study the Allied suggestions and to see if they could be incorporated into the long-delayed amendment to the law.

The Allied complaints involved the applicability of the Indemnification Law in certain border claims where the distinction between indemnification, restitution and pension rights is blurred; the maximum amount to be allowed on compensation claims; the right to bring suit in the ordinary courts when a claim has not been processed within a reasonable period of time, and the eligibility of certain "national persecutee groups" - mostly non-Jews.

JEWS SUBMIT COMPLAINT AGAINST AUSTRIA TO FRENCH GOVERNMENT

PARIS, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- The dissatisfaction of the French Jewish community with the Austrian Government's attitude toward Jewish restitution was expressed here today in a memorandum submitted to the French Foreign Office by the CRIF, central representative body of French Jewry, the Alliance Israelite Universelle and the French section of the World Jewish Congress.

At the same time, the WJC submitted an independent protest to the Austrian Embassy here. It is believed that the protests were submitted today to coincide with the arrival here tomorrow of Austrian Chancellor Julius Raab.

PRESIDENT OF ITALY RECEIVES JEWISH DELEGATION FOR FIRST TIME

ROME, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- For the first time in the history of the Italian Republic, President Luigi Einaudi received today an official delegation from the Jews of Italy. Present at the private audience were: Giorgi Zevi, president of the Union of Italian Jewish Communities; Rome Chief Rabbi Elio Toaff; and Carlo Viterbo and Tullia Zevi, members of the Council of the Union.

During their half-hour conversation, the President displayed a keen interest in the affairs of the Jewish community and expressed admiration for the State of Israel and its achievements, particularly those of the Histadrut and the collective settlement movement. The delegation presented the President with a handsomely bound copy of a recently published manuscript of Benedetto Musoline, Senator of the Kingdom of Naples, who more than a century ago advocated the creation of a Jewish State.

GERMAN PROVINCE REJECTS BILL ON RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE IN SCHOOLS

MAYENCE, Germany, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- The Educational and Cultural Committee of the Rhineland-Palatinate Legislature has rejected a Social Democratic motion to incorporate into a new elementary school bill a clause stipulating that teachers must avoid "anything likely to give offense to members of other faiths."

Also voted down was a provision that teaching positions should be open to teachers who are not members of a Christian church.

UNITED HIAS SERVICE LAUNCHES \$3,500,000 DRIVE FOR 1955 PROGRAM

NEW YORK, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- An outline of the program and responsibilities of the United HIAS Service--the recently consolidated international Jewish migration which replaces HIAS, United Service for New Americans and the migration services of the Joint Distribution Committee--was given here tonight by Ben Touster, first president of the new organization.

Mr. Touster spoke at the inaugural dinner of the United HIAS Service, at which the 1955 campaign for \$3,500,000 was launched by the organization to carry on its global migration and resettlement program. More than 400 leaders in Jewish communal life attended the dinner which was held at the Hotel Biltmore.

Abner Bregman, chairman of the dinner, announced that as a result of tonight's gathering, the organization can expect a quarter of a million dollars in initial gifts with which to launch its campaign. United HIAS Service will not be a beneficiary in 1955 of the United Jewish Appeal, but will collect funds independently from its own membership, auxiliaries, branches, Jewish federations and welfare funds, and from individuals residing in areas where no organized welfare funds exist.

Mr. Touster, in reviewing the considerations which prompted the creation of United HIAS Service, through the merging of USNA, HIAS and the migration services of JDC, said that "the United HIAS Service emerges as the historical successor of those who have separately gone before, combining in one great effort and in one great instrument the hopes, the aspirations, and the struggles for our people's survival."

Touster Stresses Formation of United Authority on Jewish Migration

Pointing out that "at long last, American Jewry can now speak with a single voice, and act with one united authority, on all matters involving the migratory and the homeless," Mr. Touster declared: "All that has gone before has been, in a sense--despite the magnificent record of performance--only a prelude and preparation for this present hour, when one combined agency would arise as a tower of strength for all who still suffer and despair.

"This unprecedented, history-making union is, by the way, especially noteworthy because it sets an inspiring example of mutual compromise and concession. It furnishes proof positive of the ability of American leaders in Jewry voluntarily to put aside all considerations of personal prestige, of institutional rivalry, and surrender position and power for the sake of community.

"Overlapping of jurisdiction, duplication of function, multiplication of staff and repetition of expenditure--all these were inevitable outgrowths of the years of intense service and vigorous application. All these have been swept away in our new grand plan of singleness in purpose, structure and action. This modesty, this willingness to yield ground, this absence of private ambition is by no means the smallest aspect of our negotiations--and it will serve, I am sure, as a provocative guide and example to other institutions and other communal leaders in the years to come."

U.S. Senator Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota, addressing the audience, called for the repeal of the McCarran-Walter Immigration Act. The appeal for financial support for the agency was made by Rabbi Simon G. Kramer, of the Hebrew Institute of University Heights.

1,115 JEWISH IMMIGRANTS FROM NORTH AFRICA ARRIVE IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- A total of 1,115 immigrants from North Africa arrived at Haifa this morning aboard the S.S. Jerusalem. Most of the new immigrants were immediately transferred to settlements in the Negev, Galilee and Judean Plain, which had been prepared for them. A small number who needed welfare assistance were sent to the Jewish Agency's Shaar Haaliyah camp.

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE REPORTS PROGRESS IN CIVIL RIGHTS

NEW YORK, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- The gap between American democratic ideals and practices is closing steadily, with the nation's courts and lawmakers "continuing the forward march toward equal justice and opportunity for all," the American Jewish Committee declared today, Bill of Rights Day, in a statement issued by its president, Irving M. Engel.

Highlighting the advances since 1947 when the President's Committee on Civil Rights issued its report, the AJC pointed out that today 12 states and 32 cities have fair employment laws, three states have fair education laws and five states have public accommodation laws with administrative enforcement. Major credit for these advances belong to the American people, Mr. Engel said.

The AJC president emphasized that until recently, the "most far-reaching advance of all - the U. S. Supreme Court's historic decision on May 17, 1954, banning segregation in the nation's public schools - was only a far-off dream." Underscoring the magnitude of progress in American civil rights, he declared: "Five years ago, the National Committee on Segregation in the Nation's Capital scored widespread discrimination in Washington. Today, segregation in public facilities in the Capital is the exception, rather than the rule."

JEWISH CONGRESS PROPOSES PROGRAM TO MAKE BILL OF RIGHTS EFFECTIVE

NEW YORK, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- In a Bill of Rights Day statement addressed to the nation, the American Jewish Congress today proposed a five-point program to "make the guarantees and protections of the Bill of Rights continually effective for all Americans in our complex and volatile society."

The suggested program consists of enactment by the U. S. Congress of a code of fair procedures for Congressional committees, revision of the Federal employees security program, additional legislation to combat racial and religious discrimination, stricter adherence to the Constitutional requirement of separation of church and state, and elimination of the "grossly restrictive" aspects of the immigration and naturalization laws.

The American Jewish Congress noted that under the present immigration and naturalization laws, aliens lawfully admitted to this country are "kept under the threat of deportation, a form of punishment entirely out of keeping with democratic principles. Deportation should be imposed only on aliens who originally obtained admission by fraud. Lawfully admitted aliens who commit offenses after their arrival should receive the same treatment as citizens committing the same offenses."

U. S. WILL CONTINUE TO ACT AGAINST DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- The United States Government will continue its efforts to obtain voluntary agreement to ending of discriminatory employment practices by contractors on Federal contracts, Deputy Attorney General William P. Rogers declared in a statement issued in advance of yesterday's closed meeting of the President's Committee on Government Contracts.

Mr. Rogers said that the voluntary, rather than compulsory, methods would be used for some time to come and would not be replaced by other methods unless all attempts at conciliation failed. He said the President's Committee was not considering at this time penalties to be applied to contractors who violate the non-discrimination clauses of their contracts.

Vice President Richard M. Nixon, chairman of the Committee, said the government was not contemplating setting up a "police force" to obtain compliance with the non-discrimination policy. He praised businessmen for taking the lead in ending bias in hiring.

DR. SYNGALOWSKI TO START TALKS WITH J. D. C. ON 1955 ORT PROGRAM

NEW YORK, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Dr. Aron Syngalowski, chairman of the executive of the World ORT Union, arrived here today from Geneva for discussions with the Joint Distribution Committee on the financial requirements of the ORT vocational program during 1955. In a statement, he said that about 18,000 people received technical education at ORT schools in 19 countries this year. "From the ranks of the poorest and most distressed there have emerged thousands of young men, more energetic and sure of themselves because their technical knowledge has opened fresh opportunities," he declared.

"The ORT program for 1955, which will be discussed with the leaders of JDC, anticipates an increase in vocational school activities in Israel and North Africa," he stressed. "ORT schools in these areas as well as in Europe are now filled beyond capacity. Two thousand applicants could not be accepted because of lack of space. Jewish children in distant provincial areas of North Africa and Iran live in unbelievable conditions of acute depression. We cannot, unfortunately, build a permanent school in every small town. However, in 1955, ORT will introduce mobile schools which are able to penetrate these remote places.

"ORT's expenditures for 1954 will amount to \$3,200,000. Toward meeting these costs, we received \$1,250,000 from the JDC out of United Jewish Appeal funds. ORT's income from governments and from Jewish supporters in countries in which it operates is steadily rising, but not in the same measure as the growing need of Jewish youth for vocational training. The number of students in ORT's 32 schools in Israel is now more than 2,700. A great measure of the credit for this development of ORT's institutions is due the Central Institute at Geneva which trains instructors and teachers for the trade schools.

Dr. Syngalowski described the "excellent and harmonious" cooperation of ORT and the JDC everywhere and expressed the thanks of all ORT organizations around the world to the JDC and the United Jewish Appeal. There are women's ORT committees in 14 countries. "These women's organizations, and first and foremost, the Women's American ORT, provide a school health program, a recreational program, summer vacation colonies and work clothes to tens of thousands of ORT students," Dr. Syngalowski observed.

J. N. F. ANNOUNCES NEW PROJECT; TO BE FINANCED BY FUNDS FROM U. S.

JERUSALEM, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- A project to carry out the rehabilitation of an area intimately connected with Jewish history, the Modin area, from which the Maccabean revolt against the Graeco-Syrians, 2,100 years ago, spread, was announced here today by the Jewish National Fund.

The project entails the building of two settlements, the clearing of land for agricultural purposes, the planting of a forest and the building of a road to connect the two settlements with the nearby areas of settlement. The two settlements will be called Modin, in honor of the ancient village from which the Maccabees began their revolt, and Shimon Hannassi, in honor of one of the five brothers who led the revolt. The entire project will cover an area of 10,000 dunams (2,500 acres).

The project was conceived in tribute to President Itzhak Ben Zvi on the occasion of the celebration of his 70th birthday. Funds for the work will be provided by the Labor Zionist movement in America, which has already raised \$150,000 of the \$350,000 needed. The Labor Zionist Organization of America is holding a special festival December 19 to raise the remainder of the funds. The entire region will bear President Ben Zvi's name and the road between the settlements will be called Derech Hanassi - the President's Road.

U.S. BUSINESSMEN URGED TO INVEST IN ISRAEL'S MINING INDUSTRY

NEW YORK, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- American businessmen and investors were urged today to invest in Israel's industry at a luncheon of the American-Israel Chamber of Commerce at which Abraham Dor, chief engineer of the Israel Mining Industries, and Bruce McDaniel, former head of the U.S. Foreign Operations Mission in Israel, were the principal speakers.

Mr. Dor told the audience, which consisted of American industrialists, exporters and financiers, that "Israel has some 30,000,000 metric tons of proven and indicated copper ores, containing some 400,000 tons of copper. The engineering work for setting up the metallurgical plant," he added, "is being carried out by competent U.S. firms." He also revealed that satisfactory iron ores were discovered in the Galilee, and that these ores, together with iron obtainable in the process of manufacturing at Haifa sulphuric acid, will enable Israel to produce over 50,000 tons of pig iron annually.

Israel's chief mining engineer said that with the copper ores and the extraction needs available, Israel now faces the choice between a small copper-producing plant with a capacity of about 4,000 tons annually, or a larger one to produce about 14,000 tons annually. The investments involved are four and ten million dollars respectively. "This field of investment, production and export is open to American private initiative," he declared, pointing out the copper would be produced at competitive prices.

Mr. McDaniel said that "agricultural products for industry, textiles, metals and chemicals are the fields of economic development on which basic stress will be put in Israel and wherein American business can find promising opportunities." He drew the attention of American business also to the fact that Israel is spending over \$10,000,000 annually for spare and replacement parts, and to the urgent need of overhauling Israel's road transport, mainly bus services. He saw in these two fields added opportunities for U.S. businessmen.

Benjamin Cooper, vice president of the Chamber and president of the engineering firm Taller & Cooper, said his group believes in the future of Israel as a center of industry and international trade. The numerous multi-lateral business possibilities with Israel as a party have led the American-Israel Chamber to contemplate the setting up of a union of all the Israel bi-national Chambers of Commerce in Europe, South America, Australia and the U.S., he announced. "Such a union," he said, "would open up to our members more international trade opportunities and would put at their disposal the facilities of the Israel bi-national chambers in all the other countries."

WALL DATING BACK TO TIME OF ISRAEL'S KINGS UNCOVERED IN JERUSALEM

LONDON, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- The Jordan Government's Department of Antiquities has begun work on uncovering a large section of the wall surrounding the ancient city of Jerusalem of the period when it was the capital of the Israelite kings, the Times of London reported here today from the Arab-held section of Jerusalem.

The report says that the wall has been uncovered outside the southeast corner of the Haram Alsherif and that the unearthed portion runs 65 feet in a straight line. It notes that the existence and general direction of the wall has been known since 1886.

JOINT DEFENSE APPEAL BESTOWS HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD ON HOFFMAN

NEW YORK, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Paul G. Hoffman, former administrator of the Economic Cooperation Administration, received the first Human Rights Award of the Joint Defense Appeal at a dinner of the JDA here yesterday. The presentation was made by Irving M. Engels, president of the American Jewish Committee, which together with the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, is supported by funds raised by the JDA. Melvin A. Block was named to head the JDA campaign in 1955.