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SOCIALIST DEMANDS THREATEN AUSTRO-JEWISH RESTITUTION NEGOTIATIONS

VIENNA, May 8. (JTA) -- Jewish leaders here expressed little hope for a favorable outcome of the restitution talks scheduled to begin tomorrow, in the wake of Socialist demands with respect to property now in the Russian zone. The Socialist demands did not single out Jewish claims, but it was felt that the sense of their remarks was directed against former Jewish owners. The Jewish leaders said that these new demands had helped to diminish Jewish hopes to the "zero point."

The demands, put forward at a convention of Socialist Party leaders at which Vice Chancellor Adolf Schaerf presided, asked Austria to fulfill restitution demands, in the event of a treaty, only under the following conditions:

1. The time during which the Russians administered the properties originally confiscated by the Nazis, shall not be considered when the Austrian Government makes its accounting of revenue to the former owner. 2. The former owner must pay an appropriate share of the one hundred million dollars which the Austrian Government will have to pay to the Soviet Union for the return of German property.

3. When the above conditions are fulfilled, the Restitution Commission shall make restitution only when the former owner gives ample assurances that present employees will be retained in their jobs. If he cannot do so, the Austrian Government must pay them some equivalent sum in cash. 4. Austria must also pay in cash for all restitution demands for farms and forests.

The Socialists also demanded full compensation for individuals, juridical persons and organizations who suffered special losses under the occupation regime. This obviously points to non-Jewish persons, including former Nazis, whose property was confiscated or damaged by the Russians.

Informed sources here said that former Jewish property seized by the Russians as German property forms a large proportion of total Jewish demands, since the Russians classified even factories for which German banks held mortgages as German property. It is for this reason that they viewed the Socialist demands as a blow to Jewish chances in the talks opening tomorrow.

Earlier, a four-man group representing the Jewish Claims Committee arrived here to participate in the talks. The group included Nehemiah Robinson, Seymour Rubin, Charles Kapralik, and Jehoshua Guvrin. In addition, one member of Vienna's Jewish community will also participate in the talks. A delegation representing the organization of Jews who converted to Christianity is also expected to take part in the discussions. The conference is expected to last about two or three days. Chancellor Julius Raab, Vice Chancellor Schaerf, Foreign Minister Leopold Figl and Finance Minister Reinhardt Kamitz are to be present on the first day, while experts will continue the talks on succeeding days.

500,000 ISRAELIS VOTE IN ELECTIONS FOR HISTADRUT PARLEY

TEL AVIV, May 8. (JTA) -- Nearly half-a-million organized Israel workers went to 1,800 polls throughout the country today to elect 800 delegates to the eighth national Histadrut conference. At the same time, elections were held for the forthcoming agricultural workers conference. All government and private offices and businesses granted their employes two hours off to vote and special arrangements were made for union members in the armed forces.

The election campaign aroused keen interest throughout the country because it is expected to give some indication of how the forthcoming parliamentary elections this summer will go. Entered in the lists today were the representatives of seven groups. The Mapai, Mapam, Leachdut Avodah, Paoved Hazioni, General Zionist workers group, and Communists and a local Mapai group.

The "big guns" of all the major parties concentrated on the campaign this week-end. Defense Minister David Ben Gurion, speaking in Haifa, called for pioneers to settle the southern Negev, asserting that most of Israel's exports will eventually come from that area. He predicted that Eilat would become a greater port than Haifa and, touching upon the Egyptian blockade of the Suez Canal, said that the Egyptians would have to "reckon with our armed forces if passage of the Red Sea (by Israel vessels) is interfered with."

NEW YORK, May 8. (JTA) -- The resolve to complete the work of defeating racialism and aggression which was begun with the total defeat of Hitler's armies ten years ago would be the most fitting way to commemorate the tenth anniversary of V-E Day, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, declared in a message issued this week-end.

The price of victory, Dr. Goldmann recalled, "was paid not only by the death and maiming of soldiers in all parts of the world, but by the massacre of multitudes of innocent and defenseless civilians in every conceivable circumstance of ruthless brutality." As Jews, he added, "we remember especially the annihilation of six million of our brethren, a third of the total Jewish population of the world. They were, as the world tends to forget, the first and principal victims of the Nazi horror though they were not alone."

Hailing the great statesmen and soldiers who "in the teeth of apathy and isolationism," mobilized the resources of the democratic world to insure victory, he pointed out that the Nazi terror could never have come to power but for the folly and blindness of politicians who sought to buy immunity by standing aside while Hitlerism worked its will on the defenseless states and minorities alike. When the Nazi regime declared war on the Jewish people and on other groups, it was all civilization which was threatened. In failing to learn that lesson, the world paid a terrible price and has not yet ceased to pay it. Dr. Goldmann posed the following question: "Have we learned the lesson that emerges from that period?" One of the tragedies of our time, Dr. Goldmann asserted, is that "we cannot answer this question in the affirmative."

"The collaborators of Hitlerism," he warned, "are received again in the chancelleries of many governments. They go about their sinister business in Europe, in the Middle East and in Latin America. Their rehabilitation has been swifter than that of their victims, many of whom still seek justice in vain."

We would do well to commemorate this solemn anniversary, he concluded, "by the unwavering resolve to complete the work which was begun by the military victory ten years ago. Racialism and its offspring, aggressive war, are still the enemies. A great and glorious victory was achieved ten years ago but the struggle for a just international order and the iralienable rights of man still goes on."

In addition to Dr. Goldmann's message, the World Jewish Congress observed the tenth anniversary of V-E Day by issuing the third pamphlet of its "Let Us Forget!" series. The pamphlet reviews briefly both "the incredible crimes committed by the Reich and its minions against the Jews, as well as the present state of the forces and ideas which were responsible for these crimes." Taking stock of what has been left on the "bearers, implementers and ideologies" of the Nazi crimes, the pamphlet says the guilty have not renounced their misdeeds and ideas. "Many of those responsible," it asserts, "are unrepentant and ever convinced of the righteousness of their action and are ready to do it all over again."

UJA Aided 1,500,000 Since V-E Day, Rosenwald Reports

NEW YORK, May 8. (JTA) -- American Jewry, through the United Jewish Appeal, has made possible the world-wide rehabilitation and resettlement of 1,500,000 victims of World War II and oppression, William Rosenwald, general chairman of the UJA, declared here today in a report issued on the tenth anniversary of V-E Day.

Mr. Rosenwald's report pointed out that while 1955 marks the UJA's 17th year of effort, "the decade since V-E Day has been the Appeal's most fruitful in terms of fund-raising results and life-saving achievements." He reported that of the 1,500,000 who were helped directly by the UJA's major beneficiary agencies, "900,000 were transferred from lands of war destruction, oppression and bitter memories to free lands of their own choosing." The overwhelming majority of these refugees, Mr. Rosenwald reported, numbering 800,000 - a ratio of nine out of every ten - were helped to emigrate to Israel. The remaining 10 percent, he noted, were helped to resettle in the United States and other parts of the Western hemisphere.

As a result of the UJA's past ten campaigns, Mr. Rosenwald reported, the Jewish displaced persons problem in Europe has been largely erased and "this year, for the first time since 1945, the UJA is not being called upon to earmark special funds for this once urgent category of need." The UJA chairman noted also that aid from the Appeal had helped the Jewish communities of Western Europe to recuperate almost entirely from the effects of war and Nazi occupation and that today the UJA is no longer required to budget sums for many of these areas.

PROF. BOEHM GIVES \$1,000 JEWISH CONGRESS AWARD TO FRANKFURT COMMUNITY

FRANKFURT, May 8. (JTA) -- Professor Franz Boehm, who was one of four winners of the American Jewish Congress' Stephen Wise Awards, announced last week, has donated the \$1,000 prize connected with that award to the local Jewish community, it was learned here today.

Prof. Boehm headed the West German team at the reparations negotiations with Israel at The Hague three years ago. He is widely credited with having broken the back of the "silent opposition" aimed at sabotaging those negotiations.

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE HITS ISRAEL-ARAB BORDER VIOLENCE

WASHINGTON, May 8. (JTA) -- A resolution condemning the recurrence of violence on the Arab-Israel borders by either side was adopted here today at the concluding session of the three-day American Jewish Committee national executive board meeting. The resolution called on the United States Government to "assume its responsibility within the United Nations to secure concerted action towards peace in that area."

The resolution said, in part: "The Arab refugee problem, protection of the Holy Places, violence on the borders, and similar issues are not beyond amicable solution. The pre-condition is a willingness on the part of each side to meet at the peace table. This, the Arabs have thus far refused to do.

"The United States, itself, bears an obligation to act in this situation. Our government has announced a basic review of Near Eastern policy. We sincerely hope that there will soon emerge a revised policy which would stabilize the situation in the Near East, with particular reference, among other things, to Israel's security problems, and promote conditions leading toward eventual peace in the Near East. We also hope our government will pursue the Johnston water plan to fruition, making such equitable modifications as are necessary. Israel is urged to cooperate fully with the project in the hope that the Arab nations will do likewise. We are convinced that enlightened American self-interest requires speedy action to bring about the peace so long overdue in one of the world's most sensitive areas.

"We continue to urge our government not to supply arms to either the Arab states or Israel until more peaceful conditions exist in the area, and certainly not to the Arabs to the exclusion of Israel."

Other resolutions adopted at the meeting session called on the Administration and Congress to eliminate the irrefragable operation of the Refugee Relief Act and revise the basic immigration code and congratulated the United Nations on its tenth anniversary and pledged the AJC to continue its efforts to foster public understanding of the UN's achievements.

AJC Honors Maxwell Rabb; Gives White House Aid Scroll

Enlightened American public opinion is tumbling down the walls of discrimination and prejudice, the secretary to President Eisenhower's cabinet, Maxwell M. Rabb, told the 200 leaders of American Jewry at the meeting.

Irving M. Engel, AJC president, presented Mr. Rabb with a scroll and special citation "for his devoted efforts and resourcefulness in carrying forward President Eisenhower's high resolve that all Americans regardless of race, color or creed, shall enjoy to the full their birthright of equal opportunity."

American industrialists and business leaders have a \$30,000,000,000 stake in banishing discrimination from every facet of American life. Dr. John Slawson, inter-group relations expert and executive vice-president of the Committee, told the party today. He said that this was the sum wasted annually in loss of purchasing power, skilled labor, and social problems produced by discriminatory practices. Dr. Slawson called on American industrialists and business leaders to become pacesetters in banishing discrimination from every facet of American life.

Saturday night's session of the conference heard a sharp denunciation of the nation's immigration policies of the past two years from Senator Herbert H. Lehman, New York Democrat. Sen. Lehman called the Refugee Relief program a "fiasco" and asserted that the McCarran-Walter Act's "victims" were "negro," but added that "great as the injury to the individuals has been, the injury to the United States has been greater."

The Senator's criticism of immigration policies was joined by Mr. Engel who described them as "short-sighted." He also called the dismissal of Edward Corsi as special assistant to the Secretary of State "a final, dramatic warning" in this field.

In a symposium on the Middle East, Jacob Blaustein, honorary president, declared that the problems endangering the peace of the area can be overcome if the Western powers, the United States in particular, and the United Nations would exercise their leadership. Other symposium participants were Professor S. C. Hurewicz of the Near and Middle East Institute of Columbia University, Dr. Dor Peretz of Hofstra College, and Judge Heilmuth Lowenberg, Judge of the District Court of Tel Aviv.

The Committee made public a document entitled "Religion in Public Education" at the opening of its meeting here Friday, in which it criticized efforts to introduce a religious emphasis in the public schools. Such efforts, the document asserted, "may well create divisive intergroup tension."

In New York this week-end, the American Jewish Congress announced that as a result of its complaint, the New York State Probation Commission had disapproved of the system appointing probation officers in the Children's Court of New York City on the basis of a religious quota system. The AJC had contended that the system violated the State anti-discrimination law. The controversy arose out of the practice established a number of years ago in the Children's Court to apportion probation officers among the three major faiths in accordance with an estimated quota so that probation officers could be assigned to children of the same faith as the officers.)

EISENHOWER PARTICIPATES IN DEDICATION OF NEW WASHINGTON TEMPLE

WASHINGTON, May 8. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower participated in the dedication of the new temple of the Washington Hebrew Congregation this week-end and gave a warning that whoever enjoys God-given rights must defend them for his neighbor's sake, or lose them. The President gave his ten-minute address before an assemblage of over 2,000 in the modernistic \$1,600,000 new temple.

It is not enough, he said, "to know that God gave rights to you and your neighbor. It is well to remember this also: you may not protect those rights only for yourself; you must protect them for all, or your own will be lost."

In the course of his address, the President explained why he was present. "A few moments ago, before this service began," he said, "I was privileged to meet some of the distinguished members of this congregation in the library. Several of them voiced a word of amazement that the President of the United States should attend a service of a faith not his own and in spite of other preoccupations come both to the religious service and to the dedication of this great temple. I personally think that this is natural. There is nothing unique nor particularly extraordinary about it."

He added: "Today the President of the United States, the official head of the country, is after all the official head of a great nation that is religious in its background and which has a spiritual foundation on which to stand. Therefore, it is entirely fitting and in keeping with his office that he should come to such a great and significant event in the lives of one part of the great faiths that have made this country what it is, to pay his respects to that faith and to the event and to the people who have made it possible."

The President's talk was the fourth occasion that a President of the United States has played a role in the history of the congregation. President Franklin Pierce signed its charter, the only one granted by Congress to a Jewish congregation. President William McKinley laid the cornerstone for the former temple. President Harry S. Truman laid the cornerstone for the present building.

The religious service of dedication took place before the President spoke. Afterwards greetings were extended by national Jewish leaders. The dedication climaxed the congregation's observance of the American Jewish Tercentenary.

(In New York, the American Jewish Tercentenary Committee revealed that Dr. Wayne C. Grover, Archivist of the United States, had predicted that current exploration of documents in the National Archives will result in the location of a truly significant body of manuscripts reflecting the rich and varied contributions of American Jews to our national history.)

MIDWEST LABOR PARLEY OF U. J. A. PLEDGES INCREASE IN AID TO ISRAEL

CHICAGO, May 8. (JTA) -- "Israel's tremendous progress of recent years can be wiped out if the new state does not receive sufficient funds to receive and absorb the thousands of impoverished newcomers arriving monthly from tension-gripped Tunisia and Morocco," the concluding session of the two-day eleven state Midwest labor conference of the United Jewish Appeal was told today by Mrs. Ada Sereni, famed Israel heroine of the "illegal" immigration movement.

The more than 600 delegates of the American Labor Zionist movement from 35 Midwest cities responded to her plea with a resolve "to increase by at least 25 percent the funds raised this year by the American Labor Zionist movement for the United Jewish Appeal." Chicago Labor Zionist Branches launched the opening of their U. J. A. campaign today with gifts exceeding \$50,000.

U. S. CENSUS BUREAU PLANNING NATIONAL SURVEY OF RELIGIOUS GROUPS

WASHINGTON, May 8. (JTA) -- The United States Census Bureau is planning a national survey of religious organizations and their membership next year, it was revealed here this week-end. The bureau is sounding out religious groups to see if they will cooperate in a survey which would not be aimed at individuals, but would ask each organization for membership figures by age and sex. Bureau officials have met with statistical officers of groups representing the major religions, including Dr. Harry S. Liffield of the Jewish Statistical Bureau.

UNION OF ETHIOPIAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS AND RABBIS ORGANIZED

NEW YORK, May 8. (JTA) -- The organization of the Union of Ethiopian Hebrew Congregations and Rabbis, an organization aiming to become the voice of Falasha Jews in all matters affecting the American Jewish community, was announced here this week-end. The honorary president of the group is Prof. Naamat Emmanuel of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, while Rabbi C. Morton Cragg, Jr., was named president. The organization will attempt to combat anti-Semitism among Negro Americans.

MRS. SOPHE ROSENWALD ADLER DIES IN CALIFORNIA; WAS 84

LOS ANGELES, May 8. (JTA) -- Mrs. Sophie Rosenwald Adler, widow of Max Adler and sister of the late Julius Rosenwald, died at her Beverly Hills home yesterday at the age of 84.