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GOLDMANN REPORTS ON TALKS WITH ADENAUER; NEW COMPENSATION BILL DUE

TEL AVIV, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- Nazi victims who formerly lived in the territory of what is now East Germany would be able to benefit from a new regulation for payment of compensation to individuals which will be presented to the West German Parliament next month, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Jewish Agency and president of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, said upon his arrival here today. Dr. Goldmann, who will attend the forthcoming meetings of the Zionist Actions Committee, expected to be in Israel about two weeks.

Dr. Goldmann revealed that he had met German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer Saturday while both were vacationing in Switzerland. The two statesmen discussed the new proposal for individual compensation as well as proposals for making better use of the terms of the German reparations pact. The former residents of areas in East Germany have, heretofore, been unable to benefit from any compensation regulations in West Germany.

Asked about the possibilities of Israel-German diplomatic relations, Dr. Goldmann said that he had gained the impression, during his talks with Dr. Adenauer, that Germany was ready for such a step, but that the German authorities understand the delicacy of the question and would not, therefore, initiate a move in this direction.

Turning to the Austrian restitution-compensation program, he said that after agreement is reached, Austria will set up a \$22,000,000 fund, under a trustee arrangement, for the distribution of funds to an estimated 15,000 to 17,000 families. He expressed the view that the Austrian agreement was an improvement on the German plan because it provided for payment of compensation in a lump sum, while the Germans were paying in installments.

BEN ZVI ENDS TALKS ON CABINET FORMATION; WILL SUMMON BEN GURION

JERUSALEM, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- President Itzhak Ben Zvi virtually completed today his consultations with party leaders looking toward the formation of a new Cabinet and is expected to call in David Ben Gurion tomorrow morning and invite him to try to form a coalition government.

Circles close to Mr. Ben Gurion confidently predicted today that he would be able to form a government consisting of the Mapai, Achdut Avodah, Mapam and Progressives next week. These circles also stated that the participation of the religious parties in the coalition would depend on whether they were ready to support Golda Myerson, Mapai leader, as Mayor of Tel Aviv. Mapai leaders will gather at Mr. Ben Gurion's home tonight to work out further details of a coalition.

A "political incident" occurred today when the rightwing Herut Party leaders refused to accept the President's invitation to discuss their ideas about the next government. The Herut leaders were offended because of the sequence of consultation visits. The President had first called in the representatives of the parties in the present coalition, then all others. The Herut believes that the invitations should have been extended in an order based on the relative strength of the parties in the new Parliament, which would have had it consulted immediately after the Mapai.

At a press conference today, Herut leader Menahem Beigun charged that the Herut had been "slighted" by the President and had been "ill advised" in the order of consultations. He revealed that in reply to Herut's written representations to the President on this matter, the President's Office had replied that: the invitations were extended at the President's exclusive discretion; the President viewed the consultations not merely as formalities but as matters of practical significance--the consultations are designed to lead to the earliest formation of a stable government, and the President meant no offense to anybody.

Revealing that despite this letter from the President the Herut would not accept his invitation to consultations, Mr. Beigun said: "Naturally it is the President's right to invite anybody he wishes, but the present invitation is a deviation from established custom."

The General Zionists told the President that as a result of past experiences they were not ready to enter any coalition and that first they would want to discuss the practical

tasks facing the next Cabinet. The Poale Agudah and Agudah insisted that they would join a coalition only if it pledged strict observance of the Sabbath, prohibited the raising of hogs.

The leftist Achdut Avodah favored a broad coalition which would exclude the General Zionists, Herut and the Communists. It demanded that the coalition government increase immigration, particularly from North Africa, intensify colonization and entrust the World Zionist Organization with political tasks. The Mapam also favored a broad coalition.

JEWISH AGENCY ISSUES DETAILED REPORT ON 18 MONTHS OF ACTIVITIES

JERUSALEM, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency spent a total of 188,300,000 pounds during the 18-month period between October 1953 and March 1955, it was revealed here today in a report distributed in advance of next week's meeting of the Zionist Actions Committee, policy-making body of the Zionist movement between world congresses. Fully two-thirds of this sum was spent on agricultural settlement programs, the report stressed.

In a special section of the financial report, it was noted that since 1948 when the Jewish State was established, the Jewish Agency has spent 832,000,000 pounds, much of which went for the initial stages of absorption of the 750,000 immigrants who swelled Israel's population since 1948. Among the programs financed by the Agency was the establishment of 438 settlements in which 30,000 immigrant families now live, the maintenance and education of some 40,000 children within the framework of the Youth Aliyah organization, and general cultural and educational activities.

Income for the 18-month period exceeded 182,000,000 pounds, the report said. Some 102,500,000 pounds of the total came from the Israel Foundation Fund (chiefly from the United Jewish Appeal); 61,000,000 pounds in German reparations funds and the recovery of heirless and communal Jewish property in Germany; and the remainder came from Youth Aliyah and other campaigns, the return of loaned funds and the floating of various loans.

Expenditures for the 18-month period exceeded 188,000,000 pounds, with the six million pound deficit arising during the last six months of the period because of the need to transport and absorb thousands of North African immigrants who began coming to Israel in waves from the summer of 1954 on. Transportation costs for immigrants during the 18-month period came to 5,500,000 pounds and absorption costs were 10,200,000 pounds--an average of 65 pounds per immigrant who arrived and was settled on the land.

ISRAEL NAMES NEW DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF; SERVED IN BRITISH ARMY

TEL AVIV, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- Brig. Chaim Laskov has been named Deputy Chief of Staff of the Israel Army of Defense, it was officially announced here today. Brig. Laskov returned last week from studies at Oxford University.

Brig. Laskov served as commander of the Israel Air Force. Born in Russia in 1919, he came to Palestine in 1925, joined the Haganah in 1933 and served in the British Army during World War II, achieving the rank of major during an active career in Cyrenaica, Italy, Belgium and Holland. His Israel commands also included infantry and tank units and the military schools of the Army.

NEW EGYPTIAN ATTACK ON JEWISH SETTLEMENT IN GAZA AREA REPORTED

TEL AVIV, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- A new Egyptian attack on the Israel border village of Nachal Oz, opposite Gaza, yesterday was revealed by an Israel military spokesman here today. He said that an Egyptian military post opened fire on Nachal Oz farmers while they were working their fields. The settlers returned the fire, then turned back to their tilling.

Last night, the spokesman also disclosed, a band of Egyptian infiltrators attacked a tribe of Israel Bedouins in the Southern Negev and made off with a flock of sheep. An Israel military patrol gave chase and forced the thieves to abandon the sheep and take cover in Egyptian territory.

2,000 JEWS STILL RESIDE IN ESTONIA, TALLIN JEWISH LEADER REPORTS

TEL AVIV, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- There are still some 2,000 Jews living in Soviet Estonia, Yeshoua Oko, 73, former president of a synagogue in Tallin, capital city of Estonia, reported here. He was one of a party of 22 immigrants from various Eastern European countries to arrive in Israel today.

Mrs. Riva Zanotzkaya, 65, another of the immigrants, who came from Kovno, Lithuania, said that the Soviet authorities had promised to continue her pension payments in Israel. The pension was awarded her upon the death in action of her son, who was a Soviet Army officer during the late war.

The immigrants included: nine from Russia, eight from Rumania, two from Latvia, and one each from Estonia, Lithuania and Poland.

GERMAN CATHOLICS INTEND TO BUY BUILDINGS OF FOEHRENWALD CAMP

MUNICH, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- A Catholic group intends to purchase the 300 buildings at Foehrenwald, last Jewish DP camp in Germany, it was learned here today. The camp has long been slated for closing but it still has about 1,500 Jewish residents.

The small Jewish communities scattered throughout West Germany have begun preparations for the forthcoming High Holidays. At the same time, a permanent Jewish chapel seating 25 worshippers was opened this week in Munich by Major Oscar M. Lifshutz, Jewish chaplain for American troops in the Munich area, in the presence of Major General Numa A. Watson, commanding general of the area. The small synagogue, second of its kind in Germany, is located in the American compound, formerly the seat of the Military Government for Bavaria and before that headquarters of the Nazi Party Quartermaster.

In Dortmund, a cornerstone was laid for a small new synagogue in the presence of Siegfried Heimberg, chairman of the Association of Jewish Communities in Westphalia. There were 5,000 Jews in Dortmund before the Nazis came to power. Today there are only 300 Jews residing there.

BAVARIAN DEPUTY PREMIER INSISTS ON CLOSING DACHAU CREMATORIUM

MUNICH, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- To a burst of applause from his peasant audience in a Dachau meeting hall, Bavaria's Deputy Minister-President and Minister of Agriculture, Josef Baumgartner, today exclaimed: "The crematorium must go!" It must go, the Deputy Prime Minister observed, because its continued existence constituted "a defamation of the Dachau area and its people." A dignified memorial would suffice to commemorate the death of Hitler's victims, he felt.

Dr. Baumgartner, who heads the Bavarian Party, is one of the most powerful figures in Bavarian politics. With his speech he lent considerable support to the demand publicly made a month ago by the governmental administrator of Dachau county, Landtag deputy Heinrich Junker, that the crematorium of the infamous Dachau camp should be closed. That demand was immediately and vigorously opposed, however, by the Bavarian Minister-President, the Minister of Finance and by State Secretary Dr. Joseph Panholzer, who spoke at a special Tisha b'Av service arranged next to the crematorium.

GERMAN "EDUCATOR" FINED FOR NAZI ACTIVITIES; DEPRIVED OF CIVIL RIGHTS

BERLIN, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- Dr. Helmut Stellrecht, one-time deputy to Nazi Party philosopher and education chief, Alfred Rosenberg, was fined 22,000 marks by a denazification court here yesterday for his activities during the Nazi era. He was also deprived of his civil rights for a period of three years.

The court, which only has the power of punishment through fine, deprivation of rights and confiscation of property, is studying the possibility of confiscating some of his property. It seeks to establish how much of his property was acquired by virtue of his position of prominence in the Nazi world.

Stellrecht, who was in charge of the program of "spiritual education" of all Nazi Party members and who thus perpetuated the Rosenberg myths of racial superiority, fled Berlin in 1945 to Southern Germany where a denazification tribunal cleared him in 1947. This verdict was later held to have been obtained through fraud and a new hearing set which ended in yesterday's verdict.

GERMAN LAWYER, LEADER OF NAZI POGROM ON JEWS IN 1938, ACQUITTED

ESSEN, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- Dr. Ewald Muehleneisen, a 50-year-old attorney who was one of the key figures in the pogrom that raged through the Ruhr city of Bocholt in November 1938, has been acquitted a second time by the local court.

The court declared, as it did in 1951, that there was a "lack of sufficient proof" to connect the then county chief of the Nazi Lawyers' League with the sacking of apartment and the burning of synagogues. The German Supreme Court in Karlsruhe, holding that proof was adequate, referred the case back for re-trial upon appeal by the prosecution. This time, the prosecutor asked for a nine-month jail sentence, but most of his witnesses suffered from a pronounced loss of memory.

PHILADELPHIA CANCELS OPEN-AIR PERFORMANCE OF "MERCHANT OF VENICE"

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- The Recreation Department of Philadelphia cancelled an open-air performance of Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice" which was scheduled to be given in a plaza opposite City Hall tonight.

The action was taken on the advice of Wayne B. Barr, chief of the municipal public information bureau, who noted that the play had a history of controversy and that it was the policy of his office to advise against the use of city property for anything of a controversial nature. City officials said that there had not been any complaints against presentation of the play.

AMERICANS URGED TO PARTICIPATE IN CONGRESSIONAL POLL ON RELIGION

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- Any citizen of the United States who cares to state his opinion of whether his religious rights, guaranteed by the Constitution, are being properly interpreted and adequately protected, will be able to do so in a survey on this subject now to be undertaken by Congress, it was emphasized here today by a spokesman of the Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights which will conduct the survey.

A questionnaire containing eight questions will be sent to anyone who asks for it. No mailing list has been prepared, but anyone who is interested may receive the questionnaire by writing to the subcommittee. It will be up to the people themselves to respond. Public hearings will be held later in Washington. They will start on Oct. 3.

Only a limited number of persons will be called to represent "all substantial points of view on the subject" at the public hearings, it was stated here today by Lon Hocker, counsel for the Senate body. "In a sensitive matter such as religion, we do not wish to make the hearings a forum for strained and novel interpretations or for sectarian controversy," he declared.

The eight-part questionnaire which the Senate body has prepared deals with the various interpretations of the First Amendment to the Constitution dealing with freedom of religion. This amendment, with which the text of the Bill of Rights starts, provides that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." It is for the first time in the history of Congress that Americans will be consulted in such a direct fashion on whether they feel there are any infringements of the rights guaranteed under this first section of the Bill of Rights.

Senate Body Seeks Wide Cross-Section of Opinion on Religious Liberty

The questionnaire not only calls for "yes-or-no" answers, but invites recipients to make extended comments if they wish, in view of the fact that the Senate subcommittee seeks to assemble a real cross-section of opinion. The first question on the form simply asks for the name and affiliation of the person filling in the document.

Question 2 asks: "Do you regard the phrase 'make no law respecting an establishment of religion' as a prohibition against any direct or indirect government aid to churches or religious sects? Or do you regard the language as banning preferential treatment of any particular church or religious sect while permitting government aid to religion generally or to the various churches and sects on a nondiscriminatory basis?"

Question 3 asks: "Do you believe the free exercise of religion protects atheists in propagating a disbelief in religion?"

Question 4: "Do you consider that the United States Supreme Court is correct in interpreting the religion clause in conjunction with the 14th Amendment as constituting a prohibition against acts by state and local governments as well as against acts by the federal government?"

Question 5: "Have you observed any significant instances in recent years of a denial of the rights expressed in the religion clause?"

Question 6: A) if your answer to question five is yes, do you consider such instances you cite as routine problems in the course of life in a democracy which can be handled satisfactorily by the courts?; B) or do you consider them as evidence of a tendency to permit erosion of the rights expressed in the religion clause?"

Question 7: "If you have checked 6B do you think that the tendency could be corrected or eliminated by some congressional action?" If so, the individual filling in the questionnaire is asked to specify the nature of such congressional action.

Question 8: "Speaking generally and considering the deep emotional nature of religious beliefs, do you feel that the present state of affairs in the United States with respect to rights in the religion clause is: excellent, good, fair, poor?"

NEW ANTI-SEMITIC PUBLICATION IS WIDELY DISTRIBUTED IN THE SOUTH

MACON, Ga., Aug. 17. (JTA) -- A viciously anti-Semitic four-page slick paper publication is now being widely distributed throughout the South, with the addition of a special two-page pro-segregation insert. The anti-Semitic sheet "The American Nationalist," is edited by Frank L. Britton, who operates out of Inglewood, California.

EDWARD SMYTHE, NOTORIOUS ANTI-SEMITIC PROPAGANDIST, DEAD

NEW YORK, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- Edward J. Smythe, notorious anti-Semitic and anti-Catholic propagandist who was tried for sedition during the second World War, died here yesterday at the age of 63.

Smythe, who was denounced in Congress in 1941 as a representative of the "worst forms of un-Americanism operating an anti-Catholic and anti-Jewish racket," distributed large quantities of Nazi propaganda in this country and otherwise cooperated with the German American Bund and the Ku Klux Klan. His sedition trial ended without a decision when the presiding judge died and the government failed to press for a new trial. He was recently given a year's suspended sentence for using the mails to defraud.