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GERMAN CABINET PRESENTS BILL AGAINST ANTI-SEMITISM TO PARLIAMENT

BONN, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- The anti-defamation bill approved by the West German Cabinet this month was presented to the Federal Parliament today. The draft is an amendment of paragraph 113 of the West German penal code.

The proposed amendment reads: "Any one who in the future, in a form endangering the public peace, will agitate against a national, racial, religious group or against a group because of its national origin, who will slander them or make them contemptible, or against better knowledge, make defamation and assertions of a factual nature, will be punished with not less than three months' imprisonment." A fine may be imposed in addition.

The law is expected to reach the floor of Parliament soon for discussion. A similar draft has been placed before Parliament for discussion three times since 1950. Ministry of Justice officials said that the draft laws had never been discussed in Parliament for "technical reasons."

ZIONIST CONFERENCE APPEALS TO COMMUNIST LANDS TO PERMIT EMIGRATION

AMSTERDAM Jan. 27. (JTA) -- The fourth conference of European Zionists since the end of World War II today asked the countries of Eastern Europe to enable every Jew who desires to do so, to emigrate to Israel. (For earlier news on the conference see page 2.)

In a proclamation adopted by the 1,600 delegates, the parley also appealed to the Communist bloc and to "the conscience of the world" to recognize the national rights of Jewish communities and to accord them facilities for a free national and cultural life determined by themselves "in their own language." It asked further that the Jews be given the right to direct their own educational and cultural institutions.

A resolution passed later stressed the importance of immigration to Israel from all countries and noted that it must be nurtured through the encouragement of pioneer youth groups. The resolution called Zionist youth movements the best bulwarks against assimilation and asked that their budgets not be cut. It asked the restoration of cuts in the Jewish Agency budget for this department, and asked still more funds for expansion of youth work.

Dr. Walter Eytan, director general of Israel's Foreign Ministry, speaking on the political situation in which the Jewish State finds itself, predicted in time the Arab states would realize that a modern, strong Israel is an asset to the Middle East -- "something worth fighting for instead of fighting against." He said the technical difficulties involved in an agreement between Israel and the Arab states could readily be overcome.

Zvi Lurie, of the Jewish Agency executive, reviewing the tasks of the Zionist movement, put special emphasis on the Jewish education of the children. He called on all Zionist members to send their children to day schools and to prevail on them to study Hebrew. On the question of voluntary immigration to Israel, he had the kindest words for Britain and suggested that Jews living in the United States and Canada could "learn" much in this respect from the British Jews.

The Mayor and city councillors of Amsterdam yesterday gave an afternoon reception for the delegates to the Zionist parley at the town hall. He paid tribute to the enrichment of Holland's culture by the Jews and expressed the hope that the conference would help strengthen Jewish community life in the Netherlands.

SYRIAN TROOPS RENEW FIRE ON ISRAELI SHEPHERDS IN HULEH AREA

TEL AVIV, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Syrian troops in the Huleh area again opened fire on Israeli shepherds in the fields about Kibbutz Gonen, an Israel Army spokesman announced today. He added that there were no casualties among the Israelis, who were well inside Israel territory.

[Israel Ambassador Abba Eban today flew from Washington to New York for consultations with United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld on an Israeli complaint to the Security Council on the shooting of an Israeli shepherd Friday on Israeli territory near the Syrian border. Ambassador Eban's trip to New York followed a meeting today on this issue with William Rountree, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs.]

JEWISH LIFE IN VARIOUS EUROPEAN LANDS REVIEWED AT AMSTERDAM PARLEY

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- A wide-ranging review of the status of Jews in many European countries was presented here last night to the European Zionist conference by Dr. S. Levenberg, Jewish Agency representative in London. He warned the 1,600 delegates about the danger of a revival of anti-Semitism in Germany, stressing the existence of neo-Nazi underground, with centers in Germany, Egypt and other parts of the world.

Everyone appreciated the "tremendous steps" taken by West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer and his Government to combat anti-Semitism "but the Jewish people should not take lightly the recent spread of anti-Jewish manifestations" in the West German Republic, Dr. Levenberg stated.

He denounced as "a falsification of the facts" the statement by Soviet First Deputy Anastas I. Mikoyan, during his visit to the United States, that there was no Jewish problem in the Soviet Union. The Jewish Agency official said there was no freedom in the Soviet Union to discuss Jewish issues and there was no possibility of developing Jewish culture. He said the Jewish problem in Russia was not only one of religion and culture but also social and economic.

Fear Soviet Population Census May Be Used to Lessen Number of Jews

Citing the census of population now being made in the Soviet Union, he said there was a danger that this census would be used to prove that the number of Jews was smaller than it was in reality and that the Jewish population was not interested in Jewish culture.

Turning to Czechoslovakia, Dr. Levenberg said that the anti-Jewish anti-Zionist statements made during the trial of Rudolph Slansky "have never been withdrawn" and he called on the conference to voice "a solemn protest" against the condemning of Jewish leaders.

He called the present wave of immigration from Eastern Europe a continuation of the process of liquidation of historic Jewish communities in the area. He referred to the "dramatic struggle" for Jewish survival taking place in many small Jewish communities in that area.

Suggesting the idea of a "collective transfer" to Israel, he said there was no future for the Jewish communities in East Europe. Such communities are faced with annihilation as Jews, he said, stressing that there were a number of children in such communities and that attention would have to be devoted to their Jewish education.

Contending that many such Jewish communities were "too much dependent" on money from the Conference of Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, he asked what would happen to them in three or four years when money from that source would have dried up. He said that this might bring a "serious crisis" in Jewish communal life, and he called for planning to avert this danger.

Reviewing the position of the Jewish communities of Western Europe, Dr. Levenberg hailed the transformation of the past 12 years since 1947 when 250,000 Jews were still in DP camps. He added that the improvement had a disturbing aspect, that West European Jewry faced the threat of assimilation.

He said that many Jewish communities in West Europe lacked "the barest necessities" of a Jewish life and that new means of assistance to such communities "must be evolved." The Zionist movement should become a missionary movement to such communities, he urged.

JESUIT SCHOOLS CLOSED IN EGYPT; CHARGED WITH "ISRAEL PROPAGANDA"

LONDON, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Three Jesuit schools in Cairo have been closed by the Government for having used a geography textbook which reportedly compared the Arab states unfavorably in some respects with Israel, the official newspaper, Al Ahram, reported today.

(Jesuit circles in Rome denied today UAR charges that the geography textbooks used in the schools in Rome contained "Israel propaganda.")

The newspaper reported that all copies of the offending textbook were confiscated and burned about a month ago and that the schools would "continue functioning" when they have been supplied with new textbooks "in line with the national Arab sentiment." The affected schools have a high academic reputation. Some of the Ministers of the present United Arab Republic Government are among their graduates.

Msgr. Oddi, the Papal Nuncio in Cairo, called at the UAR Foreign Ministry yesterday morning to protest the Government action, first of its kind against Christian mission schools in Egypt. There are some 180 Roman Catholic mission schools in Egypt but only four belonging to the Jesuits. These are the three closed in Cairo and one in Minia which is still open.

10,000 JEWS MAY LEAVE RUMANIA IN FEBRUARY; 8,000 LEFT IN JANUARY

NEW YORK, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Jewish emigration from Rumania exceeded 8,000 this month and may reach 10,000 in February, it was reported here today from Bucharest by the New York Times correspondent there. "The exodus from Communist Rumania may, according to some speculation, be the forerunner of an eventual mass movement out of Eastern Europe," he said in his cabled report.

The Rumanian Government's decision to permit a resumption of the Jewish exodus was explained on the "humanitarian consideration that families should be reunited," the correspondent stated. Many of those who have departed or are preparing to depart have relatives in Israel, he added.

"The Rumanian Government's decision was reached without negotiation with Israel or the American United Jewish Appeal agencies," the correspondent stressed. "The latter have assumed the financial responsibility and administrative burden of transporting the Jews from their point of arrival in the West to Israel. The need for considerable funds is said to be pressing. According to one explanation, the movement of Rumanian nationals is not a question that may be negotiated with a foreign power.

Since the first of the year the Rumanian Government has handled the problem of transit visas to facilitate passage through Hungary, the Bucharest report revealed. According to available reports, the Hungarian Government cooperates effectively in transiting Jews through its territory to Austria, where the United Jewish Appeal agencies take over at the Vienna railroad station. Emigrants are met by a fleet of buses that are on call for every train arriving from Bucharest. The wanderers are moved to hotels leased for this purpose, fed and housed for the night. The next day they are put aboard trains for Italy and moved to Naples, where Israeli and chartered vessels embark them for Israel.

The Austrian and Italian Governments are reported facilitating the movements across their territories with a minimum of formalities and with great understanding. The Italian Government controlling the end of the land route has shown, it is said, extraordinary kindness to the emigrants and cooperation with the Israeli and United States agencies. The Yugoslav Government also does everything it can to help wherever a convoy of emigrants arrives at its borders. The Greek Government in turn speeds the final stage to embarkation points when a convoy arrives from Yugoslavia.

"The Rumanian Jews may leave Bucharest with about 70 kilograms (154 pounds) of personal belongings," the Times correspondent reported. "The Rumanian administrative system makes the final documentation time-consuming and laborious," he emphasized.

Jerusalem Mayor Appeals for Aid to Absorb the Jews from Rumania

NEW YORK, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- The emigration of Jews from Rumania and other Eastern European countries which allow them to go to Israel is a "mere crack" in the Iron Curtain, the Mayor of Jerusalem, Gershon Agron, said at a press conference here today. Mr. Agron, who came to this country for a month's tour of 12 major cities on behalf of the American Committee for Labor Israel, was honored at a luncheon given by the committee.

Mr. Agron expressed the hope that "the crack will widen and that the 100,000 men, women and children we expect to receive and absorb this year will be the thin end of the wedge, the forerunners of those to come" from various East European countries.

The Mayor of Jerusalem, who will be received at City Hall tomorrow by Mayor Robert F. Wagner, explained the impact of the 100,000 immigrants on Israel. He noted that 100,000 meant an increase of five percent in the total population--the equivalent of 9,000,000 immigrants entering the United States. It would "not be easy even for America to have to cope with an accretion of these dimensions," he said, appealing to American Jewry to help Israel absorb the newcomers.

U. N. NAMES NEW DIRECTOR OF RELIEF AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold today announced the appointment of Dr. John H. Davis as director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees. Dr. Davis is expected to arrive in Beirut, headquarters of UNRWA, in March after a period of consultations at UN headquarters here during February.

A distinguished agricultural economist who has represented the United States at a number of international conferences, Dr. Davis has been since 1954 director of the Program in Agriculture and Business in the Graduate School of Business Administration of Harvard University. He succeeds Henry R. Labouisse, who was appointed director of UNRWA in May 1954, and who resigned effective June 1958.

JEWSH CABINET MEMBER LOSES POST IN RESHUFFLE OF TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT

PARIS, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- The latest reshuffle of the Tunisian Cabinet saw the elimination of the only Jew in the Bourguiba Government, it was reported here. Andre Barouche, nationalist newspaper publisher, was removed as Minister of Housing.

HAVANA, Cuba, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Dr. Manuel Urrutia Lleo, President of Cuba, today greeted the Jewish press here through a personal note to the correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency extending "cordial" wishes to the Jewish publications.

Dr. Fidel Castro, leader of the revolution in Cuba, told a press conference here that he condemns racial and religious discrimination. "Our revolution would not have been entitled to call itself a people's revolution if it were not opposed to all forms of racial discrimination," he added.

U. S. COMMITTEE TO STUDY REFUGEE PROBLEMS ON GLOBAL SCALE FORMED

NEW YORK, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- A new private organization, the United States Committee for Refugees, concerned with the refugee problem "on a global scale," was formed here this week with the blessing of the U. S. State Department. One goal of the committee will be to "do something" about the problem of the world's 15, 000, 000 refugees, an announcement said.

Although the announcement made no reference to the Arab refugees, that group was expected to be part of the new committee's concern, particularly since one of the vice-presidents of the committee was listed as Henry Labouisse, former director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency. UNRWA has been handling a United Nations relief program for the refugees almost since the end of the Israel War of Independence.

Edward B. Marks, formerly associated with the International Refugee Organization and the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration, will be executive director. Former Senator Herbert H. Lehman also is a vice-president. The committee's first task will be to develop plans to implement in the United States the World Refugee Year, which begins in July, Dean Sayre said.

CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION STARTS COURT ACTION AGAINST PRAYERS IN SCHOOLS

NEW YORK, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- The New York Civil Liberties Union, acting for five residents of nearby Herricks, Long Island suburban community, has instituted court action designed to challenge the constitutionality of a required daily recitation of a brief prayer in the public schools.

This is the first known test of the practice, recommended in 1951 by the State Board of Regents. The case will be heard in the Nassau County Supreme Court February 24. A representative of the law firm which will act for the plaintiff parents declared yesterday that the case will be carried to the United States Supreme Court if necessary.

1958 WAS BANNER YEAR FOR U. S. INVESTORS IN ISRAEL, AMPAL HEAD SAYS

NEW YORK, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Abraham Dickstein, president of Ampal-American Israel Corporation, largest group of private American investors in Israel projects, today said that 1958 was a banner year for the group. During the past fiscal year, he reported, Ampal sold in this country securities for over \$4, 000, 000, consisting of various Ampal debentures, the common stock of Israel Development Corporation and the debenture-stock of the Israel American Development Bank, Ltd. For the first time, an American group of affiliated financial enterprises associated with Israel, has sent out to its stockholders dividend checks amounting to \$715, 000.

"During the past year, the Ampal group extended medium and long-term loans to its Israel clients for approximately \$33, 000, 000," Dr. Dickstein stated. "This brings the total in loans and investments executed since the establishment of the group, to over \$230, 000, 000. The balance of outstanding loans and investments has risen from approximately \$29, 000, 000 at the beginning of the fiscal year to approximately \$33, 000, 000 by the end of the year, an increase of close to \$4, 000, 000."

RENE CASSIN ELECTED TO COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS BY COUNCIL OF EUROPE

PARIS, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Rene Cassin, French statesman and president of the Alliance Israelite Universelle, has been elected to the Court of Human Rights, an international court in which any individual has the right to take legal action against a state. Prof. Cassin, who is head of France's highest administrative court, the Council of State, was one of 15 leading European judges named at a meeting of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, France.

ISRAEL URY, JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE LEADER, DIES IN NEW YORK; WAS 71

NEW YORK, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Israel B. Ury, leader of the Jewish Labor Committee, died suddenly yesterday of a heart attack, while visiting the home of a friend. He was 71 years old. Born in Russia, he came to the United States in 1910. He was a member of the board of directors of the Jewish Daily Forward, the Yiddish Scientific Institute and other Jewish institutions.