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CROWDS IN ISRAEL PAY LAST RESPECTS TO SPRINZAK; FUNERAL TODAY

JERUSALEM, Jan. 29. (JTA) -- Flags flew at half-mast across the State of Israel today as crowds gathered at the Knesset here to pay their last respects to Joseph Sprinzak, Speaker of Parliament, who died yesterday at the age of 74. The funeral will be held tomorrow morning at 10 at the cemetery on Mt. Herzl where the leading figures of the Jewish community and state are buried.

Thousands upon thousands of Israelis began at noon today filing past the bier, in front of the rostrum of the House where Mr. Sprinzak conducted so many historic sessions of the ten-year-old Parliament. The public will continue to view the body until midnight tonight. All cinemas, theatres and other places of entertainment will be closed tonight.

The Israel Cabinet and the Jewish Agency held brief memorial services today. Premier Ben-Gurion delivered the eulogy at the Cabinet meeting, while Zalman Shazar, acting chairman of the Jewish Agency executive in Jerusalem, memorialized Mr. Sprinzak at the Agency session.

Speculation was rife within Mapai Party circles today as to a successor to the late Mr. Sprinzak in the post of Speaker of the Knesset. Reportedly Moshe Sharett, former Premier and Foreign Minister, is favored by most party leaders. However, formal discussion on a successor to Mr. Sprinzak will not begin until the traditional seven-day mourning period has elapsed.

In a statement to the nation, President Itzhak Ben Zvi described Mr. Sprinzak's death as "a grievous loss for the entire nation and the Jewish people throughout the world. He was a man of the people and symbolized the unity of the nation, uniting all sections in understanding, wisdom, tact and love of Israel," the President declared.

Premier David Ben-Gurion, in his message, said that the "entire nation regarded Mr. Sprinzak as the father of the sovereign legislature of the Third Commonwealth and a molders of the parliamentary life of the new Israel."

Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog said of the late Speaker: "He was a most important integral part in our renewed national life. He was a symbol and example of the love of humanity, love of Israel and love of peace." Chief Rabbi Itzhak Nissim asserted that Mr. Sprinzak had "raised the Knesset from sectarian smallness to the greatness of the needs of the entire nation. The edifice he erected will be the reward of his labors and the monument to his memory."

Pinchas Lavon, secretary general of the Histadrut, said that "with Mr. Sprinzak's death, the labor movement has lost one of its founders who for decades made a tremendous contribution to the consolidation and strengthening of the workers, and to the organization of the Jewish people."

American Zionist Groups Mourn Death of Sprinzak; Issue Tribute

NEW YORK, Jan. 29. (JTA) -- All Zionist groups in the United States today mourned the death of Joseph Sprinzak, Speaker of the Israel Parliament, who was known personally to many Jews in this country because of his visits on numerous Zionist missions. The American Zionist Council, representing all Zionist organizations in the United States, issued the following statement:

"In the death of Joseph Sprinzak, who served as Speaker of the Israel Knesset and as chairman of the Presidium of the Zionist Actions Committee, Jews all over the world have lost an inspiring leader and a warm friend. Mr. Sprinzak was a Zionist from his youth and helped mightily to establish the State of Israel. He devoted himself with great personal resources and unflagging energy to the upbuilding of Israel. Serving his own party organization well, he put the interests of the whole people at the front of his concern and contributed much to their development.

"As a Zionist and an official of the World Zionist Movement, he brought understanding, patience, good humor, and warm comradeship to his labors which endeared him to Jews in many lands. We, on the American Zionist scene, and in the Jewish community in the United States generally, worked beside him as a beloved leader. Our sense of loss is deep but we take comfort in the legacy of vision, wisdom and friendship that he has left to us."

ISRAEL DIPLOMAT DISCUSSES SYRIAN SHOOTINGS WITH STATE DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29. (JTA) -- Israel Embassy Minister Yaakov Herzog today called on Francis O. Wilcox, Assistant Secretary of State for International Affairs, to discuss the Security Council debate expected at the United Nations tomorrow.

Mr. Herzog expressed "the utmost gravity with which Israel views the outbreak of shooting on the Syrian border." A number of Israelis have been shot down recently on Israeli territory by gunfire emanating from Syria.

(In London, Israel Ambassador Eliahu Elath called at the Foreign Office today for a conversation with Sir Frederick Hoyer Millar, permanent Under Secretary. They discussed recent incidents along Israel's borders.)

MINISTER REVIEWS EFFECT OF RUMANIAN EMIGRATION ON ISRAEL'S ECONOMY

LONDON, Jan. 29. (JTA) -- A review of the economic problems being created for Israel by the new immigration wave from Eastern Europe was presented here today by Pinchas Saphir, Israel's Minister of Trade and Industry. At the same time, Mr. Saphir pointed out that Israel had scored a major economic victory last year when it had managed to cut its imports to \$76 per person from the 1957 figure of \$89.

Discussing Anglo-Israel trade relations at a press conference, Mr. Saphir said they were "satisfactory, cordial and mutually profitable." He added that Israel's purchase of the Haifa oil refineries and oil installations from British companies had cleared up the last economic difference between the two countries.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Saphir called on Sir David Eccles, president of the Board of Trade, with whom he discussed trade relations between the two countries. He was accompanied to the 40-minute session by Israel Ambassador Eliahu Elath.

ISRAEL ENVOYS IN WEST EUROPEAN LANDS MEET ON ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

BRUSSELS, Jan. 29. (JTA) -- Plans for a closer watch on the unification programs of Western Europe were approved at a conference of Israel envoys in Europe under the chairmanship of Walter Eytan, Director-General of the Israel Foreign Ministry, which took place here.

The economic integration evolution of Western Europe has created strong interest and sympathy in Israel political circles, despite the problems it has already created for Israel, it was reported.

Reports by the ambassadors on the political situation of the countries where they are stationed enabled the conference to review extensively the entire political picture against the background of Middle East conditions, it was reported.

ISRAELI STUDENT ATTACKED BY ARABS AT ISTANBUL UNIVERSITY PREMISES

ISTANBUL, Jan. 29. (JTA) -- Police and Istanbul University authorities pushed an investigation today into the beating by a group of Arab students of Isaac Catalan, the only Israel student at the University. Catalan suffered head injuries.

Catalan was studying in the University library when a Syrian student called him out-side where about 20 other Arab students were waiting. Some Turkish students tried to prevent the attack on Catalan but they too were assaulted. The Arabs fled after Catalan's head began to bleed. He was treated at a first aid center.

The victim filed a complaint with Istanbul police and with University officials, reporting that he had been constantly harassed by Arab students since he entered the medical school a year ago. One objective of the University-police investigation was to determine if the attack was politically-motivated. The incident has caused resentment in University circles; it was reported.

ISRAEL BANS FILM WHITEWASHING ACTIONS OF GERMAN ARMY DURING WAR

JERUSALEM, Jan. 29. (JTA) -- The Israel Film Censorship Board today reaffirmed a ban against the showing in Israel of the American film "A Time To Love and A Time To Die," based on the Erich Maria Remarque novel.

The Board said the film whitewashed the German army and showed Germany as a war victim without showing the "heinous" crimes committed by Germany in occupied countries.

BERLIN MUNICIPALITY GIVES JEWISH HOSPITAL GRANT FOR EQUIPMENT

BERLIN, Jan. 29. (JTA) -- The West Berlin municipal government has agreed to grant 44,500 Deutschmarks (more than \$11,000) to the Jewish Hospital here for the construction and installation of electrical and medical equipment.

GERMAN JEWS FILE CHARGES AGAINST NEWSPAPER FOR BLOOD LIBEL FRAUD

DUSSELDORF, Jan. 29. (JTA) -- The Central Council of Jews in Germany, acting in behalf of the Jewish community as a whole, has filed libel charges against a German scandal sheet known as "8-Uhr Blatt," for publication of a blood libel fraud.

Last December, the sheet published an account of a supposed ritual murder which it alleged had been committed by Jews in 1929. One passage of the account read: "According to an old Jewish tradition, Passover matzohs are only religiously effective if drenched in Christian blood."

Helmut Klier, 25-year-old carpenter, was arrested here on suspicion he was the individual who painted swastikas on the portals of the Dusseldorf synagogue last week, police announced today. It was disclosed that police action had been taken against Klier several times on charges of illegal Communist activities.

KREMER RE-ARRESTED; AIDED ESCAPE OF NAZI WANTED FOR WAR CRIMES

BERLIN, Jan. 29. (JTA) -- Robert Kremer, who earlier this month was sentenced to five months in prison for aiding in the escape from Germany of former Nazi diplomat Franz Rademacher wanted for crimes against Jews and others, has been re-arrested in Berlin. This time the charge was suspicion of endangering the West German Republic and of slandering it.

Gustav Adolf Gedat, a Christian Democratic deputy in the West German Parliament, was today revealed to be the author of an anti-Semitic work published in 1933.

Herr Gedat, who recently became a member of the important Parliamentary Committee on Cultural Affairs, called Jews "exploiters" in his 1933 volume and said they were without faith, conscience or sense of responsibility. "As a Christian," he wrote, "I know that they are our enemies."

C. J. F. W. F. URGES MAXIMUM AID FOR RESCUE OF EAST EUROPEAN JEWS

PORTLAND, Oregon, Jan. 29. (JTA) -- All-out communal participation in 1959 welfare fund campaigns to rescue Eastern European Jews, continue to help Israel absorb thousands of recently-arrived immigrants, and meet crucial national and local needs, was urged this week by delegates attending a three-day regional conference of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds. The 125 delegates and community leaders, who came from 17 Western states, re-elected Dr. George Piness of Los Angeles as president.

Jack W. Olds, of Portland, vice president of the regional organization, addressed the conferees and analyzed short and long-term needs, as well as Israeli and American Jewish community responsibility for joint solution of these needs. In a resolution on mental health, the delegates called for the establishment of special mental health planning committees as a top-priority in central community planning. This, they declared, is the key to community action for mobilizing Jewish, non-sectarian and public services.

The delegates urged continuing full Jewish participation in Community Chest and United Funds campaigns and stressed the necessity for Jewish communal services receiving satisfactory and equitable treatment in the distribution of the funds. They also emphasized the need for full utilization of public and non-sectarian resources to assist in such services as public welfare, mental health, child welfare, family stability and economic assistance programs.

Representatives, in addition, surveyed recent developments in Jewish community center work, areas of financing and building requirements. They pointed out that community centers can develop most effectively within the financing and planning framework of central community organizations.

JEWS WAR VETERANS COMMANDER CALLS ON EISENHOWER; DISCUSS BIGOTRY

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower today received a personal request from the new National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans to investigate reports that the United Arab Republic is providing funds for the distribution in the United States of "hate literature" defaming Jews.

The request was made by JWV commander John Shaikewitz, who called on Mr. Eisenhower at the White House. After talking with the President, Mr. Shaikewitz said he received an impression that Mr. Eisenhower would refer the request to the FBI for investigation. Mr. Shaikewitz said distribution of anti-Semitic propaganda had increased sharply in recent months.

600 JEWS IN U.S. ARMED FORCES IN GERMANY ATTEND TORAH CONCLAVE

BERCHTESGADEN, Germany, Jan. 29. (JTA) -- Some 600 members of the United States Army and Air Force based in Germany attended a two-day Torah convocation here under the direction of Chaplain George Vida and Chaplain Allan Blane. After the convocation, special low rates were announced for servicemen and their dependents for visits to Israel.

N. Y. RABBIS DEMAND REMOVAL OF RELIGIOUS MATERIALS FROM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

NEW YORK, Jan. 29. (JTA) -- The New York Board of Rabbis, representing 700 Orthodox, Reform and Conservative rabbis, called on public school authorities last night to eliminate from school programs all sectarian religious materials, pointing out that doctrinal teachings, religious symbols and the like "unnecessarily divide, label and embarrass children." A resolution to this effect was adopted at the Board's 78th annual meeting, where Rabbi David I. Golovensky of New Rochelle, N. Y., was elected president for 1959.

The rabbis reiterated their long-standing demand for a fair Sabbath Law which would permit Jewish businessmen who observe the Sabbath by closing their firms to remain open on Sunday. They also expressed support of the Kennedy-Ives Bill to enable the FBI to investigate bombings of religious institutions, schools and private homes, and went on record once again in favor of liberalizing the McCarran-Walter Immigration Act.

On the international scene, the Board of Rabbis expressed concern over Arab hostility toward Israel and asked the State Department to develop "a firm and constructive Middle East policy" making clear that Israel's existence will be defended. At the same time, the rabbis reiterated their protest against United States Government "acquiescence" in Arab states' discrimination against American Jews. Finally, the Board called on the Soviet Government to facilitate the "full expression of Jewish religious and cultural life in the Soviet Union."

CANADIAN JEWS PROTEST HOLDING OF TORONTO CITY ELECTIONS ON SATURDAY

TORONTO, Jan. 29. (JTA) -- The Canadian Jewish Congress protested today plans of the Toronto City administration to hold the next municipal elections on a Saturday in November.

Irving Oelbaum, CJC vice president and Toronto community leader, in his protest, pointed out that observant Jews would be barred, by their religious scruples, from casting a ballot on the Sabbath. Also, he noted, observant Jews could not serve as poll watchers or either aid a candidate or run for office in a Sabbath balloting.

N. Y. ORGANIZER OF NAZI-STYLE "NORDIC CONFEDERATION" SENTENCED TO JAIL

NEW YORK, Jan. 29. (JTA) -- George P. Leggett, 21-year-old founder of a Nazi-style organization, the United Nordic Confederation, was scheduled today to begin an indeterminate sentence of up to five years' imprisonment on burglary charges.

Judge Archibald Wemple passed sentence yesterday in Queens County Court on Leggett, who was convicted last December 3 of conspiracy to commit a crime, three counts of burglary and three counts of petty larceny. He was found guilty after an 11-day jury trial.

Leggett was arrested with ten other youths on January 17, 1958, after police received a tip that the gang planned to rob a bank to finance an "upstate camp." When the arrests were made, police found a collection of rifles, bayonets, knives and some stolen jewelry. Leggett told police he organized his confederation to "unite and purify all the Nordic peoples of the world."

LOS ANGELES JEWISH FEDERATION AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL TO MERGE

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 29. (JTA) -- The formation of a joint Jewish Federation-Council of Greater Los Angeles was formally approved here at the annual meeting of the Los Angeles Community Council. The merger, under study and debate for the past ten years, will become final and official following a vote at the March meeting of the Jewish Welfare Federation of Los Angeles.

The final vote at the Community Council's 25th annual meeting was 1,152 to 52, with only the Labor Zionist representatives asking for a delay. More than 1,400 delegates, representing the Council's 440 member groups, were present. Formation of a joint agency will combine under one administration the fund-raising and social planning organizations of the Los Angeles Jewish community, which serves nearly 400,000 men, women and children.

L. W. NEUMARK ELECTED PRESIDENT OF CLEVELAND JEWISH FEDERATION

CLEVELAND, Jan. 29. (JTA) -- L. W. Neumark was elected president of the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland. He succeeds Max Simon, who served the constitutional limit of three consecutive terms. Mr. Neumark, a federation trustee for many years, served as chairman of its Jewish Welfare Fund Campaign, and headed the Federation's budget, social agency and other major committees.

NATHAN STRAUS RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF U. S. - ISRAEL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

NEW YORK, Jan. 29. (JTA) -- Nathan Straus III, was re-elected president of the American-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The nationwide organization, with headquarters in New York City, reported today that the volume of U. S. - Israel economic relations surpassed \$250,000,000 in 1958, due to a rise in tourism and investments.