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WHITE HOUSE PARLEY ON REFUGEES OPENS TODAY; JEWISH LEADERS PARTICIPATE

WASHINGTON, May 20. (JTA) -- Representatives of major Jewish organizations in this country will participate in a two-day conference on refugees which opens here tomorrow in the White House. The conference was called by President Eisenhower, who expressed concern over the plight of still unsettled refugees from various countries.

The purpose of the conference is to make plans for American participation in the World Refugee Year opening July 1. The White House conference will be followed up on Friday by the first formal meeting of the United States Committee for Refugees on which the Joint Distribution Committee and other Jewish agencies are represented.

President Eisenhower today issued a proclamation inviting all American citizens "to support generously, either through the voluntary welfare agencies or the U.S. Committee for Refugees, the programs developed in furtherance of the World Refugee Year for the assistance of refugees."

In the proclamation, the President outlined the aims of the year as being: "To focus interest on the refugee problem; to encourage additional financial contributions from governments, voluntary agencies, and the general public for solution of the problem; and to provide additional opportunities for permanent refugee solutions through voluntary repatriation, resettlement or integration, with due regard for humanitarian considerations and in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the refugees themselves."

Senate Committee Opens Hearings on Immigration Legislation

WASHINGTON, May 20. (JTA) -- For the first time in more than three years, hearings on general immigration legislation were opened here today by the Subcommittee on Immigration and Naturalization of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Senator Jacob K. Javits, New York Republican, recalled before the subcommittee that both the Republican and Democratic parties are firmly committed to improve and modernize United States immigration laws. "It is high time that these pledges, spelled out clearly in both national party platforms in 1956, were honored," Sen. Javits said.

Testifying before the subcommittee in support of three bills he has introduced, Sen. Javits emphasized that the pledges by both major parties cannot be regarded as mere campaign talk, and that their redemption is indispensable to the continuance of American peace leadership. His proposed bills would modernize the present national quota system, allow pooling of unused quotas, and eliminate procedural injustices in the administration of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

They would also establish a permanent United States refugee program, whereby the President could authorize the admission of up to 60,000 refugee escapees annually. By determining the regular quotas on the basis of the 1950 census, instead of the 1920 census as is now the practice, the quotas could be considerably increased, stated Sen. Javits. He pointed out that the general population of the United States increased by some 40 percent during the three last decades.

FIVE-DAY STRIKE AT HEBREW UNIVERSITY ENDS; STUDENTS RETURN TO CLASSES

JERUSALEM, May 20. (JTA) -- Classes returned to normal today at Hebrew University, after students ended a five-day strike against higher tuition fees, when University officials met the walk-out by suspending all University activities.

The strikers wavered after the suspension yesterday, and sought a compromise in line with a proposal by Prime Minister David Ben Gurion for a two-week no-strike period, during which he would review the student demands. The striking students had rejected the Prime Minister's proposal and quit classes Friday. They decided to accept it today when it was offered again.

ISRAEL FOREIGN MINISTER GIVES PRATT RANK OF MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY

JERUSALEM, May 20. (JTA) -- Simcha Pratt, Israel Consul General in New York, was today promoted to the rank of Minister Plenipotentiary, by order of Golda Meir, Israel Foreign Minister.

JEWISH AGENCY EXECUTIVE VOTES TO CALL WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS IN 1960

JERUSALEM, May 20. (JTA) -- The Zionist Actions Committee, which will start its sessions here May 31, will be asked to convoke the next World Zionist Congress in July, 1960, according to a resolution adopted here today by the plenary session of the Jewish Agency executive.

The executive, under the chairmanship of Dr. Nahum Goldmann, also opened discussions today on the Agency's budget. Another item discussed at today's session, the first of a series of meetings to last ten days, was the agenda for the Agency-Government Coordinating Board, which will meet here Monday. The Coordinating Board is composed of four members of the Agency executive and four members of the Israel Government Cabinet.

ESHKOL WARNS AGAINST CANCELLING THE COMPULSORY IMMIGRATION LOAN

JERUSALEM, May 20. (JTA) -- Israeli development projects will face serious budgetary cuts if the compulsory 40,000,000-pound immigration loan, now suspended, is finally cancelled. This was the warning voiced last night before the Economic Ministers Committee by Finance Minister Levi Eshkol.

Salary deductions for the compulsory loan were to have gone into effect this month. However, collections for the loan were suspended, following strong objections from the public as well as from members of Parliament, including representatives of political parties participating in Israel's coalition government. The Cabinet will review the entire problem at its next meeting, Sunday.

STUDENTS AND FACULTY MEMBERS OF U.S. WAR COLLEGE ARRIVE IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, May 20. (JTA) -- Forty students and faculty members of the United States War College arrived in Israel today for a tour of the country as part of their Middle Eastern orientation course. The group includes Army, Navy and Air Force officers, eight government officials, and faculty members headed by the commandant of the War College, Lt. Gen. Thomas Harrold.

United States Embassy officials will brief the members of the group at the American Embassy here, after which they will meet the Israeli Chief of Staff, Gen. Chaim Laskov, and Prime Minister David Ben Gurion. They will meet the Premier at his home at Sdeh Boker.

B'NAI B'RITH WILL NOT JOIN WORLD ZIONIST MOVEMENT, KLUTZNICK SAYS

TEL AVIV, May 20. (JTA) -- There is no question of B'nai B'rith joining or affiliating with the World Zionist Organization, Philip M. Klutznick, B'nai B'rith president, said today at a press conference.

He announced that the quest for Jewish unity, the quest for creativity and the quest for human rights would be the three principal themes of the triennial convention of B'nai B'rith which will open in Jerusalem Monday. More than 1,200 delegates from many parts of the world are due for the convention.

VERDICT ON ISRAEL'S CLAIM AGAINST BULGARIA EXPECTED NEXT WEEK

THE HAGUE, May 20. (JTA) -- The International Court of Justice will deliver a ruling next Tuesday on the objections of Bulgaria in the suit by Israel over the shooting down of an El Al plane in 1955 with a loss of 58 lives.

Bulgaria contended in the initial hearings that the International Court lacked jurisdiction in the case. Israel has filed suit for \$7,462,803.

SOVIET WRITERS ASKED TO PROTEST SUPPRESSION OF JEWISH CULTURE IN RUSSIA

NEW YORK, May 20. (JTA) -- The Congress for Jewish Culture in New York, an international Yiddish cultural federation, today sent a cable to the Soviet Writers Assembly, meeting in Moscow, asking the writers in the Soviet Union to protest against the suppression of Jewish culture in Russia.

"Raise your voices against liquidation of leading Soviet Jewish writers, musicians, artists, cultural leaders--a crime perpetrated during the Stalin era--and which aroused world indignation," the cable to the Soviet writers said.

"Rehabilitate all innocent victims both dead and living who, in that period, were deported to camps and incarcerated. Use moral influence as Soviet writers in demanding reestablishment of the Yiddish literature, press, Jewish cultural life in the Soviet Union and to get removal of present ban on Yiddish language--the language of the large masses of the Jewish people of the world--and to permit again the cultural use of Hebrew," the cable concluded.

NEO-NAZI EDITOR GOES ON TRIAL FOR INCITING STATEMENT AGAINST JEWS

KARLSRUHE, Germany, May 20. (JTA) -- Hans Robert Kremer, former publisher-editor of the neo-Nazi newspaper "Die Anklage," went on trial today in the district branch of the Federal Supreme Court here, on charges of hate-mongering against Jews and ridiculing the democratic state of West Germany.

The co-plaintiffs against the 40-year-old newspaperman, whose journal was banned by the government in 1957, are the Central Council of Jews in Germany, and Dr. Eugen Gerstenmaier, president of the Bundestag, the lower house of Parliament.

The indictment against Kremer alleges among other things that he had written and published a statement asserting that "the German people know that the claim of 6,000,000 murdered Jews is a propaganda device."

Kremer is already under sentence of five months' imprisonment, handed down by a court in West Berlin, where he had been convicted of aiding the escape from this country of Franz Rademacher, chief of the "Jewish division" in the Foreign Office under the Nazi regime. Rademacher, who had been charged with responsibility for the murder of 35,000 Jews, is now reportedly in Syria.

JEWISH MARTYRS MEMORIAL IN PARIS DESECRATED; POLICE PROTECTION SOUGHT

PARIS, May 20. (JTA) -- Paris police officials were asked today to provide special police protection for the memorial of the unknown Jewish martyr after vandals defaced the walls of the memorial with huge smears of India ink.

The defacement was the latest in a series of anti-Semitic incidents believed to be the work of young hooligans belonging to extremist right-wing groups in Paris. French police had started a thorough investigation of the memorial defacement before M. Papon, the Prefect of Police, received from Sen. Andre Mutter, president of the Memorial Committee, the appeal for special protection.

In earlier incidents, stones were thrown through windows of synagogues and Jewish stores have been marked with swastikas.

A group of 300 persons gathered at the memorial at the invitation of the Movement Against Racism and Anti-Semitism and for Peace. They laid wreaths on the memorial and called for stronger legislation to deal with anti-Semitism. The National Association of Deportee and Persecutee Organizations also sent representatives to the gathering.

Both the Representative Council of Jews of France and the International League Against Anti-Semitism have been asked by their members to counteract the latest anti-Semitic incidents. Jewish Socialist Bund members here have approached the French Socialist party on the problem.

VANDALS SET FIRE TO SYNAGOGUE IN LIVERPOOL; ANCIENT SCROLLS DESTROYED

LIVERPOOL, May 20. (JTA) -- Irreplaceable old Hebrew scrolls, including some invaluable, hand-written documents on old parchment, were destroyed in a synagogue fire here.

The fire is believed to have been set by thieves who had broken into the synagogue office. The office had been ransacked, and money and other valuables were taken from the safe. Half the roof of the synagogue collapsed before firemen could get the flames under control.

AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR WEIZMANN INSTITUTE PRESENTS BUST TO EBAN

NEW YORK, May 20. (JTA) -- The American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science today honored the departing Israel Ambassador, Abba Eban, by presenting him with a bronze bust of himself done by an American sculptor, Robert Berks. The presentation was made by Dr. Dewey Stone, of Boston, chairman of the Weizmann Institute's board of governors, at a press conference held by Mr. Eban in his capacity as president of the Institute.

Mr. Eban announced at the conference that the world's foremost experts in cancer research will meet in September at Rehovoth for a symposium sponsored jointly by the Weizmann Institute and the International Union Against Cancer. Delegates from the Soviet Union are expected to participate in the symposium which will be attended by cancer research specialists from all parts of the world.

While warning against "excessive optimism" regarding any possible announcement of sensational discoveries regarding cancer, Mr. Eban did express a cautious hope that "the significance of present research regarding cancer will be illuminated" by the symposium. He said that the selection of Rehovoth for the symposium "is a high tribute to the progress achieved in cancer research by Dr. I. Berenblum, head of the Weizmann Institute's department of experimental biology."

\$4,222,508 RAISED BY ALLIED JEWISH APPEAL DRIVE IN PHILADELPHIA

PHILADELPHIA, May 20. (JTA) -- The 1959 Allied Jewish Appeal Campaign concluded here today with the raising of a total of \$4,222,508 contributed by 90,000 residents of Greater Philadelphia in amounts ranging from school children's pennies to five-figure gifts by leading citizens.

F. Gordon Borowsky, campaign general chairman, reported the results of the campaign to Abraham L. Freedman, president of the Federation of Jewish Agencies, at the climax of a gathering at the Warwick Hotel, attended by 250 campaign leaders and workers. Mr. Borowsky and Mr. Freedman both stressed that the success of this year's fund-raising effort will make possible more adequate support of Israel, of Jewish rescue and relief work overseas, and of vital community services at home, including support of Jewish schools in Philadelphia and community relations work here and throughout the country.

"The accomplishments in this year's AJA augur well for future community undertakings," Donald B. Hurwitz, executive director of the Federation, declared in summarizing the experience of the campaign. "The spirit which dominated the campaign from the outset," he declared, "reflected the kind of leadership we enjoy. It was a factor as important to the community and the causes supported by the campaign as the actual results."

JEWISH BOOK COUNCIL VOTES FIVE AWARDS FOR 1958 WORKS IN FICTION, POETRY

NEW YORK, May 20. (JTA) -- Five awards carrying cash prizes totalling \$800 for 1958's best works of Jewish interest in the fiction, poetry and juvenile fields were made at the annual meeting of the Jewish Book Council of the National Jewish Welfare Board here today.

The \$250 Harry and Ethel Daroff Memorial Fiction Award went to Leon Uris for his novel, "Exodus." The Harry and Florence Kovner Memorial Awards of \$100 each went to: Moshe Ben Meir (given posthumously) for his volume of Hebrew poetry, "Sound and Shadow"; Benjamin Bialostotzky, for his Yiddish work, "Poem to Poem"; and Grace Goldin for her work of English Poetry, "Come Under the Wings: A Midrash on Ruth." The Isaac Siegel Memorial Juvenile Award for 1958's best juvenile in English was given to Lloyd Alexander for his "Border Hawk: August Bondi."

\$1,000,000 IN DEBENTURES OF ISRAEL TOURIST INDUSTRY CORP. SOLD IN U.S.

BOSTON, May 20. (JTA) -- More than \$1,000,000 in debentures of the Tourist Industry Development Corp. has been sold to date in the United States, Lawrence G. Laskey, chairman of the board of the American section of the corporation, reported today.

The corporation was established by the Israel Government to make long-term loans for the building and improvement of tourist facilities in Israel. Mr. Laskey said \$2,250,000 was expected from the sale of the seven percent subordinated debentures which will be due July 1, 1978.

He said that at the annual meeting of the corporation board in Jerusalem, the directors voted to pay--in addition to the government-guaranteed six percent return--the additional one percent from profits to all debenture holders on record as of next June 30. The original debenture provided for payment of the extra one percent only if earnings permitted.

Mr. Laskey also cited a report at the Jerusalem board meeting that loans granted by the corporation to tourist enterprises in Israel helped to stimulate a total investment of nearly \$8,000,000 in the tourist industry. The total of such loans has reached the sum of 3,454,846 pounds to 94 applicants. The Israel Government considers the promotion of tourism so important that it has invested 3,000,000 pounds in the common stock of the corporation, Mr. Laskey reported.

PALESTINE ECONOMIC CORPORATION HONORS BRODIE ON HIS 75TH BIRTHDAY

NEW YORK, May 20. (JTA) -- Tributes on the occasion of his 75th birthday were paid to Israel B. Brodie, pioneer of Israel's chemical industry, at a dinner given in his honor by the board of directors of Palestine Economic Corporation at the Savoy-Hilton Hotel in New York City last night.

Active in Zionist and Jewish affairs since his early youth, Mr. Brodie was closely associated in the years following World War I with the late Justice Brandeis, Judge Julian Mack, and other leaders of Zionism. Together with M. A. Novomeysky he was one of the founders of Palestine Potash Ltd. at the Dead Sea. He became a chief architect of Israel's basic chemical industry.

While his major activities centered around the building up of Israel's chemical industry, he also made major contributions to other phases of the country's economic development. In the early '30s he was one of the founders of the American Economic Committee for Palestine, which undertook studies for projects in agriculture and industry and served as a general information center for numerous investors.