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EISENHOWER SEES INJECTION OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN STRAUSS ISSUE AS "TRAGIC"

WASHINGTON, June 3. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower today termed it "tragic" if the issue of anti-Semitism were brought forward in connection with his nomination of Admiral Lewis L. Strauss as Secretary of Commerce.

At his press conference today, the President was asked by a correspondent: "Do you agree with the charge of some of the Republican Congressmen that anti-Semitism may be a factor in Admiral Strauss' confirmation difficulties on Capitol Hill?"

The President replied that he did not know this charge emanated from Republicans. He said that if it is brought forward seriously, this is, indeed, tragic. He added that Admiral Strauss is a man of the highest type of character and ability who devoted many years of his life to public service.

While President Eisenhower was notifying Senate leaders that he would not withdraw his nomination of Admiral Strauss under any circumstances, hints that anti-Semitism might be a factor in the battle against confirmation were aired in the House and the Senate yesterday. Formal debate in the Senate on the confirmation of Mr. Strauss is expected tomorrow.

Rep. Steven B. Derounian, Republican, N. Y., declared that he had repeatedly refused to believe "and I still refuse to believe, but it is being impressed on me constantly that the opposition to Mr. Strauss, in reality, is based on religious prejudice. If that is true, it revolts me as an American citizen."

Senator Hugh Scott, Pennsylvania Republican, said there was a parallel with the Dreyfus case of 1894. He added that he thought the American people would react "as solidly in criticism of the attempt to deny the confirmation of the nomination of Mr. Strauss as the general public reacted to the Dreyfus case when Emile Zola wrote his 'J Accuse.'" Public protest forced the release of M. Dreyfus after he had been court-martialed on forged papers.

Sen. Wayne Morse, Oregon Democrat, avowed enemy of Adm. Strauss denied the opposition was based on religious grounds. He said "two prominent Jewish leaders" had called him and said their offices had received "a great many calls making the allegation." Sen. Morse said he opposed Adm. Strauss strictly on personal character and that there is "not a scintilla of truth" to "vicious propaganda" that opposition to Adm. Strauss is rooted in anti-Semitism.

Sen. Jacob K. Javits, New York Republican, called the anti-Semitism issue "a pretty slippery business." He said it would be a "disservice to American Jewry and to the American people generally if it were not once and for all disposed of in the Senate." Adding that he was "Jewish and proud to be," Sen. Javits declared that he was certain that Jews were not united on either side of the question of confirmation and that he hoped "no Senator will let this intrude" into the debate.

Sen. Kenneth B. Keating, New York Republican, said he wanted to associate himself with Sen. Javits in denouncing the anti-Semitic issue.

Asked for comment, Admiral Strauss said: "I have not been aware thus far of any anti-Semitism in the opposition to my confirmation." He added he did not wish to go beyond that statement.

BEN GURION TELLS PARLIAMENT OF ACTION ON CARGO DETAINED BY EGYPT

JERUSALEM, June 3. (JTA) -- Premier David Ben Gurion today told the Israel Parliament that the detainment by Egyptian authorities at the Suez Canal of the Danish vessel Inge Toft carrying Israeli cargo from Haifa to the Far East is "a matter of unparalleled gravity, and a blow, not only to Israel but also to the United Nations Charter, the Constantinople Convention of 1888, and Security Council resolutions."

Mr. Ben Gurion made that statement in Parliament, where the Herut Party pressed a motion for debate of the Inge Toft issue. Neither the United Nations, said Mr. Ben

Gurion, nor the powers represented by diplomatic missions at Cairo, have any definite information the Inge Toft cargo has been seized by the United Arab Republic

(From London it was reported today that the captain of the Inge Toft, acting on instructions of the vessel's owners, Jans Toft agency, of Copenhagen, has refused to unload the cargo when ordered to do so by Egyptian authorities.)

Since the matter affects the entire world, the Premier continued, the Israel Government is maintaining contact on the issue with members of the United Nations Security Council, maritime powers, and other governments. The Prime Minister disclosed that he was "pleasantly surprised" that Israel received support in the issue from "an unexpected source." He proposed to Parliament that the matter be referred to Parliament's Committee on Security and Foreign Affairs, declaring that it is impractical to disclose "everything that is being done."

The subject was referred to that committee after Mr. Ben Gurion's statement was made. Dr. A. Altman, speaking for the Herut Party, criticized the Government for "lack of decision" and for "cogitating," on the issue, urging a strong policy. He told Parliament: "Nasser does not respect the United Nations, but he respects Israel -- with which he has experience."

ZIONIST ACTIONS COMMITTEE URGED TO SUPPORT YIDDISH EDUCATION

JERUSALEM, June 3. (JTA) -- A strong plea for the support of Yiddish education and culture by the world Zionist movement was made here today at the meeting of the Zionist Actions Committee by Meyer L. Brown, leader of the American Labor Zionist movement. He lauded the Yiddish press, without which, he said, Zionism would "cease to be a mass movement."

Louis Segal, member of the Jewish Agency executive, told the Actions Committee that more funds are needed for Zionist work on behalf of Jewish education. He said that such activity by the Zionist movement is necessary "for the State of Israel and for Jewish survival." Mr. Segal also supported the proposal previously made by Dr. Nahum Goldmann to admit non-Zionists into the Jewish Agency. He took issue with Mizrahi representatives for resisting that proposal.

PRESIDENT HEUSS SAYS ANTI-SEMITISM STILL EXISTS IN GERMANY

BONN, June 3. (JTA) -- "The fight against discrimination and prejudice -- the nourishing ground of anti-Semitism -- has not yet been won" in West Germany, Theodor Heuss, President of the West German Republic, said today.

He made the admission during an interview here with Dr. Kurt Grossman, American expert on Jewish claims against Germany. "I would welcome all activities which will aid in liquidating this horrible heritage," he said. Mr. Grossman had complained that German indemnification officials had decided affirmatively in only 59 per cent of claims during the past year. Formerly the average was about 71 per cent, he said.

ROME MAYOR REFUSES TO CELEBRATE FALL OF NAZIS; EVOKES PROTESTS

ROME, June 3. (JTA) -- Mayor Urbano Ciocchetti's refusal to approve an official city celebration of the liberation of Rome from fascist and Nazi rule was drawing criticism and resentment here today. Protest meetings were held and complaints were presented to the presidents of the Italian Senate and the Italian Chamber of Deputies by representatives of the Rome Jewish Community, labor unions, Social Democrats, left-wing Socialists, Republican and other parties.

Mayor Ciocchetti issued a statement Monday, declaring that the city will not participate in the celebration of the 15th anniversary of Rome's liberation because "no demonstration should be held which might rekindle hatreds, or reopen new wounds now healing." The celebration had been scheduled for tomorrow. The Mayor also refused to accept the honorary chairmanship of an exhibition now being prepared here, commemorating the Italians who were deported to Nazi concentration camps. After announcing this attitude, the Mayor left for Paris.

A manifesto issued today by the National Association of Italian Partisans condemned the Mayor's attitude. The organization pointed out that 3,850 persons were deported by the Nazis from Rome, including 2,091 Jews. Only 32 of the deported Jews returned from the camps, stated the manifesto. "Ciocchetti is not entitled to be the Mayor of these people, nor does he represent Rome," the manifesto said.

LIBRARY ON JEWISH HISTORY IN GERMANY TO BE OPENED IN COLOGNE

BONN, June 3. (JTA) -- Heinrich Boell, a German writer, announced today that "Germania Judaica," a library devoted to the history of the Jews in Germany, will be opened in Cologne July 1. Boell, a co-founder of the new library, said one of its aims would be to help eliminate prejudices.

FIRST COMPREHENSIVE STUDY ON JEWISH EDUCATION IN U.S. PUBLISHED

NEW YORK, June 3. (JTA) -- An historic balance sheet showing for the first time the spiritual assets and liabilities of Jewish education in America was made public tonight at the opening of the Fourth National Conference on Jewish Education at the Hotel Roosevelt here. The three-day conference is being sponsored by the American Association for Jewish Education, the central coordinating agency which serves the Jewish educational needs of all ideological groups in the American Jewish community.

The balance sheet -- a 265-page report called "Jewish Education in the United States" -- is the largest and most comprehensive of its kind ever undertaken in a Jewish community anywhere. Completed at a cost of over \$250,000 after seven years of research carried forward in 33 representative American communities, the project involved some 20,000 persons -- educators, teachers, rabbis, parents, community leaders and schoolchildren. Facts presented in the study that may be regarded as "assets" in the total picture would include the following:

1. Enrollment in Jewish religious schools is at an all-time high. In the fall of 1958, there were 553,600 Jewish children and youth (age 5 through 17) enrolled in Jewish schools. The total is an increase of 131.2% over 1948. The increase was twice as large in the Jewish schools as in the nation's non-Jewish religious schools.

2. Jewish students like their Jewish schools and accept some form of religious education as desirable not only for themselves but also for every American boy and girl. Over 11,000 youngsters from the age of 11 up were questioned on their attitudes. The great majority -- more than nine out of ten -- accept Jewish education as natural and desirable in the American environment where, they say, all children should receive some form of religious education. Most of the children -- six out of ten -- like their Jewish school and would go to it if given free choice.

3. Jewish parents are more positive about Jewish education today than they were 15 or 20 years ago. Of 2,000 Jewish parents interviewed, some 89.9 per cent said they have "a greater interest" in Jewish religious education today.

"Liabilities" in Jewish School System in America Listed

Findings that are considered "liabilities" in the overall picture of Jewish education in America today include these:

1. Despite record enrollment and good attendance, the "holding power" of the schools through the years of schooling is considered "poor." The average American Jewish child attends about three years of his childhood in a Weekday Afternoon (after public school) school, or about four years in a Sunday school. A marked and sudden drop is evident after Jewish boys complete Bar Mitzvah, the religious ceremony which takes place on the boy's 13th birthday.

2. While the great majority of teachers in Jewish schools received college or university training, their Jewish education is "very uneven." Of Jewish Sunday school teachers, 58 per cent claim only elementary Jewish schooling of some sort, and nine per cent state that they had no Jewish schooling whatever.

3. Despite their increased interest in Jewish education, Jewish parents do not know what their children are learning in the Jewish religious schools. Of the parents questioned, some 26 per cent with children in Sunday schools and 23 per cent with children in Weekday Afternoon schools could not name a single subject of study.

4. Teaching of the Hebrew Bible is considered unsatisfactory. The study asserts that excluding the Jewish All-Day schools, but including all other types of Jewish schools, "probably no more than 25 per cent of our children learn enough Hebrew to be able to begin the study of the Hebrew Bible, even in simplified texts; and probably less than half of these, ten to fifteen per cent, can read the simplest Hebrew Bible text without considerable assistance."

\$60,000,000 Is Being Spent Annually on Jewish Schools

The cost of schooling per pupil per annum for all types of Jewish religious schools combined is \$110, varying from \$28 in the Sunday School, to \$160 in the Weekday Afternoon Schools and \$480 in the All-Day schools. The overall total being spent by the Jews of America annually for the Jewish schooling of their children, elementary and secondary, is estimated at \$60,000,000. Half of this total is paid for by parents either directly or indirectly. The organized community -- acting through local federations and community councils -- contributed approximately seven to eight per cent of the total education budget of \$60 million.

The report shows that there are 3,367 Jewish religious schools in the country today -- 1,760 Weekday Afternoon schools, 1,393 Sunday schools, and 214 All-Day schools. Enrollment by religious and cultural orientation shows that the orientation of Conservative Judaism predominates in the Weekday Afternoon schools, the Orthodox in the All-Day schools and the Reform in the Sunday schools. The combined enrollment is 21 per cent Orthodox, 38.6 per cent Conservative, 28 per cent Reform, 1.3 per cent Yiddish and 11 per cent other or multiple orientations. The study shows a "steady growth of congrega-

tional schools as the prevailing type of Jewish schooling. " In 1918, only 23.6 per cent of Jewish pupils in New York were taught in congregational schools. In 1948, 82.7 per cent of all pupils in the U. S. were in congregational schools, and in 1958 this proportion grew further to 88.5 per cent.

The study recommends a number of programs and methods by means of which Jewish education may be strengthened. Among these are: 1) the creation of a National Curriculum Institute to coordinate and direct an overall national plan of curricular construction and experimentation; 2) the organization of Common School Councils and a National Association of Jewish parents along the lines of the American Congress of Parents; and 3) the establishment of community loan funds for building repair and construction.

The national study was sponsored by the American Association for Jewish Education. It was carried out under the direction of a commission of educators and laymen, headed from 1952-1957 by Dr. Oscar I. Janowsky of City College of New York and from 1957 to the present time by Dr. Milton R. Konvitz of Cornell University. It is based upon thousands of interviews, reports, questionnaires and research studies carried forward in 33 representative American communities whose Jewish populations range from "very large" (400,000), "large" (25,000 to 100,000), "intermediate" (5,000 to 25,000) and "small" (1,000 to 5,000).

LUBAVITCHER DAY SCHOOLS IN U. S. SEEK CRISIS FUNDS; TEACHERS UNPAID

NEW YORK, June 3. (JTA) -- The United Lubavitcher Yeshivoh, sponsor of a network of Jewish orthodox day schools in the United States, announced today the establishment of an Emergency Rescue Committee to raise \$200,000 "to prevent the closing of its doors to many students."

Rabbi S. Gourary, chairman of the organization's executive committee, said that teachers had not been paid for more than two months and the institution was "threatened with a veritable collapse" if the \$200,000 deficit was not met promptly.

BOSTON JEWISH APPEAL CONCLUDES 1959 DRIVE; RAISES \$5,723,000

BOSTON, June 3. (JTA) -- The Combined Jewish Appeal of Greater Boston concluded its 1959 campaign with a dinner at which general chairman Joseph M. Linsey announced gifts and pledges totalling \$5,723,124. The figure represents a \$420,000 increase over last year's campaign. The dinner attracted a record breaking gathering of more than 600 leaders who helped celebrate Linsey's 60th birthday.

George Shapiro, Combined Jewish Appeal treasurer, was named chairman of the 1960 campaign. The Combined Jewish Appeal raises funds for local, national, overseas and Israel. Sidney S. Cohen is executive director.

GOLDA MEIR ADDRESSES AN AUDIENCE OF 10,000 IN MONTEVIDEO STADIUM

MONTEVIDEO, June 3. (JTA) -- Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, told an audience of 10,000 in a sports stadium that if peace with the Arabs was "nearer now, it is not because" President Nasser of the United Arab Republic "wishes it so but because he must think a lot before starting any military action against Israel."

Mrs. Meir received the title of Doctor Honoris Causa at the Montevideo University, the first woman to be so honored. The Rector, Dr. A. Cassinoni, said the university only confers this honor on persons who have given "outstanding service to humanity." He stressed that Mrs. Meir "amply fulfilled these requisites."

EDEL HORWITZ ELECTED HEAD OF SOUTH AFRICAN ZIONIST FEDERATION

JOHANNESBURG, June 3. (JTA) -- Edel Horwitz was unanimously elected as new chairman of the South African Zionist Federation at closing sessions of the Federation's 26th biennial conference. He succeeds Israel Dunskey.

The delegates also elected a new executive composed of 11 members of the United Zionist Association, six Zionist Socialists and three Mizrahi members, plus the heads of the Women's Youth and Maccabi Councils. The conference was addressed by Dr. Israel Goldstein who is now visiting South Africa.

BLAUSTEIN RECEIVES HONORARY DOCTORATE AT WILBERFORCE UNIVERSITY

WILBERFORCE, Ohio, June 3. (JTA) -- Jacob Blaustein, noted Jewish leader, has been granted an honorary doctorate in Political Science by Wilberforce University in recognition of his work in international relations. This degree was awarded in absentia as Mr. Blaustein is presently in Europe. Mr. Blaustein has received previous honorary degrees in Law and Humane Letters from his alma mater, Lehigh University, and from the Hebrew Union College and Morgan State College.