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## KNESSET VOTES APPROVAL OF NEW CABINET PROGRAM; VOTE IS 78 TO 33

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- The Kneset, Israel's Parliament, today voted approval of the new five-party Cabinet and its program presented last night by Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion. The vote was 78 to 33.

The Aguda, the Communists, the General Zionists and the right-wing Herut voted against the motion of confidence in the new Government. Rabbi L.M. Levin, explaining why Aguda had not joined the new Government, said that the Mapai rejected two conditions Aguda proposed for joining the coalition. These were a law banning Christian missionary activities in Israel and a national anti-pig law.

Levi Eshkol, Finance Minister, closed the debate on the Cabinet instead of Premier Ben-Gurion, who was home on doctor's orders. Mr. Eshkol expressed regret on behalf of the Premier that not all the invited parties had responded to the Mapai invitation to join the new coalition, which does not include the General Zionists and the ultra-Orthodox Agudat Israel, the Herut and the Communist parties.

Voicing the hope that the opposition would be constructive, Mr. Eshkol, citing economic progress in recent years, said that the Government Investment Center this year had approved projects totalling \$70,000,000, compared with \$15,000,000 in 1956. He reported that industrial exports this year increased 50 percent.

The new Government program contained, in addition to an offer of mutual total disarmament with the Arab states and of expansion of the Israel-Arab armistice agreements into non-aggression pacts, a promise of increased efforts to bring in Jews from "countries of distress, both in Europe and in Afro-Asian countries, and to provide houses for all newcomers still living in transit centers. The program also pledged:

1. "Loyal support of the world Zionist movement" in accordance with the law on the status of the movement.
2. Free high school for children of poor families and graduated tuition fees in high schools for the less well off. No change was contemplated in the relation of state and religion. Education for "Jewish consciousness" will be continued in the public schools.
3. Expansion of health insurance to the entire population by a guarantee to every Israeli of the right to join any existing Sick Fund. A special committee will be set up to provide alternative methods for those unwilling to join existing health insurance programs.
4. Continuation of security measures, particularly continued military government in border areas populated mostly by Arabs, which is required by the hostility of the neighboring Arab states. Such measures would, however, be restricted by examining each case in terms of national security.
5. Construction of new roads and expanded electrification in the Arab areas.

The new Government also promised that drafting of "basic laws" intended to form Israel's permanent constitution would be completed during the new Government's four-year term of office and that the new laws would ensure the freedom and equality of all citizens.

The first speaker in the debate on a motion of confidence in the new Government was Menachem Beigin, the leader of the right-wing Herut, who began by assuring the Kneset that his party would be a "constructive" opposition. However, he created a stir by declaring that Herut would introduce a bill soon to abolish military government in Arab-populated border areas.

Yaacov Hazan, a Mapam deputy, also created a stir by declaring that it appeared that a Mapam vote with the opposition could ensure passage of such a law. This would require that Mapam resign from the coalition to vote with the opposition, posing the possibility of a fight within the new Government.

Three Arab Kneset deputies voiced support during the debate for the new coalition Government. Expressing appreciation for progress in Israel's Arab-populated areas, they urged further relaxation of military government in border areas and the expediting of claims of Arabs who left Israel villages during the 1948 war.

## ISRAEL WILL DEVELOP JORDAN RIVER PROJECT DESPITE NASSER'S THREATS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, declared today that "no power can prevent our development of water resources or other projects and no factor can dictate what we can do within our country."

Speaking during the debate in Knesset on the new Cabinet and government program, Mrs. Meir said that development of the country's resources was an elementary right which Israel would execute "with all means at our disposal."

Citing Arab opposition to Israel plans to divert Jordan River water to irrigate portions of the Negev, Mrs. Meir stressed that "what we are doing within our borders is our business." She asserted that Israel's water resources development "cannot depend on the whims of the Cairo dictator," President Nasser of the United Arab Republic, who has declared the UAR will fight to prevent the irrigation project.

In what apparently was a warning to Western nations about renewed efforts to win President Nasser's friendship, Mrs. Meir said that Israel welcomed "any steps toward peace but appeasement of aggressors is not a step toward peace." She added that appeasement never paid and that it always ultimately hurt the appeaser.

Replying to critics of the government's policies on the Arab refugees, Mrs. Meir insisted that "there is only one solution--settlement in the Arab countries."

Asserting that the Arab refugee problem represented one of the simplest of all refugee problems to solve, she cited the similarity of language, customs and culture of the Palestinian Arabs with that of the neighboring Arab countries. She said "there is nothing to prevent the solution of the problem except the attitude of the Arab rulers who are indifferent to the fate of the refugees."

## ARAB REFUGEES UNWILLING TO RETURN TO ISRAEL, U.S. SENATORS REPORT

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Senator Albert Gore of Tennessee, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, who just returned from a three-week tour of the Middle East with Senator Gale W. McGee, reported his conclusions on the trip today, in which he said Senator McGee was in essential agreement.

Senator Gore said there was significantly more political stability in the Middle East and a much greater military potential, than when he visited the area three years ago. He said that during the talks which he and Sen. McGee had with Premier Ben-Gurion of Israel, and President Nasser of the United Arab Republic, "we came to an agreement that both would accept conciliation and cooperation solving the Palestine problem."

"We hear much talk to the effect that all the million Palestine refugees want to return to their homeland," he said. "While we were in Israel, we learned that negotiations were under way for the return of 250,000 from Jordan. But when we were talking with Mr. Ben-Gurion, he was interrupted by a telephone call from his military commander who reported that many of the refugees were standing with swords at their breasts and threatening to kill themselves if forced to go back."

## ARABS LIFT BOYCOTT AGAINST RENAULT FOR WITHDRAWING FROM ISRAEL

LONDON, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- The Arab boycott against Regie Renault, the French auto firm, was lifted yesterday in all Arab countries, it was reported here today.

According to press reports, the ban was cancelled after the anti-Israel boycott office of the Arab League reported it had received conclusive evidence that Renault had cut all ties with Israel.

Renault cancelled its contract several weeks ago with the Kaiser-Frazer plant in Haifa where small cars had been assembled. The French firm subsequently admitted it had done so under Arab boycott pressure.

## DR. GOLDMANN REPORTS TO JEWISH AGENCY ON TALKS WITH NON-ZIONISTS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- A report on his negotiations with non-Zionist organizations with regard to their joining the World Zionist Organization was presented here today by Dr. Nahum Goldmann at the plenary of the Jewish Agency executive.

Dr. Goldmann also told the session that the next conference of World Jewish organizations, scheduled for February in Amsterdam, would discuss among other matters the condition of the Jews in the Soviet Union and in North Africa.

During the session today, debate took place on affiliation of non-Zionist organizations with the World Zionist Organization. Also discussed today was the Arab anti-Israel boycott and possible counter-action. Dr. Goldmann said this problem also would be discussed at the Amsterdam meeting.

The executive will prepare the agenda for the World Zionist Actions Committee, ruling body of the World Zionist Organization between Zionist Congresses, which is scheduled to meet here at the end of this month.

## PRESIDENT OF WEST GERMANY PLEDGES REINTEGRATION OF JEWISH CITIZENS

BONN, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Dr. Heinrich Luebke, President of the West German Republic, promised today he would do everything in his power to make possible the "reintegration of the Jewish citizen into German society."

Dr. Luebke made that promise--in which he said he would carry on the work of his predecessor, Prof. Theodor Heuss--during a one-hour conference with Dr. H.G. Van Dam, secretary-general of the Central Council of the Jews of Germany. The discussion covered indemnification and the resurgence of neo-Nazi and anti-Semitic activities in West Germany.

## VICE PRESIDENT OF GERMAN PARLIAMENT GOES TO ISRAEL; WILL LECTURE

BONN, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Carlo Schmid, Vice President of the West German Federal Parliament, left for a visit to Israel today. He was accompanied to the airport by members of the Israel Purchasing Mission here.

A professor of political science at Frankfurt University, Dr. Schmid will lecture at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem on "The Development of the Image of Man in European Thought." He will also conduct lectures at the Mapai School in Israel and will spend a week-end with Premier Ben-Gurion. The 63-year-old professor visited Israel last year, during the country's tenth anniversary celebrations.

Professor Schmid has been active in combatting anti-democratic and anti-Semitic resurgence in Germany. He was one of the founders of the Aid Organization for Victims of Nazism Abroad, which established an old-age home in Paris. He was the Social Democrat candidate for the Presidency of the Federal Republic.

(The proposed visit to Israel of Dr. Theodor Heuss, former President of the West German Federal Republic, will be discussed here during the current visit of Ambassador Felix Shinar, head of the Israel Purchasing Mission in Cologne, it was reported today from Jerusalem. Dr. Heuss has signified his desire to visit Israel, but no date has yet been fixed.)

## INQUIRY STARTED IN GERMANY INTO 'SCANDALOUS BACKGROUND' OF HEYDE CASE

KIEL, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- A committee of the Schleswig-Holstein Parliament started an investigation today into the "scandalous background" of the case of Dr. Werner Heyde, who served on the Nazi "euthanasia staff" until 1941. During the postwar Nuremberg doctors' trials for war crimes, Dr. Heyde had been charged in absentia with the murder of many political and Jewish concentration camp inmates.

He was arrested recently in Flensburg, where he had built up a medical practice and served as official medical advisor to Flensburg courts under an assumed name, Fritz Schwade. The decision to name the committee followed sharp criticism in the Schleswig-Holstein Parliament by Social Democrats who charged that government officials had known about Heyde's past and had not opposed his appointment as court medical advisor. Heyde is now in Wuerzburg prison awaiting trial.

## DR. SITTLER, EX-NAZI PROFESSOR, SEEKS TO REGAIN U.S. CITIZENSHIP

NEW YORK, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Immigration authorities started a closed hearing today on the petition for American citizenship of Dr. Edward Sittler, the American-born professor who gave up his U.S. citizenship in 1939 to become a member of the Nazi Party in Germany and eventually a Nazi radio broadcaster during World War II. Dr. Sittler resigned yesterday from his post of assistant professor at Long Island University following protests against his appointment.

Senator Jacob K. Javits, New York Republican, said today that his investigation of the presence in this country of Dr. Sittler is continuing. Sen. Javits said immigration authorities have informed him of the circumstances of the original deportation order for Dr. Sittler but he has not yet received an explanation of how Sittler was able to re-enter the country in 1954.

Dr. Sittler, who served Hitler's propaganda machine in Berlin during World War II, was brought after the war to Washington by the government as a witness in a treason case. He sought to remain here, departed briefly under a deportation order, and then returned. Leaders of six veterans organizations have demanded the Immigration and Naturalization Service carefully investigate.

## U.S. WOMEN'S LEAGUE TO ESTABLISH \$375,000 STUDENT CENTER IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- A \$375,000 Student Center at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, the first such center in Israel, will be established by the Women's League for Israel, it was announced today by Mrs. Harry Cahane, president of the League, following a meeting of its executive board. The campaign for the undertaking will be formally launched at a luncheon to be held in the Waldorf-Astoria on January 19.

The Center will consist of three buildings in the architectural style of the university itself. These will be located just inside the main entrance to the campus, and will be connected by patios and gardens.

## GENERAL ZIONISTS ANNOUNCE STAND ON ISSUES FACING ACTIONS COMMITTEE

NEW YORK, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- A number of resolutions adopted by the World Confederation of General Zionists with regard to the proposed revisions of the constitution of the World Zionist Organization were made public here by Dr. Israel Goldstein and Mrs. Rose Halprin, co-chairmen of the Confederation.

The resolutions, adopted in New York in consultation with the Confederation's branches in various countries, endorse the decision adopted at the last Actions Committee meeting to open the way for admitting into the World Zionist Organizations non-Zionist bodies who endorse the Zionist program. They urge that the functions and duties of the presidium of the Actions Committee be clarified and the presidium be instructed not to exceed them.

The resolutions also urge the abolishment of the Small Actions Committee; that the interval between Zionist Congresses be set at four years instead of the present elastic three years, and that postponement beyond the four-year interval be agreed upon only for extreme cause; and that the size of the Actions Committee be fixed at 100. They insist on the preservation of 500 as the number of Zionist Congress delegates, an equitable apportionment of mandates for countries other than Israel and the United States, and the assurance of representation at the Congress for tiny Jewish communities having less than 500 souls.

"The World Confederation of General Zionists, based on the principle of non-identification with any political parties in Israel, and representing 29 countries, will hold meetings in London of the executive of its European Confederation and will meet in plenary session in Jerusalem on December 27 to formulate its stand on the various problems facing this next Actions Committee meeting, defining its position and decisions in the interests of the movement and with the non-partisan approach which has always characterized its actions," the statement said.

At the same time it was announced here that the executive of the World Confederation of General Zionists which is headed by Dr. Emanuel Neumann will also meet in plenary session in Israel and that meetings will last two days, beginning December 25. Among the principal items on the agenda of the Neumann group will similarly be issues confronting the forthcoming session of the Zionist Actions Committee that is scheduled to open in Jerusalem on December 28 and primarily the question of revisions in the constitution of the World Zionist Organization.

## NUMBER OF JEWISH CHILDREN REPORTED RISEN TO 1,040,000 IN UNITED STATES

NEW YORK, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- The number of American Jewish children in the five to 14-year range has jumped 40 percent in the last decade, a Jewish organizational day camping consultation was told yesterday.

Morris Reisen of Maplewood, N.J., chairman of the two-day meeting, told the 100 volunteer and professional leaders of community-sponsored day camps that the total number of American children in the 5-14 year bracket had increased in the past ten years from 24,319,000 to 33,901,000 and the number of Jewish children from 746,000 to 1,040,000.

## PROPOSAL TO LEGALIZE BIBLE READING IN PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOLS DENOUNCED

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- A proposal that the State of Pennsylvania should legalize Bible reading in the public schools but permit individual children to be excused upon written request of the parents, is denounced editorially in the current issue of the American Jewish Outlook as "downright vicious" and as a plan that would create "glet-toes" within classrooms.

The paper declared that "each day it would point out to the 'Protestants' in the classroom that the Jewish children and the Catholic children and the children of certain Protestant denominations are different. For children, anything 'different' is 'peculiar.' What is peculiar around Bible reading time at nine in the morning is going to remain peculiar during recess and lunch and after school."

The Jewish Community Relations Council said that the public reaction to a Federal Court decision holding Bible-reading in the public schools to be unconstitutional, had been "very sharp." It noted that many people had expressed unwillingness to abide by the decision. "Those of us who are concerned about the good health of the public relations of the Jewish community must look with grave concern," the JCRC declared, "upon the vehemence of the reaction of the Christian community to this legal decision."

## FIRST JEWISH EXHIBITION OF JEWISH BOOKS IN BELGIUM OPENS IN BRUSSELS

BRUSSELS, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- An exhibition of Jewish books--the first of its kind to take place in Belgium--was opened at the youth center here yesterday under the patronage of the Israel Ambassador and the president of the Jewish Consistory. The exhibit traces the literary work of the Jewish people and Jewish subjects from the time of the Bible to the present. It consists of manuscripts lent by official libraries and Biblical societies.

Included in the exhibit is a copy of "History of the Jewish People," by Flavius Josephus, found at Anvers after the second World War, with annotations made by a Gestapo agent searching for material to support his anti-Semitic theories.