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JEWISH AGENCY TRANSFERS SOME ACTIVITIES TO AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

NEW YORK, April 3. (JTA) -- The transfer of some of the Jewish Agency's activities in the United States to the American Zionist Council, the coordinating body of all the national Zionist organizations in this country, was announced here last night by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Jewish Agency. The transferred activities deal with education, youth work and the Herzl Institute.

Dr. Goldmann made the announcement in the course of a major address which he delivered at the opening session of the two-day annual meeting of the American Zionist Council. In strong language, he hit back at "some irresponsible journalists and certain groups" for their continuing attacks on Zionism and the Jewish Agency. He said that these attacks were made "partly by writers whose ignorance is equal to their malice, and partly by others who should know better and who have their own motives for it."

Dr. Goldmann also replied vigorously to criticism of the Zionist movement as a "political organization." He said that such a characterization is completely unjustified. Because of its past activities and its many accomplishments, Dr. Goldmann asserted the movement is the best instrument for linking Israel with Jewries throughout the world.

The phrase "political organization" which has been used in criticism of the Zionist movement, said Dr. Goldmann, is purely a "mythological term, a remnant of a past period." Prior to the establishment of the State of Israel, 12 years ago, he said, the characterization was probably justified. "But since the State was established, it has taken over the exclusive conduct of its foreign policy," he declared. "While, in critical moments, Zionist bodies adopt resolutions to support Israel's demands, other Jewish groups do likewise in a democratic effort to clarify public opinion," the world Zionist leader pointed out.

Dr. Goldmann Cites "Two Sets of Terms" for Zionists and Non-Zionists

"What is 'political' about the World Zionist Organization as it is today?" he asked. "There are two sets of terms," he went on, "to characterize Zionist activities as different from those of non-Zionists. The Zionists, some people say, are political; the others non-political. Have not the so-called non-political organizations, including purely philanthropic groups, clear policies on many problems, as the Zionists have? Why is it 'political' when a Zionist group takes a position, and 'non-political' when a so-called non-Zionist group pursues its policy?"

The Zionist leader declared that this "mythological terminology is creating havoc." Continuing, he said: "If Zionists want to influence Jewish life, they are accused of the will to dominate. If others with the same desire do it, they only want to serve." While everyone, he stated, has the right to criticize the Zionist movement and its structure, he asked that it be done "with fairness and decency."

"The Zionist movement and the Jewish Agency," said Dr. Goldmann, "is an indispensable instrument to mobilize, coordinate and channel the efforts of the Jewish communities throughout the world, in helping Israel to receive, absorb and settle immigrants and to develop the country. Without this help Israel could not have achieved even a part of what was accomplished in the first 11 years; nor would Israel, in the future, be able to overcome the great political and economic difficulties which lie ahead, before it will be finally consolidated and the country will live at peace with its neighbors."

"It is plainly nonsensical to suggest, as some do, that the Agency is an unnecessary intermediary and that the money raised by the Jewish communities should be given directly to the Israel Government. In some countries like the United States, which raises more than 70 percent of the money, this would be impossible because of tax exemption and, apart from it, in the long run the Jewish communities would not be eager to supply funds to Israel's budget, not knowing how vital a task is being performed with their funds."

Answers Critics on Allocations to Political Groups in Israel

He then answered those critics who have taken the Agency to task for alleged "inefficiency and waste." Admitting that there are weaknesses in every organization, and that improvements are always necessary, Dr. Goldmann added: "But seen from a historical point of view, to have brought in over 1,000,000 immigrants, to have absorbed and established the large majority of them -- certainly with the substantial help of the

Government of Israel--and having achieved all this with the insufficient means made available to the Jewish communities--can this be called proof of inefficiency?

"The Jewish Agency will always welcome constructive criticism, but not the unfair and malicious nagging of people who either do not know the facts or are motivated by extraneous reasons," he continued. Referring to protests against the granting of funds to Israel's political parties, he argued that the small amounts granted eliminated the necessity for their conducting any financial campaigns. This money, he said, was used only for constructive purposes, such as schools, immigrant housing, children's villages, loan funds, etc.

"One may take the position," he asserted, that "it is inadvisable to give money from the campaigns, and the Jewish Agency has agreed lately not to continue these grants. But to regard these allocations as an interference in the political life of Israel, or as a diversion of constructive funds for political party purposes, is a criticism again based either on ignorance or on malice. Certainly, no so-called Zionist parties outside of Israel are receiving allocations from the campaign funds."

Says American Zionist Council Will Have to Raise Its Own Funds

In announcing the transfer of many of the American activities of the Jewish Agency to the American Zionist Council, including education, youth work and the Herzl Institute, Dr. Goldmann said that these additions to the Council's program, "impose grave responsibilities. Beginning next year," he continued, "the AZC will have to raise its own funds which will be a blessing for the Zionist movement in this country, as it will be able to go before the Jewish communities and mobilize its friends to obtain the necessary funds."

The Zionist program, as formulated in Jerusalem in 1951, is acceptable to the vast majority of Jews, Dr. Goldmann maintained. "There is ideologically and programmatically no reason why many Jewish organizations all over the world cannot join the World Zionist Organization," he said. "The historical task of the Zionist movement is to become much more representative of the majority of the Jewish people than it is now, despite the fact that it is numerically the largest Jewish organization in the world. It can be done by a joint effort of all Zionist groups, by a spirit of unity and by a cessation in insistence on their small group interests."

A resolution emphasizing the need for a "strong and virile Zionist movement in the United States to provide leadership for American Jewry in preserving Jewish identity within the framework of American democracy," was adopted at the AZC conference. The resolution, which also emphasized the need to strengthen the links between American Jewry and the State of Israel, called upon the constituent organizations of the American Zionist Council:

1. "To increase their efforts in the field of education and information to strengthen cultural ties with the people of Israel so that Jewish life in the United States and in Israel may be mutually enriched.
2. "To counteract hostile and misleading propaganda that misrepresents the aims of the Zionist movement.
3. "To involve American Jewry in the development of Israel through tourism, periods of study and Aliyah.
4. "To develop a comprehensive Youth program so that our children may become increasingly aware of the centrality of Israel in Jewish life.
5. "To stimulate the study and use of the Hebrew language as an essential instrument of Jewish unity and a spiritual and intellectual bond between the Jews of America and of Israel."

Other resolutions adopted expressed gratification with the "unparalleled generosity" of the United States Government in providing aid of all kinds to underdeveloped countries and urged the U.S. "to continue its generous programs of aid to Israel and other countries in the Middle East, who have the will and capacity to apply such aid for the raising of the living standards of its people."

The U.S. Government was also urged in resolutions "to take positive steps to halt the United Arab Republic's illegal blockade of the Suez Canal, to induce the Arab leaders to cease their boycott of Israel and to elaborate long-range development plans for the common good of both peoples and in the interests of world peace." Washington was also asked "to use its best efforts to induce the Arab Governments to cope seriously with the Arab refugee problem in the framework of direct negotiations with the State of Israel, as part of a general peace settlement."

The AZC conference also adopted resolutions pledging its maximum support to the United Jewish Appeal, Israel Bonds, the Jewish National Fund and other agencies which make possible the absorption into the economic life of Israel of all its inhabitants. It called upon the Zionist movement in this country to develop active programs for the celebration of the centennial of the birth of Dr. Theodor Herzl.

500 JEWISH SURVIVORS OF AGADIR EARTHQUAKE EVICTED FROM SHELTERS

CASABLANCA, April 3. (JTA) -- Five hundred Jewish survivors of the disastrous Agadir earthquake are absolutely shelterless here today. Last night, they were evicted from the Moroccan Army barracks in this city, where they have been sheltered for the last three weeks, following their rescue from the area hit by the earthquake of February 29.

According to Meyer Obadia, president of the Casablanca Jewish Community, the 500 Jewish refugees from Agadir were turned out of the Jonquiere Barracks last night and told to find other shelter. Government authorities said the barracks were needed for army troops.

PROSPERITY IS NOT DETRIMENTAL TO JEWISH LIFE IN U.S., SACHAR SAYS

ST. LOUIS, April 3. (JTA) -- The convention of the National Jewish Welfare Board concluded here today with the adoption of a proposal authorizing the establishment of a new formula for maintaining the present level of the JWB services to local centers and to the armed forces on a non-deficit basis.

The plan, to go into effect in 1961, will tie a community's "fair share" of the JWB budget for armed services work to local center budgets. The JWB constituents will, under the new formula, be given a more direct and immediate role in determining budget and program. The convention re-elected Solomon Litt, of New York, as president.

Addressing the more than 650 delegates last night, at the banquet session, Dr. Abram L. Sachar, president of the Brandeis University, referred to assertions made by Israel Premier David Ben-Gurion and by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Zionist Organization, that prosperity might have a detrimental effect on Jewish religious and cultural life in this country.

He termed such statements "a misreading of Jewish history." He also rejected the idea that only in Israel is a genuine normal, substantive Jewish life possible. "An eclipse for American Jews would become a tragic apocalypse for vulnerable little Israel as well," he said.

At the same time, Dr. Sachar emphasized that "It is clear that the miracle of a resurgent Israel has righted an imbalance, for there is need for a strong Jewish life in Israel, even as there is need for strong Jewish communities in every part of the democratic world." He added that "Israel desperately needs American strength, its practical know-how, its diplomatic leverage, its cultural and religious syncretism, and American Jewry has much to gain from the inspiration of Israel."

AMERICAN TECHNION SOCIETY VOTES TO EXPAND PROGRAM; RAISED \$13,340,000

CHICAGO, April 3. (JTA) -- A resolution to expand the program of the American Technion Society on behalf of the activities of Technion, the Israel Institute of Technology at Haifa, was adopted here today at the conclusion of the society's three-day national planning conference.

Until now, the society's work has been devoted principally to providing financial and technical assistance to Technion. Under the expanded program, the delegates voted today to establish on the institute's campus, at Haifa, a center where American industrialists will exhibit their molds, dies and technical equipment, offering these exhibits to Israel manufacturers on a lend-lease basis.

In the last 10 years, the society has raised more than \$13,340,000 for the advancement of higher technical and scientific education of Israel, according to a report to the conference by Col. J. R. Elyachar, of New York, national campaign chairman.

The conference heard at today's session an appeal for American scientists and engineers to come to Israel, "if only for a brief period," to help raise academic standards in Israel. The appeal was voiced by Justice Moshe Landau, a member of Israel's Supreme Court, who is chairman of Technion's board of governors.

A plan envisaging increase of Israel's exports by 100 percent within the next four years was outlined at the conference by Pinhas Sapir, Minister of Commerce and Industry of Israel. He disclosed that a four-year economic program worked out by the Israel Government called for doubling of Israel's present exports, now valued at \$175,000,000 annually.

Jacob Sensibar, of Chicago, national president of the American Technion Society, told the delegates that "side by side with its critical political-military situation, Israel is still confronted with the need to speed up its industrialization, so that the imbalance of trade that places her in unfavorable economic situation will be corrected soon."

JEWISH GROUPS INSIST ON ACTION TO OUTLAW BIAS IN PRIVATE HOUSING

NEW YORK, April 3. (JTA) -- Pressures were being brought here today by a number of civic organizations, calling on Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller to convene a special session of the New York State Legislature, to reconsider a bill outlawing discrimination in private housing on grounds of race or religion which was defeated last week.

The Governor has received these requests from the New York chapter of the American Jewish Committee, the American Jewish Congress, Jewish Labor Committee, and the New York State Commission on Discrimination in Housing.

PROTESTANT, CATHOLIC LEADERS JOIN IN PRAYER IN BOMBED SYNAGOGUE

GADSDEN, Ala., April 3. (JTA) -- Demonstrating this city's devotion to freedom of worship, leaders of the Protestant and Catholic faiths joined Jews at Temple Beth Israel here last night at an interdenominational religious service. The sermon was preached by the Temple's spiritual leader, Rabbi Saul Rubin, who hailed unified community action against anti-Semitic and other hate groups throughout the country.

Temple Beth Israel is the congregation which was attacked a week ago last Friday night, when the house of worship was crowded, by a 16-year-old youth who threw a firebomb at a window, and then followed this outrage by shooting at fleeing congregants. Two of the congregants were injured, one seriously. The attacker, Jerry Hunt, is under arrest here, charged with assault with intent to murder.

VANDALS DAMAGE NEW SYNAGOGUE BUILDING IN UTICA; SMEAR SWASTIKAS

UTICA, N. Y., April 3. (JTA) -- Swastikas were discovered here yesterday to have defaced the walls of the as yet uncompleted Temple Emanu-El, a new Jewish house of worship being erected on the main street here, at a cost of \$240,000.

A huge, ten-foot symbol of the Nazi regime was smeared over a bas relief of the Menorah on the facade of the building. Other swastikas were painted on windows and walls. In addition, obscene slogans were found on one of the walls.

Police authorities estimated the material damage at about \$3,000. Prompt statements denouncing the desecrations were issued by city and county leaders of the Protestant and Catholic faiths here.

SWASTIKAS PAINTED ON SYNAGOGUE IN CHICAGO SUBURB; POLICE INVESTIGATE

CHICAGO, April 3. (JTA) -- A plainclothes detective was on guard today on an indefinite assignment at the Skokie Valley Traditional Synagogue, at Skokie, a Chicago suburb, after three swastikas were found painted on the synagogue.

Police Chief Louis Henning promised full prosecution of the vandals if they are found. A swastika was painted on the synagogue in July, 1958, when it was under construction.

NEW YORK MAYOR PROCLAIMS 'YOUTH ALIYAH DAY'; ADDRESSES CEREMONY

NEW YORK, April 3. (JTA) -- The Youth Aliyah (emigration to Israel) movement, for which Hadassah is the official representative in this country, is one of the world's model social welfare agencies, whose techniques for rehabilitation and education of young people "can well be of benefit to other countries in combating juvenile delinquency," Mayor Robert F. Wagner declared here today.

Mayor Wagner made that statement at a ceremony at the Herzl Institute, where he proclaimed today "Child's Day for Youth Aliyah." Other participants in the ceremony were Mrs. Sol Granett, U.S. chairman of Child's Day for Youth Aliyah; Moshe Kol, of Israel, world head of Youth Aliyah; Mrs. A. P. Schoolman, national Youth Aliyah chairman for Hadassah; Mrs. S. Deborah Ebin, national youth Aliyah chairman for the Mizrahi Women's Organization of America; and Mrs. Clara Leff, national president of Pioneer Women.

YIVO OPENS EXHIBITION OF DOCUMENTS ON HISTORY OF JEWS IN VILNA

NEW YORK, April 3. (JTA) -- Exhibits comprising a documentary history of the Jewish community of Vilna, from the 15th Century until the Nazi regime, is on display here today at the Yivo Institute for Jewish Research.

Among the 1,500 items are original old documents going back to the 15th Century, books, photographs and posters. All the materials had been impounded by the Nazi regime prior to the destruction of the Vilna community by the Hitler forces during World War II. The materials had been seized from Nazi sources by the United States Army.

ARGENTINE JEWRY TO ESTABLISH FELLOWSHIPS IN MEMORY OF DR. MIBASHAN

BUENOS AIRES, April 3. (JTA) -- An Institute of Study will be established in Israel to honor the memory of Dr. Abraham Mibashan, an outstanding leader of Argentine Jewry, whose funeral services were held this week-end, it was announced here today. Dr. Mibashan died here last Wednesday, aged 70. In addition to an Institute of Study, several fellowships will be named in memory of Dr. Mibashan, and a "Mibashan Forest" will be planted in Israel to commemorate his many activities.

Eulogies honoring the late leader were delivered at the funeral by Aryeh Levavi, Israel's Ambassador to Argentina; Dr. Moises Goldman, representing the South American executive of the World Jewish Congress; Dr. Guillermo Schesinger, chief rabbi of the Congregation Israelita Argentina; and Henry Levy, Argentine director for the Joint Distribution Committee. A message of condolence was read at the services from Minister of the Interior Alfred Vitolo. Messages were also received from many Jewish communities in this country and abroad.