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AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT APPROVES COMPENSATION FOR NAZI VICTIMS

VIENNA, March 23. (JTA) -- The Austrian Parliament approved today--16 years after the end of World War II--legislation to provide compensation to victims of nazism.

Two laws were passed. One concerns the founding of a \$6,000,000 fund providing payments to political and racial persecutees who were deprived during the Nazi era in Austria of bank accounts, securities, cash and mortgages. An eight-man board to be nominated by Catholic, Protestant and Jewish religious bodies will handle distribution of the funds. Payments will be to individuals and not to organizations.

The other action was acceptance of the twelfth amendment to the Nazi Victims Law which provides double payments for each month of incarceration of victims of nazism. Payments also will be made to each Jew forced to wear the Star of David for at least six months, persons whose earning capacity was reduced 50 percent for a period of three and a half years, and to persons who could not complete their education because of persecution of their parents or themselves.

Victims of nazism who earned more than 72,000 schillings (about \$2,880) annually from 1955 to 1960 were excluded from benefits. Parliament members also voted to exclude themselves as well.

Jewish Claims Committee Satisfied with Austrian Action

NEW YORK, March 23. (JTA) -- A spokesman for the Committee for Jewish Claims on Austria here expressed satisfaction today that the Austrian Parliament had finally acted on two compensation matters.

He said that approval of the twelfth amendment to the Nazi Victims Law represented a forward step, though it contained "objectionable features" particularly with regard to claimants now living outside of Austria.

He said it was hoped that the Austrian-West German negotiations, which are scheduled to be resumed early in April, would provide additional benefits for Jewish victims of Nazi persecution, particularly for those who emigrated from Austria after 1938. He added that the Committee was continuing every effort in West Germany and in Austria to bring about maximum results from the April renewal of negotiations.

NEW ATTEMPT TO FORM ISRAEL CABINET WITHOUT ELECTIONS FAILS

JERUSALEM, March 23. (JTA) -- Another fruitless attempt was made last night to form a new Cabinet without general elections now tentatively set for August.

At the suggestion of Foreign Minister Golda Meir, of Mapai, the Transport Minister Yitzhak Ben-Aharon of Achdut Avodah met with Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion. --At the meeting--the question of forming a new narrow coalition "of Mapai and the two left-wing parties--Achdut Avodah and Mapam--was again raised.

The meeting broke up when Mr. Ben-Gurion reiterated he would not serve in a coalition with the two parties which had been most hostile in rejecting him as a candidate to succeed himself as Prime Minister. Mr. Ben-Gurion said he would not serve even as Defense Minister in a coalition with the two left-wing parties.

He added that as long as Mapam and Achdut Avodah continued their refusal to retract their charges against him--which developed from his successful fight to force Pinhas Lavon out of his post as Histadrut secretary-general--the Eshkol-headed Cabinet offer was open only to the Progressive party and the National Religious party. The latter parties rejected that proposal two weeks ago, making elections inevitable. Bills for new elections have received their first reading in the Knesset, Israel's Parliament.

Meanwhile, the Israel Government Statistics Bureau prepared 2,200,000 registry cards today in preparation for Israel's second official census. The population count, which begins May 22, the day after Shavuot, will include infants born up to May 1.

ISRAEL GOVT. FORMALLY DENIES EXISTENCE OF PACT ON EICHMANN TRIAL

JERUSALEM, March 23. (JTA) -- The Government of Israel formally denied today that it had made any agreement with the West German Government to conduct the trial of Nazi Adolf Eichmann in a way that would not be embarrassing to West Germany.

A spokesman for the Israel Government had denied the report last week when it was first disseminated. In the official statement today, the Government Press Office declared: "Israel has not entered into any agreement whatsoever concerning the trial nor has it conducted any negotiations with any foreign government on the subject."

The statement was issued in response to recurring rumors and foreign press reports that such an understanding had been reached.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY GOVERNORS FAIL TO AGREE ON NAMING PRESIDENT

JERUSALEM, March 23. (JTA) -- The Board of Governors of the Hebrew University failed to agree last night on a new president to succeed Dr. Binyamin Mazar and temporarily invested Prof. Yoel Rakah, the new rector, with all the powers of the presidency but not with the title.

The board postponed another attempt to name a successor to Dr. Mazar, who resigned for reasons of health from both posts of president and rector, until the next board session, to be held within one year.

Dr. Gerhard Liebes, a veteran member of the board and a noted Shakespeare and Plato translator, was named vice-president, replacing Prof. Aryeh Dvoretzky. Dr. Liebes is also El Salvador's honorary consul in Jerusalem.

Dr. George Wise had been the strongest candidate for the University presidency but he reportedly made a unanimous vote a condition for his acceptance and such a vote was not achieved.

SURVIVORS OF NAZI CAMPS STILL SUFFER MENTALLY, MEDICAL STUDY SHOWS

NEW YORK, March 23. (JTA) -- Survivors of Nazi concentration camps still suffer the mental and physical wounds of their experiences 15 years after their liberation, a Norwegian psychiatrist who was himself one of those survivors, reported last night.

Dr. Leo Eitinger, who made the report to a joint session of the American Orthopsychiatric Association and the World Federation for Mental Health meeting here, is a member of a team set up at the University of Oslo Hospital to study and help Norwegian camp victims who have since liberation developed illnesses that have made normal life increasingly difficult.

He reported that of the first 100 patients studied 96 were suffering from symptoms which could be traced to the long-term effect of life amid daily death in the camps, "the concentration camp syndrome." Eighty-five suffered from chronic ills resulting directly from long and severe starvation, head injuries and severe infections.

They suffered generally from loss of ability to concentrate, increased irritability, greater fatigue and emotional instability. He found that 84 could do work only with the greatest efforts and with the last remains of their strength.

Among the worst of the continuing conditions were the associations called up by innocent objects. An avenue of trees brought visions of rows of gallows with corpses swinging in the breeze. A man stretching his arms recalled prisoners hanging in agony by their arms. More than half still experienced nightmares recalling their camp experiences, Dr. Eitinger reported.

SOVIET JEWS IN RIGA CHEER ISRAELI BASKETBALL TEAM; ASK FOR SOUVENIRS

TEL AVIV, March 23. (JTA) -- The coach of the Hapoel basketball team reported today on the team's return from Riga that team members were visited by scores of Russian Jews and that many of the visitors asked team members to convey greetings to relatives in Israel.

Hapoel members and members of the Riga Jewish community visited the local Jewish cemetery paying tribute to the dead. Most Jews spoke Yiddish and asked for souvenirs of Israel. Coach Shimon Shilo reported that even during the game Jewish spectators cheered the Israeli team which encouraged the Israeli players though they lost to the Russian top league team. The team was in Riga three days.

JEWS IN RUMANIA, POLAND, HUNGARY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA PERMITTED TO BAKE MATZOT

LONDON, March 23. (JTA) -- Jewish communities in Poland, Rumania, Hungary and Czechoslovakia have been permitted by the authorities to make arrangements to bake matzot for Passover, it was reported here today.

Five thousand Haggadas have been sent by the Agudah World executive to Jewish communities in Lodz and Wroczlaw in Poland, Kosice in the Soviet Carpatho-russia, Prague and other East European Jewish communities, it was announced here today. The Agudah also distributed more than 200 pairs of tefillin in Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia.

JEWISH COMMITTEE TESTIFIES AGAINST FEDERAL AID TO RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS

WASHINGTON, March 23. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Committee today submitted testimony to both houses of Congress endorsing President Kennedy's proposal for Federal aid to public schools but insisting that such aid should be denied to parochial schools whether Jewish, Catholic or Protestant.

Stressing the Constitutional tradition of separation of Church and State, the American Jewish Committee urged that Federal funds should not be made available to parochial schools either as grants or loans. The testimony was signed by Herbert B. Ehrmann, president of the organization.

The American Jewish Committee said that the crisis in education must be met "within the framework of sound, public policy adopted over 170 years ago, namely, that the institutions of Church and State shall be kept forever separate and distinct in the United States."

"It is neither discriminatory nor unjust to ask parents who voluntarily elect to send their children to private schools because they prefer the type of education given at such institutions over that offered in the public school, to pay the entire cost of such private school education, Mr. Ehrmann said in the testimony. "Indeed we would consider it unfair and discriminatory to ask the general taxpayer to foot the bill in whole or in part for such private school education."

This view, he pointed out, is not to be "interpreted as hostility" to private and parochial schools. He recalled that in 1925 the American Jewish Committee had "defended the right of parents to send their children to parochial schools to receive the type of education that such parents deemed best for their children."

Reaffirming its long maintained position that "public funds should be used for public education and must not be used either directly or indirectly to support non-public elementary or secondary schools," the AJC statement noted that the Committee still holds fast to this principle "notwithstanding the very rapid growth of all-day Jewish parochial schools which, at present, have an attendance of about 45, 000 children."

NEW YORK JEWISH FEDERATION REPORTS RAISING \$18, 352, 374 IN 1960 DRIVE

NEW YORK, March 23. (JTA) -- Pledges and contributions totaling \$18, 352, 374 have been raised to date in the 1960-61 campaign of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York, it was reported here today by Lawrence A. Wien, Federation president, at the organization's annual meeting. Additional gifts expected before the end of the fiscal year would bring the total raised in the annual appeal to \$19, 000, 000, he said. It was anticipated that more than 150, 000 Jewish families will have contributed to the campaign, he stated.

Among the 760, 000 persons of all races and faiths aided by Federation agencies last year, 265, 000 were served by hospitals and medical care agencies; 18, 000 received geriatric or home care; 16, 000 were disturbed or handicapped children; 175, 000 received vocational assistance; 80, 000 benefited from community centers; and 200, 000 children were reached through the Jewish education and children's camp programs, Mr. Wien reported.

Mr. Wien told the audience of 200 board members that "85 percent of the Jewish-founded and sponsored agencies in our area are members of Federation." He expressed the wish that the time would not be far off "when Federation will include among its beneficiary societies every worthwhile Jewish sponsored health and welfare agency in New York."

He recalled that the Federation had amended its by-laws to develop further its role as health and welfare representative of the Jewish community of Metropolitan New York and that negotiations were now in progress for the affiliation of at least four additional institutions and for the merger of others.

N. C. J. W. CONCLUDES FIVE-DAY CONVENTION; BACKS KENNEDY'S 'PEACE CORPS'

PITTSBURGH, March 23. (JTA) -- The National Council of Jewish Women concluded its biennial convention today with the adoption of a resolution lauding President John F. Kennedy's Peace Corps and expressing the hope that it "will become an effective and permanent feature of United States foreign policy." Mrs. Charles Hymes was reelected president of the 68-year-old educational and service organization.

Also reelected by the 800 delegates, who represent 329 affiliated council groups across the country, were national vice-presidents Mrs. Ronald Brown of Cleveland; Mrs. Stanley C. Myers of Coral Gables, Florida; Mrs. Edward F. Stern, of Seattle; Mrs. Leonard Weiner, of Detroit and Mrs. Joseph Willen, of New York. Mrs. Lawrence G. Anathan and Mrs. Bernard Heineman of New York were elected honorary vice-presidents.

Newly elected as national recording secretary was Mrs. Raphael Goldenberg of Patterson, N. J., and as assistant national recording secretary, Mrs. Henry Polak of Van Nuys, California. Mrs. Ralph Heymsfeld of Woodmere, L. I., and Mrs. Benjamin Fidanque, Jr., of Roosevelt, N. Y., were reelected national treasurer and national assistant treasurer, respectively.

U.S., BRITISH, ISRAEL PUBLISHING FIRMS COOPERATE IN \$1,000,000 PROJECT

NEW YORK, March 23. (JTA) -- Five publishing firms in the United States, Israel and Britain will cooperate on an international project to publish a five-volume set of books on biblical culture and history representing an investment of about \$1,000,000, it was announced here today. The books will be published in the fall of this year.

The publishers who signed the contract for publication of the books, which were written by an editorial board of Hebrew University scholars over an eight-year period, are McGraw-Hill of N.Y., Biblical Heritage, Ltd., of New York, International Publishing Co., Ltd. of Israel, Oldbourne Press Ltd., of London and Jerrold & Sons Ltd., of Norwich, England.

The 1,500-page five-volume set will be printed in Israel and Britain. Benjamin Eliav, Consul General of Israel in New York, and Yeshayahu Stopper, Consul and Trade Commissioner of Israel, were present for the contract signing by the presidents of the five houses at the McGraw-Hill office here.

Another project of the five-publisher group is a forthcoming study of "The Art of Warfare in the Biblical Lands" by Prof. Yigal Yadin of Hebrew University.

NEW FINDS IN JUDEAN DESERT SHOW PEOPLE LIVED THERE 6,000 YEARS AGO

JERUSALEM, March 23. (JTA) -- The current archaeological expedition to the Judean desert, headed by Prof. Yigal Yadin, was reported today to have made additional important finds. These included wooden, copper, leather and bronze utensils and implements, as well as sarcophagi.

The importance of these new finds was that they confirmed that the desert caves were not only temporary shelter for the Judean fighters against the Romans but also permanent residences for human beings from periods thousands of years before.

The new finds were reported to show that the caves were inhabited during at least three periods. These were described as the Chalcolithic period of 6,000 years ago, the early Israelite period after the exodus from Egypt, and the late Second Temple period before the Roman invasion.

BEN-GURION TO ADDRESS THREE-DAY CONFERENCE ON BIBLE RESEARCH

JERUSALEM, March 23. (JTA) -- Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion will open the ninth conference of the Israel Bible Research Society on Sunday in Jerusalem.

The first address of the three-day conference will be given by Mr. Ben-Gurion, speaking on "The Personality of King Cyrus." Education Minister Abba Eban will speak on "The Significance of the Cyrus Proclamation permitting the exiled Jews of Babylonia to return to Palestine." The conference will complete the cycle of the Old Testament by the society.

ISRAEL AMBASSADOR IN CANADA LAUDED FOR HIS DEBATE WITH TOYNBEE

JERUSALEM, March 23. (JTA) -- President Ben-Zvi said today he had sent a communication to Yaakov Herzog, Israel's Ambassador to Canada, praising the envoy's initiative in inducing British historian Arnold Toynbee to engage in a public debate on the historian's anti-Israel charges in February.

The President expressed gratification at the tone and content of Mr. Herzog's presentation in a two-hour debate with Dr. Toynbee on February 1, at the Hillel House at McGill University in Montreal. The envoy issued the challenge after Dr. Toynbee repeated to Hillel House audience a week earlier his public stand that there was a moral parallel between the Israeli treatment of the Arabs during the War of Independence and the Nazi genocide against the Jews.

GERMAN PRESIDENT CONGRATULATES NEW B'NAI B'RITH LODGE IN FRANKFURT

FRANKFURT, March 23. (JTA) -- West Germany's second B'nai B'rith lodge, named for the late Rabbi Leo Baeck, was formally established here today in ceremonies attended by Government officials and representatives of sister lodges throughout Western Europe and of West German Jewish communities. Another B'nai B'rith lodge is located in Berlin.

Dr. Egon Zeitlin was elected president of the new lodge, which has 45 members. In a congratulatory message to the new group, President Heinrich Luebke cited the achievements of B'nai B'rith lodges in pre-Hitler Germany.

2,385 JEWISH IMMIGRANTS ADMITTED TO CANADA IN 1960, GOVERNMENT REPORTS

OTTAWA, March 23. (JTA) -- A total of 2,385 Jews were admitted to Canada as immigrants during 1960, according to figures released here today by the Department of Citizenship and Immigration. During the previous year, 2,686 Jews were admitted as immigrants.