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KNESSET CONDEMNS STRIKE OF ENGINEERS; WARNS STRIKERS TO RETURN TO WORK

JERUSALEM, Jan. 24: (JTA) -- The Knesset (Israel's Parliament) today condemned the strike of 6,000 engineers, chemists, architects and agronomists employed by public institutions which entered its third week this morning. The Knesset backed the Government's non-compromise policy in regard to the strikers and voted against the strikers being paid their salaries during their period of idleness. It called upon the strikers to return to work immediately.

The vote in the Knesset was 53 to 28; The Knesset resolution also warned that, if the strikers fail to return to work, they would face a declaration of "emergency." Under a state of emergency, the strikers could be assigned to any job prescribed by Government regulations.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister Levi Eshkol, who returned to Israel yesterday after a month's absence in the United States and Europe, opened his first direct negotiations with the striking union today. The strikers are demanding a 16.5 percent wage increase. A special committee, on which the union had been represented, has recommended a seven percent salary boost.

Although the strike is being opposed by Histadrut--the Israel Federation of Labor--as well as by the Cabinet and the Knesset, the walk-out has the strong support of physicians and other professionals in Government employment, including high school teachers.

SOVIET MISTREATMENT OF JEWS ATTACKED IN BOTH HOUSES OF U.S. CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24: (JTA) -- Grave concern over the continued pressures by the Soviet Government on the Jews in the Soviet Union was expressed today in a lengthy report on the situation of Soviet Jewry presented to the U.S. Senate by Senator Jacob K. Javits, New York Republican, who recently visited the USSR. At the same time, Soviet discriminations against Jews were condemned in the House of Representatives by Congressman Abraham Multer, New York Democrat.

In his report, prepared for delivery today on the floor of the Senate, Sen. Javits called for a "world scale protest against the anti-Jewish persecutions in the Soviet Union." Rep. Multer, addressing the House, said that the Soviet Government is using anti-Semitism for "political ends." He said that the present regime in Moscow is sanctioning anti-Jewish action "in the manner of the Czarist regimes."

Senator Javits told the Senate in his report that "the continued existence of the Jews in the Soviet Union may be in danger" unless the free world "makes known its strong disapproval" of the Soviet measures against Jews. Declaring that "all signs indicate a steadily deteriorating situation that was signaled by the prosecution of Jewish community and religious leaders in Leningrad and Moscow, last October," Sen. Javits stated:

"The immediate intent of Soviet authorities in taking these measures is apparently to warn Jews that it will not tolerate any emigration of Jews to Israel or any pro-Israel agitation toward that end--the long-range purpose is quite clearly the liquidation of Judaism and Jewish consciousness in the USSR."

"All the rigid Soviet protestations that there is no Jewish problem in the Soviet Union and that anti-Semitism is against the law cannot disguise the fact that the plight of its Jewish citizens is grave and complex," Senator Javits continued. "Developments this past weekend indicate that the pressure of the attack on Jews in the Soviet Union is continuing. The obviously trumped-up accusations of spying in synagogues create new elements of danger in addition to those that have already existed."

Senator Javits said that Jews in the Soviet Union are recognized as a nationality in the Soviet Union but are not given the rights accorded other nationalities in the USSR. Despite more than 40 years of pressures and restrictions of all kinds to discourage religious identification and to isolate them from other Jewish communities throughout the world, 1,268,000 persons voluntarily declared themselves to be Jews in the January 1959 census, of whom 472,000 gave Yiddish as their native tongue," he pointed out.

(Tourists just returned from the Soviet Union have reported the closing of the only kosher public dining room in Moscow, located in the Moscow Yeshiva, according to the Jewish Day-Morning Journal, New York Yiddish daily newspaper.)

BRAZIL CLAIMS CAPTURE OF DR. MENGELE, NOTORIOUS NAZI 'SELECTION DOCTOR'

RIO DE JANEIRO, Jan. 24; (JTA) -- A man suspected of being Dr. Josef Mengele, one of the most infamous of Nazi leaders, who had acted as "selection doctor" at the Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen concentration camps, was arrested in Brazil today, police authorities announced here;

The man, taken into custody at a health resort at Pocos de Caldas, insisted he was a Hungarian citizen, and said his name is Kuloman Schueller. Police, however, said they believe he was Dr. Mengele;

Dr. Mengele, a physician, was the man who, under the Nazi regime, chose the Jews to be sent to the gas chambers, "selecting" some healthy Jews for labor duty and consigning others to their death. Many concentration camp survivors have described his activities at various trials of Nazi mass murderers;

Mengele was known to have been in hiding in Argentina for some years. However, it had been reported that he left Argentina in May 1960, immediately after the capture there of former S.S. Col. Adolf Eichmann, who has since been condemned to death by the court in Israel which tried him for crimes against the Jewish people and crimes against humanity. Later, Mengele was reported to be in hiding in various countries, including Egypt and Brazil;

JE WISH AGENCY TO ANSWER SOVIET CHARGES; KNESSET BODY GETS REPORT

JERUSALEM, Jan. 24; (JTA) -- Charges made by the Moscow newspaper Trud, alleging that imprisoned leaders of Russian Jewry had had contacts for purposes of "espionage" with members of Israel's Embassy in the Soviet Union, and had engaged in "Zionist conspiracy," were discussed here today on the governmental level as well as on the level of the World Zionist organization;

The Foreign Affairs and Security Committee of Israel's Parliament heard a report on the issue today from Dr. Haim Yahl, director-general of the Israel Foreign Ministry. Dr. Yahl had summoned the Soviet Ambassador to Israel, Mikhail Bodrov, to a conference yesterday at which, it was understood, he rejected the Soviet accusations in sharp terms. The committee scheduled continued discussion of the subject for next week;

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Zionist Organization, declared today that the Jewish Agency executive, which is holding a five-day plenary session here, will reply to the Trud charges, insofar as those allegations referred to the World Zionist Organization;

JE WISH AGENCY DOUBLES ALLOCATIONS FOR IMMIGRATION AND ABSORPTION

JERUSALEM, Jan. 24; (JTA) -- Details of the Jewish Agency's 1962-63 draft budget, calling for aggregate expenditures of over 270,000,000 Israeli pounds (\$151,200,000) were discussed today as the Agency's executive committee continued its week-long plenary session here;

Centered mainly on immigration and the absorption of newcomers, the draft budget set a 28,000,000-pound (\$15,680,000) allocation for immigration, as against 15,500,000 pounds (\$8,680,000) in the current budget; and an allocation of 21,500,000 (\$12,040,000) for absorption compared with 15,500,000 pounds (\$8,680,000) in the current budget;

The next budget for agricultural settlements has been set at 80,000,000 pounds (\$44,800,000), and for participation in new immigrant housing at 40,000,000 pounds (\$22,400,000);

ISRAEL REFUSES VISA TO AMERICAN JEW SUSPECTED OF TAX EVASION IN U.S.

JERUSALEM, Jan. 24; (JTA) -- The Ministry of the Interior today rejected an application for an immigration visa filed by an American tourist suspected of "irregular financial dealings in the United States." The American, Mervyn Gold, of Cleveland, Ohio, came here four months ago with his wife and two children. It is understood that the United States Embassy did not request the extradition of Mr. Gold, who is also suspected of income tax evasion in the United States;

The refusal by the Interior Ministry to grant an immigration visa to Mr. Gold does not necessarily mean that he will be expelled at this time. He may apply to the High Court for an order to the Interior Ministry to show cause why he should not be granted immigration status or he could apply directly to the Ministry for a temporary visitor's visa, although it appears doubtful that the latter would be granted;

Mr. Gold applied for the immigration visa under the 1950 law providing that "every Jew has the right to come to this country as an immigrant." The law, however, authorized the Government to refuse an immigrant's visa if the applicant "has a criminal past likely to endanger public order."

CONGRESS GETS RESOLUTION URGING U.S. TO FAVOR DIRECT ARAB-ISRAEL TALKS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24; (JTA) -- A resolution calling on the United States delegation to the United Nations to favor direct Israeli-Arab negotiations was introduced in the House today by New York Congressman Leonard Farbstein.

Rep. Farbstein told the House that such talks are "an indispensable condition towards the attainment of peace and the settlement of all outstanding disputes." He said he was acting because of "the disturbing increase" in recent weeks of Arab threats against Israel, accompanied by increased arms shipments to the region from the Soviet Union.

In introducing his resolution, the New York Democrat said that the recent U.S. negative vote on a UN resolution calling for direct Israel-Arab talks was "inconsistent with the policies the United States had always advocated in the past in the settlement of major conflicts in other parts of the world."

U.N. PALESTINE COMMISSION SEEKS CANDIDATE FOR ENVOY TO MIDDLE EAST

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Jan. 24; (JTA) -- The Palestine Conciliation Commission, which was ordered in a resolution adopted by the General Assembly last month to "intensify" its efforts toward possible solution of the Arab refugee problem, is considering the appointment of another special emissary to deal on the issue with the Arab governments and with Israel, it was learned here today.

The Commission's plans were discussed here at a conference between Sadi Eldem, of Turkey, chairman of the PCC, and U Thant, the Acting Secretary-General. Turkey is one of the three members of the Commission, the others being the United States, represented by Ambassador Francis T.P. Plimpton, and France, represented by Louis Dauge. It was Mr. Thant's first meeting, since he assumed his post, with any UN body dealing with the Arab-Israel conflicts.

Last August, the PCC had named Dr. Joseph E. Johnson, president of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, as a special envoy to the Middle East, charging him with seeking some solutions to the refugee problem. However, Dr. Johnson's mandate expired last month, after he submitted a report on his mission.

It is considered unlikely that the Commission would now reappoint Dr. Johnson--or that the Carnegie Endowment head would accept the job again if it were offered to him. However, it is known that the Commission is now seeking a prominent personality--who may not, necessarily, be an American--to continue the work begun by Dr. Johnson. An announcement concerning the PCC's continued activities this year could be expected within the next two weeks, it was indicated today.

NEW YORK MAYOR ASSURES SWIFT POLICE ACTION AGAINST SYNAGOGUE VANDALISM

NEW YORK, Jan. 24; (JTA) -- Mayor Robert F. Wagner today assured the Union of Orthodox Rabbis that swift action would be taken to deal with any outbreaks of vandalism against the city's synagogues or Jewish parochial schools. The Mayor's assurance followed a request by the rabbinical body that precautionary measures be taken to prevent a recurrence of incidents similar to setting of a fire earlier this week to the synagogue of the Beth Jacob Jewish Day School for Girls in the Borough Park section of Brooklyn.

Some 300 girl pupils of the school were assigned to other Jewish schools in various parts of Brooklyn after fire damage forced the suspension of classes at the school building. In his statement to the rabbis, Mayor Wagner declared: "I am greatly concerned over any vandalism in a place of worship in this city." Mayor Wagner said the Police Department had been instructed "to take swift action" in any cases of vandalism.

PHILADELPHIA GROUP PRESENTS WORLD PEACE AWARD TO AMBASSADOR HARMAN

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 24; (JTA) -- Israel Ambassador Avraham Harman was last night awarded the World Peace Award of the Golden Slipper Square Club, a Masonic organization to which many of the Philadelphia Jewish communal leaders belong.

Governor David Lawrence, who addressed the dinner at which the presentation took place, lauded Ambassador Harman for his devotion to peace. "It is certainly appropriate that it should be awarded to Ambassador Harman for he has devoted his life to the cause of peaceful relations between nations of the world," the Governor declared.

B'NAI B'RITH LODGE ESTABLISHED IN GUATEMALA; FILES REQUEST FOR CHARTER

GUATEMALA CITY, Jan. 24; (JTA) -- Thirty-four members of the Jewish community here met today to establish a lodge of B'nai B'rith. They elected Raymond Garland as provisional president and filed a request with B'nai B'rith headquarters for a charter for a regional lodge.

WASHINGTON PROTESTANTS SEEK DELAY OF DECISION ON RELIGION IN SCHOOLS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24; (JTA) -- A Protestant church group here today asked seven Washington area school boards to delay until March any decision on an order prohibiting public school religious observances. A request for such a ban was made earlier this month to the school boards of Washington and the surrounding Maryland communities by the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington.

The Rev. Dr. Charles D. Kean, president of the Council of Churches of the national capital area, asked for the delay so that the Council may have time to study the issue and recommend its own policies "which may be presented as the mind of the Protestant community." The churchman said the Council needs at least until March for a thorough study before issuing its own recommendations.

Meanwhile, the District Federation of Women's Clubs yesterday adopted a resolution opposing a proposed ban on religious observances in the public schools. The women's group asserted that barring observances of religious holidays, all mention of religion, use of the Bible and prayers in the school system would "place the school administrators and parents in the position of seeming to support atheistic ideas."

Today, Congressman James Delaney, New York Democrat, introduced a bill that would provide Federal aid for private as well as public school children. Describing his bill as a "GI bill for junior," he said the measure would provide grants directly to the parents of private and parochial school students rather than go directly to the schools. In the case of public school children, the funds would be allocated directly to the local school agency or the political subdivision in which the school is located. It was Congressman Delaney's vote in the last session of Congress which caused the House Rules Committee to shelve legislation for Federal aid to public schools. He voted in favor of extending Federal aid to private and parochial schools.

MIAMI JEWISH FEDERATION ANNOUNCES IMPORTANT CHANGE IN ITS STRUCTURE

MIAMI, Jan. 24; (JTA) -- The Greater Miami Jewish Federation has made a "very important change in structure and operation" by streamlining its executive committee, it was announced here today by the Federation president, A. J. Harris.

The new executive committee, Mr. Harris said, now consists of a "flexible" policy-making group, including the Federation officers, chairmen of major standing committees, and members appointed by the president from a list submitted by a nominating committee. The new members of the executive committee include "some of the most experienced and influential leaders of the Jewish community here," declared Mr. Harris.

ROCKWELL SEEKS PERMIT TO HOLD RALLY IN NEW YORK ON HITLER'S BIRTHDAY

NEW YORK, Jan. 24; (JTA) -- George Rockwell, leader of the American Nazi Party, has applied for a permit to hold a rally in Union Square here on April 20, Adolf Hitler's birthday, it was disclosed today by a spokesman for the Department of Parks. Parks Commissioner Newbold Morris said that he was studying the application.

Last year the New York State Court of Appeals upheld Rockwell's right to speak in New York after the city had denied him a permit in 1960 to hold a Fourth of July rally.

POLICE IN BRAZIL FIND CLUES TO IDENTIFY ANTI-SEMITIC VANDALS

RIO DE JANEIRO, Jan. 24; (JTA) -- Hope was expressed here today by Leonel Brizola, governor of the province of Rio Grande do Sul, that the perpetrators of acts of vandalism committed recently against Jewish institutions and cemeteries, may be apprehended soon.

The Governor said that police authorities have now obtained clues to the identity of some members of a secret, terroristic organization known only by the initials "M. A. C." Jewish cemeteries have been desecrated at Porto Alegre and Curitiba, recently, and other acts of anti-Semitic terrorism have been reported in Brazil. In each case, the terrorists identified themselves with the initials "M. A. C."

DETROIT STUDENT IN ISRAEL CAPTURES TWO ARAB INFILTRATORS IN NEGEV

DETROIT, Jan. 24; (JTA) -- Mark Davidson, a Jewish student of this city, who is in Israel teaching English while he is perfecting his knowledge of Hebrew and Arabic, captured two armed Arab infiltrators single-handed near Beersheba, according to a report reaching here today.

Davidson challenged the infiltrators when he heard them rustling in the bush by the side of a road one night last week. Carrying only a spear-gun, for fishing, the American took the two men into custody, after they told him they had come in from Jordan, and marched them a quarter of a mile to the nearest police station. When searched by Israeli police, each was found to be armed with a pistol and a knife.