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SHAZAR ELECTED AS PRESIDENT OF ISRAEL; ROLLCALL VOTE IS 67 TO 33

JERUSALEM, May 21. (JTA)-- Shneur Zalman Shazar, veteran Zionist leader, was elected Israel's third President by the Parliament today by a vote of 67 to 33 against Dr. Peretz Bernstein of the Liberal party. The Knesset poll was by a rollcall vote with 2 members absent, seven abstaining and one place unfilled.

Born Shneur Zalman Rubashov in the town of Mir, in Russia, on October 6, 1889, Mr. Shazar had a traditional Jewish upbringing. He attended the Academy of Jewish Sciences at Leningrad, as well as the Universities of Freiburg, Strasbourg and Berlin. He came to Israel in 1924 and, from 1925 until 1948, served as editor of the daily "Davar." In the forefront of the organizers of Israel's labor movement, Mr. Shazar was instrumental in bringing about the merger of the various factions of that movement--Poalei Zion, Zeirei Zion and the Hitachdut.

For a time, he served as a member of the Israel delegation to the United Nations General Assembly and, from 1949 to 1950, as Minister of Education in the Israel Government. It was he who introduced the system of free universal compulsory education in Israel. In recent years Mr. Shazar has served on the Jewish Agency executive and as head of the agency's Department of Education and Culture in the Diaspora.

A man of wide interests, Mr. Shazar has written extensively on historical, political and literary subjects, including several books on biblical criticism, Judaica and reminiscences. He was awarded the Ussishkin Prize for his book, "Light of Personalities."

MOSCOW WANTS MIDDLE EAST TO BECOME 'NUCLEAR FREE' ZONE; INFORMS ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, May 21. (JTA) -- The Soviet Union has offered to declare the Mediterranean and Middle East area as a nuclear-free zone and to give guarantees that in the event of armed conflict, it would consider the area as outside the bounds for use of atomic weapons, it was disclosed here today.

The text of the letter, which was handed to Foreign Minister Golda Meir by Soviet envoy Mikhail Bodrov, was published by Kol Haam, the Communist organ. The Israel Foreign Office confirmed the receipt of the letter but said it had not yet had time to study the contents.

The Soviet note, as quoted by Kol Haam, asserted that the United States and its allies are creating danger in a wide area of the Mediterranean by accumulating there an "enormous quantity" of many missiles with "millions of tons of nuclear explosives." It said that the introduction of NATO warships armed with nuclear weapons in the area would force the peace-loving nations "to direct retaliatory means into the areas of movement of submarines off the shores of NATO countries."

The Soviet note warned that there was a danger that nuclear weapons would, through the cult of NATO leaders, "reach the gates of Jerusalem, the Vatican and Mecca." The note rejected the arguments of the United States and its NATO allies that the establishment of United States atomic submarine bases was intended only to preserve peace. The note insisted that the purpose of such deployments was "provocative" and a preparation for a "sudden anti Soviet attack."

To ensure the security of the area, the note proposed that the entire area be declared a nuclear-free area and expressed the Soviet Union's readiness to grant, together with the Western Powers, guarantees that if military conflict broke out, the area would be considered out of bounds for nuclear weapons use. The note expressed the hope that Israel would adopt the Soviet attitude.

Washington Considers Moscow's Move as Communist Propaganda

WASHINGTON, May 21. (JTA) - The Soviet proposal for a nuclear-free zone in the Mediterranean is a propaganda move aimed at ousting the United States Sixth Fleet and does not pertain to developments in the United Arab Republic or other nations bordering on the Mediterranean, State Department sources said today.

The Russians referred only to water-borne nuclear weapons in the Mediterranean. The by such weapons known to exist there are the missiles of the United States Sixth Fleet. The proposal was interpreted here as having nothing to do with any construction of nuclear weapons in the Middle East or any other Mediterranean countries.

SHARETT ARRIVES IN U. S. FOR IMPORTANT TALKS; WAS IN LATIN AMERICA

NEW YORK, May 21. (JTA) -- After spending about a month in South and Central America, where he addressed numerous gatherings and was honored by the Jewish communities, Moshe Sharett, chairman of the Jewish Agency executive, arrived here today to confer--together with Arie Pincus, Jewish Agency treasurer--on urgent matters with leaders of the Jewish Agency executive here, as well as with leaders of the United Jewish Appeal and the Jewish Agency, Inc. He also will address a number of UJA dinner meetings in New York and will help in the UJA campaign.

His last stop before arriving in New York was in Panama, where he took part in the first Zionist and Communal Conference of the Jewries of the Central American Republics. He addressed the opening session of this important conference and also delivered the concluding speech. He also spoke at a banquet given in his honor by the more than 100 delegates who represented all the Jewish communities of Central America. A permanent Union of Jewish Communities of the area was established at the conference, which will claim representation at the next World Zionist Congress.

Mr. Sharett's visits to Panama and Guatemala City were the last stops on his extensive tour of South America, covering Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil. During this period he visited the Jewish communities of Buenos Aires, Cordoba, Mendoza, Montevideo, Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo and Porto Alexiss.

In these centers, he spoke at mass meetings, youth and women's rallies, special meetings of the Sephardic communities and at a large number of smaller gatherings in behalf of the United Jewish campaign and in carrying the message of Israel and of the Zionist movement. He also visited synagogues, Jewish schools and other communal institutions and conferred on current affairs with Zionist and communal leaders and with Israel's diplomatic representatives. He also inspected the activities of the emissaries of the Jewish Agency.

His mission evoked widespread and intense interest and was hailed everywhere as an outstanding event in South American Jewish life. It was also described by those who had the opportunity of seeing his complete schedule as a prodigious feat of endurance and devotion.

'MINSK GHETTO' TRIAL ENDS; 11 NAZIS SENTENCED FOR KILLING 35,000 JEWS

COBLENZ, May 21. (JTA) -- A jury court in Coblenz sentenced 11 former Nazis in the Minsk Ghetto trial to terms ranging from life imprisonment at hard labor to three-and-a-half years imprisonment today at the conclusion of a seven-month trial on charges of mass murder of Jews and Russians.

George Heuser, 50, the principal defendant, was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment and deprivation of his civil rights for five years. The prosecution had asked a life term. The 11 defendants had been accused of the wartime slaughter of 35,000 Jews in the ghetto. In an unusual statement for a defendant in the West German Nazi crimes trials, Heuser had accepted full responsibility for his guilt.

The severest sentence was imposed on American-born Franz Starke, 51, a Nazi party member since 1920. He received the only life term in the judgments, and was given that punishment for murder in three cases. The jury court also sentenced Starke to an additional term of eight years for complicity in murder in five other cases and to lifetime deprivation of his civil rights.

Artur Wilke, 51, was sentenced to ten years and deprivation of his civil rights for three years. Rudolph Schlegel received a term of eight years and loss of civil rights for three years. Friedrich Herbach, 51, received a term of seven years and loss of civil rights for three years. Wilhelm Kaul, 56, Johannes Feder, 51, and Eberhard von Toll, 52, each was sentenced to four years and six months. Johann Oswald, 52, and Karl Dahlheimer, 56, each received terms of four years imprisonment and Artur Harder, 52, was sentenced to three-and-a-half years at hard labor.

In all cases but that of Starke, detention pending trial was taken into consideration in determination of sentence.

ANOTHER JEW SENTENCED TO DEATH IN RUSSIA FOR 'ECONOMIC CRIMES'

LONDON, May 21. (JTA) - One Jew was sentenced to death by shooting, and at least seven others whose names are Jewish were given long prison sentences in another mass trial of so called "economic criminals" in the Soviet Union, according to cables from Moscow received by newspapers here today.

The trials took place at Tashkent, capital of the Central Asian republic of Uzbekistan. The Jew sentenced to death was named Kaufman--the first name being omitted in accordance with the usual custom of the Soviet press. One of the seven Jews sentenced to a long prison term was named as Kaplan.

Altogether, 13 men had been tried. One other man besides Kaufman, apparently an Uzbek named Gafarov, was also sentenced to death. Those sent to prison had all their property confiscated. The 13 were charged with having stolen valuable materials from a sewing factory, selling the goods at high profit.

CLEVELAND JEWISH WELFARE FUND CLOSES 1963 DRIVE; \$5,931,216 RAISED

CLEVELAND, May 21. (JTA) -- The 1963 Jewish Welfare Fund Appeal closed its campaign here this week with a total of \$5,931,216 pledged by 30,025 contributors. The previous high was set last year when the campaign realized \$5,828,487.

General chairman of the drive was Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld. General co-chairmen were Arthur Dery, Edward Ginsberg, and Maurice Saltzman. Presentations were made at the closing meeting to the chairmen of the various divisions in recognition of their key role. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver hailed the result and praised the leadership of Rabbi Lelyveld. Sponsor of the annual campaign is the Jewish Community Federation, of which M.E. Glass is president and Henry L. Zucker executive director. Gerald S. Soroker is the campaign director.

PHILADELPHIA'S ALLIED JEWISH APPEAL CLOSING DRIVE WITH \$4,405,847

PHILADELPHIA, May 21. (JTA) -- The 1963 Allied Jewish Appeal has raised a total of \$4,405,847, it was announced at the campaign's closing dinner last night at the Warwick Hotel. Keyv K. Kaiserman, general chairman of the drive, announced the final figure at the dinner, attended by community leaders and campaign workers. He was awarded the AJA's General Chairman medallion by Judge Nochem S. Vinnet, president of the Federation of Jewish Agencies, sponsor of the Allied Jewish Appeal which this year staged its 25th anniversary campaign.

Judge Vinnet introduced Leonard Goldfine as the general chairman of the 1964 Allied Jewish Appeal. Mr. Goldfine served as Advance Gifts chairman in the 1963 campaign. In presenting the general chairman's medallion to Mr. Kaiserman, Judge Vinnet praised him for "unselfish, dedicated and inspirational leadership." He has served in the grand tradition of AJA general chairman and the entire community is deeply grateful to him, Judge Vinnet said.

Special State of Israel medals for 25 years of service to the Jewish people through the United Jewish Appeal were presented to Samuel H. Daroff, honorary national chairman of the UJA and Donald B. Hurwitz, executive director of Federation. Samuel Melnick is director of the AJA.

\$1,579,307 RAISED BY PITTSBURGH JEWISH FEDERATION IN 1963 DRIVE

PITTSBURGH, May 21. (JTA) - The United Jewish Federation brought its 1963 campaign to a successful conclusion this week at Green Oaks Country Club where it was announced that a total of \$1,579,307 had been raised in the drive. Alvin Rogal, campaign chairman, disclosed the final figure to several hundred workers gathered at a gala campaign finale. He said that the result was 100.33 percent of the amount raised last year. This is \$5,000 more than the 1962 total.

Congratulating the community on its achievement in raising slightly more than last year, Mr. Rogal praised his campaign workers for remaining at their jobs up to the last minute. "This is the only way we could manage to do what we have done in a year when economic conditions in the area have been bad," he said. "I consider this an unusually successful campaign in view of the climate in which the community was asked for funds, and the success was due to a particularly hard-hitting campaign team that didn't give up. It is an especially outstanding accomplishment in view of the fact that last year we raised 13 percent more than in the previous campaign."

Robert I. Hiller is executive director of the Pittsburgh Federation. James D. Bronner is campaign director. Joseph Meyerhoff, general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, was a special guest at the campaign closing. At the meeting, Sidney Stark, Jr., was named winner of the Federation's Young Leadership Award, which is presented annually to a young person for outstanding service to the Federation and to the community. The Young Leadership Award consists of a hand-engrossed scroll and attendance at the General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds. It was made possible by a contribution from Lester A. Hamburg, UJF president.

CANADIAN J. N. F. VOTES \$2,000,000 FOR RESETTLEMENT PROJECT IN ISRAEL

TORONTO, May 21. (JTA) -- The Canadian Jewish National Fund voted at its national conference to accept complete responsibility for a \$2,000,000 land redemption and resettlement project on the Jordanian border between Jerusalem and Beersheba.

The proposal was submitted by Dr. Jacob Tsur, JNF board of directors world chairman. It will be known as the D'vir project and to make possible an immediate start on land reclamation for the project, the conference voted to obtain a bank loan of \$2,000,000 to be advanced to Israel. The loan will be repaid from future campaigns of the JNF in Canada.

The D'vir project is the second major Canadian Jewish reclamation project. A Zionist convention in Winnipeg in 1927 adopted a \$1,000,000 drive to redeem the Emek Hephher district which is now a flourishing area of towns and settlements on what was once malaria-infested swampland.

Dr. Tsur told the conference that the soil in the Hebron hills, site of the D'vir project, was not suitable for cultivation and that the valley areas will be usable for farming only

after basic land reclamation. The project will complete a chain of defense settlements along the entire border. He said the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization will cooperate in the reclamation project.

Experimental soil and weather research will begin this summer. Projects will include drilling for water, building of dams to save rain, building of roads, planting of fruit trees and experiments in growing fodder for cattle. Rabbi Milton Aaron of Winnipeg was elected president of the Canadian JNF.

THREE DAY YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE HELD BY J.N.F. IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, May 21. (JTA) -- Fifty young Jewish leaders, attending a three-day Youth Leadership Conference organized here by the Jewish National Fund, issued a call for expanded participation by American Jewish young people in the work of the JNF.

Under the chairmanship of Mendel N. Fisher, JNF secretary and consultant, the conference drew representation of a cross-section of young professional and business men and women from all parts of the United States. Albert Schiff, JNF president, told the delegates that the challenge before them was "to help usher in the new Jewish leadership in America, combining the experience of the old with the enthusiasm and vigor of the young."

Participating in the deliberations were Dr. Joseph P. Sternstein, JNF national director; Dr. Harris J. Levine, JNF honorary president and chairman of the JNF Foundation; and Norman G. Levine, president of B'nai Zion and member of the JNF board. Michael S. Comay, Israel Ambassador to the United Nations, was the guest speaker.

The delegates approved a resolution declaring that "American Jewry stands in need of a strong and rejuvenated leadership in order to cope with the problems at home, to strengthen Jewish life abroad and to aid in the development of Israel." The resolution urged the JNF to create "a national JNF Young Leadership Council" with the goals of enrolling a maximum number of American Jewish young people in the work of the JNF, including particularly the work of the JNF Foundation.

JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY TO START TRAINING COMMUNAL YOUTH WORKERS

NEW YORK, May 21. (JTA) -- Asserting that the lack of trained youth workers is "perhaps the most acute of the many shortages of professional personnel in education today," Dr. Bernard Mandelbaum, provost of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, today announced a new educational program, designed to deal with this problem.

The Seminary School of Jewish Studies, according to Dr. Mandelbaum, will develop a program for the training of youth workers, and will function, beginning with the new academic year, as a department of the Teachers Institute-Seminary College of Jewish Studies. The latter is an accredited school giving degrees of Bachelor of Hebrew Literature, and master and doctorate degrees in religious education.

"Serious as is our need for teachers," said Dr. Mandelbaum, "it is a measurable need. We know how many positions must be filled, how many licensed teachers we must graduate if we are to avoid empty classrooms and overworked administrators. The need for youth workers," he continued, "appears infinite." He explained that there are today 30,000 young people involved in United Synagogue Youth activities. Additional thousands would like to enter, but are prevented from joining by lack of leadership, he said.

Emphasis of the new program, which will be administered by Rabbi Seymour Fox, Associate Dean of the Teachers Institute Seminary College of Jewish Studies, will be upon the training of experts in informal education. To young people interested in this field, the new program will place its emphasis upon content courses in Hebrew, the classical Jewish texts, history and Jewish thought, but will also offer courses in youth work, community organization, and programing. Those completing the courses will receive certification as qualified youth workers.

BRITISH JEW ESTABLISHES \$2,000,000 FUND FOR ISRAELI INSTITUTIONS

JERUSALEM, May 21. (JTA) - The establishment of a fund of 6,000,000 pounds (\$2,000,000) for the support of Israeli hospitals and yeshivot by Nahum Zeev Williams, a British financier who lives half a year in London and half a year in Jerusalem, was announced here today. The fund will be administered by the Heichal Shlomo Religious Center.

The fund comprises shares in real estate and insurance holdings in Britain, the Palestine British Bank and the Eliaz Wine Co. Certificates for the shares were presented today to Interior Minister Moshe Shapiro, who is a chairman of the fund, at ceremonies attended by Chief Rabbi Yitzhak Nissim. An earlier grant by Mr. Williams financed the establishment of a planetarium at the Hebrew University.

SAC PAULO JEWS BUILD AUDITORIUM AS GIFT TO MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL

SAC PAULO, May 21. (JTA) -- With the participation of prominent city and state officials, as well as scientific personalities here, the auditorium of Albert Einstein Hospital, a gift to this city from the Jewish community of Sao Paulo, was dedicated here. The principal address was delivered by Dr. Arthur Kornberg, famous American Jewish physician who, in 1959, was a co-recipient of the Nobel Prize in medicine and physiology. Dr. Kornberg is scheduled to deliver a series of scientific addresses here before several university faculties.