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U.S. JEWISH COMMUNITIES HAIL PROPOSED VATICAN STATEMENT ON JEWS

HOLLYWOOD, Fla., Nov. 11. (JTA) -- A resolution hailing the statement on the Catholic attitude toward Jews presented to the Ecumenical Council at the Vatican, as "the most important development which will help eliminate one of the major sources of hostility and prejudice against the Jews throughout the ages," was adopted unanimously here today at the concluding session of the General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds. More than 1,200 delegates from all Jewish communities in the United States and Canada attended the Assembly.

The Vatican statement was introduced this weekend in Rome by Augustin Cardinal Bea, head of the Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity, for discussion and vote by the Ecumenical Council now in session there. It is not yet known whether a vote will be taken at this session of the Council, or at the next session, which will take place in 1964. The statement contains the following high points:

- 1) The Church has a deep bond with the Chosen People of the Old Testament;
- 2) The responsibility for the death of Jesus falls on all mankind; it is unjust to call the Jewish people a decide people or to consider the Jews cursed by God;
- 3) The Church can never forget that it is from Abraham's stock that Christ's Mother and the apostles were born;
- 4) The death of Jesus Christ cannot give rise to disdain or hatred or persecution of the Jews;
- 5) Catholic priests and all Catholics are admonished never to preach a contrary position and, furthermore, are urged to promote understanding and esteem toward Jews. (For full text of the Vatican communique, see Page 3.)

The resolution by the General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, welcoming the Vatican statement as an "historic document," declared: "The CJFWF hails this important development which will help eliminate one of the major sources of hostility and prejudice against Jews throughout the ages. At this time of mortal danger to all mankind, this document gives religious forces of the world a new instrument to remove hostility and advance the cause of the brotherhood of man."

American Jewish Groups See Far-Reaching Effects in Vatican Move

NEW YORK, Nov. 11. (JTA) -- Major American Jewish organizations and community leaders today hailed the decree on the Catholic Church attitude toward Jews, presented to the Ecumenical Council, as a far-reaching augury of improved relations between Christians and Jews.

A. M. Sonnabend, president of the American Jewish Committee, said the statement is "an historic event" and had been put forward "in a spirit that recognizes the historic values of Judaism as a living religion and creed." Viewing the statement as "a decree conceived out of a sense of Catholic concern for the elimination of centuries-old tensions," he said it may well "augur a new era in Catholic-Jewish relations." Predicting that acceptance of the decree will make it impossible "for anyone to instigate hatred for Jews and claim sanction or support in Church dogma or teaching," Mr. Sonnabend declared:

"By castigating attitudes and beliefs that have perpetrated hostility against Jews, generation after generation; by condemning anti-Semitism in a manner none can misunderstand; by denouncing unequivocally the myth that Jews are a decide people rejected by God -- 'Christ-killers' in the popular epithet -- the Church can provide a powerful force for the rooting out of millennia-old evils that have caused incalculable suffering." The AJC president paid special tribute to Cardinal Bea for having brought to his task "the insight, that contribution of deep religious feeling and humanism."

The National Conference of Christians and Jews called the decree "a milestone in Jewish-Christian relations." Dr. Lewis Webster Jones, president of the NCCJ, said "it is magnificently within the spirit of greater interreligious understanding and goodwill."

Vatican Document Lauded by American Rabbinical Leaders

Lewis H. Weinstein, chairman of the National Community Relations Advisory Council, declared: "The statement has, we believe, the most significant and far-reaching potentialities for removing an ages-old impediment to Christian-Jewish amity and understanding. Its acceptance by the Council, it is to be hoped, will result in profound and extensive changes in teaching and preaching that will, in time, work a beneficent

revolution in Catholic-Jewish relationships and help to establish mutual acceptance and cooperation among men of good will of all faiths in the causes they share in common."

On behalf of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, Dore Schary, ADL president, hailed presentation of the document to the Ecumenical Council as "a magnificent development, presaging a major and positive change in attitudes throughout the world." As an official Catholic Church statement, he predicted, the decree's influence "will be world-wide, perhaps the single, most important and decisive step in removing a root cause of prejudice against Jews in all of modern history."

Rabbi Israel Mowshowitz, president of the New York Board of Rabbis, said: "The declaration is a positive step in the direction of better relations among all religions of the world. It demonstrates the new vitality and strength of the religious forces which are determined that religion shall not be used as a means for separating man from man, but rather as an instrument of love of man for God, and man for fellow man."

Rabbi Irving Miller, first vice-president of the Rabbinical Council of America, representing 850 Orthodox rabbis, expressed his organization's "gratification" and said that the statement, "if adopted, will mark a giant step forward in the betterment of intergroup relationships." The decree was seen as "an awakening liberalism through church theology" by Rabbi Balfour Brickner, director of the Commission on Interfaith Activities of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Reform).

Dr. Goldmann Says Vatican Document is an 'Historic Event'

PARIS, Nov. 11. (JTA) -- Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, today hailed the document holding the Jews blameless for the death of Jesus, which was submitted this weekend to the Ecumenical Council, as an "historic event" which would help remove misunderstanding and hostility that had caused the Jews 2,000 years of suffering.

Dr. Goldmann said that the Jewish people were "moved and gratified by the prospects that the Ecumenical Council may adopt a declaration calling upon the Roman Catholic church to eliminate 'those religious teachings which give rise to disdain, hatred or persecution of the Jews.' Such a declaration," he stated, "would be an historic event not only of fundamental significance for the whole Christian world, but it would also be a measure of vital importance toward the removal of age-old misunderstandings."

Chief Rabbi of Rome Stresses Moral Importance of Vatican Text

ROME, Nov. 11. (JTA) -- Rabbi Elia Toaff, Chief Rabbi of Rome, today hailed the Vatican statement on Catholic-Jewish relations submitted to the Ecumenical Council as a document of "very great historic and moral importance with regard to the past, present and future."

Addressing a press conference here today, Rabbi Toaff explained that the document denying Jewish responsibility in the crucifixion of Jesus admits the tragic error of the past, because of which thousands and thousands of Jews had suffered persecution and martyrdom.

The document, he said, also establishes a new basis for future relations between Catholicism and Judaism. "We are grateful to Pope Paul VI who presented this document to the Council, and we pay homage to the memory of the late Pope John XXIII who personally wished that this most important document be brought up in the Council," Rabbi Toaff declared.

Asserting that anti-Semitism had always sought justification in many areas and in all periods, and found a convenient alibi in the Christian teaching which charged the Jews with deicide, the religious leader noted that an Italian judiciary chronicle only recently had to report a case of a periodical that launched the accusation that the Jews were "actual deicides."

Rabbi Toaff expressed the hope that the clear words of the Vatican document will help fight anti-Semitism in the moral and religious fields. While it is understood that the document, forming a separate chapter of the Schema on Ecumenism, could treat this subject only from the strictly religious point of view, Rabbi Toaff added, an explicit condemnation of anti-Semitism in all its forms and allegations, such as the condemnation adopted in its time by the Conference of Protestant and Orthodox Churches in New Delhi, would be welcomed by the world. He said it is not to be excluded that it may be placed in another suitable Council document.

Rabbi Toaff also stressed the importance of the document in that it confirmed that the origin of the Church is in God's covenant with Abraham.

British Chief Rabbi 'Profoundly Stirred' by Vatican Step

LONDON, Nov. 11. (JTA) -- British Chief Rabbi Israel Brodie said here today that all those who read the announcement of the submission to the Ecumenical Council of the document on Catholic-Jewish relations "must have been profoundly stirred."

Noting that the document called for a complete reappraisal of the association of Jews with the trial and death of the founder of Christianity, as portrayed in the Christian Scriptures,

he said that, for 19 centuries, the historical traditional interpretation of the scriptural texts have contributed to the hostility, violence, hatred and persecution which have been the fate of Jews in Europe and elsewhere.

Despite Jewish apologetics and assured results of Jewish and non-Jewish scholarship, which have clearly established that procedure and events surrounding the trial could not be laid at the door of the Jews either of the first or 20th centuries, anti-Jewish bias has still persisted, he declared.

"It is indeed a blessing for us to be alive to read of the proposed resolution of the Church which is in keeping with the example of the leaders of the Church who endeavored to prevent the ugly consequences of interpretation charged with prejudice and leading so often to horrors and inhumanity, culminating in the unspeakable catastrophe perpetrated by the Nazis," he declared.

"We pray that the distinguished prelates now assembled to study the doctrines of Christianity will succeed not only in redressing wrong committed against Jews; but, by their decision and implementation, affirm and reaffirm that all men, however attached and loyal they must remain to the beliefs and practices, are created in Divine image and worthy of Divine and human love," the Chief Rabbi concluded.

FULL TEXT OF THE VATICAN COMMUNIQUE ON JEWS ISSUED BY THE VATICAN

ROME, Nov. 11, (JTA) -- The full text of the communique on the Jews issued by the Vatican Secretariat for the Promotion of Christian Unity, of which Augustin Cardinal Bea is the head, reads as follows:

"This morning there was distributed to the Fathers of Vatican Council II a draft on 'The Attitude of Catholics Toward Non-Christians, Particularly Toward the Jews' "De Catholicorum habitudine ad non-Christianos et maxime ad Iudaeos." This draft was prepared over a period of two years by the Secretariat for the Promotion of Christian Unity, of which His Eminence Augustin Cardinal Bea is president. It is to form the fourth chapter of the schema on ecumenism, the first three chapters of which had already been submitted to the bishops.

"The document is entirely religious in its contents and spiritual in its purpose. It is out of an ever-growing appreciation of the church's sacred heritage that the Council pays attention to the Jews, not as a race or a nation but as the chosen people of the Old Testament. The clear and unequivocal language of the text gives the secretariat confidence that no other motive will be read into it than of the late Pope John, who himself had wished that the theme be prepared for the Council Fathers.

"The draft deals first with the deep bond that ties the church to the chosen people of the Old Testament. According to God's merciful design, the church has its roots in the covenant made by God with Abraham and his descendants. This plan of salvation for all mankind finds its culmination in the coming of Jesus Christ, son of David and descendant of Abraham according to the flesh. Through Him the divine call first given to the chosen people of old is extended through His church to the entire world.

The Jewish People Cannot Be Charged with Crucifixion of Jesus

"A second point the draft makes is that the responsibility for Christ's death falls upon sinful mankind. It was to atone for the sins of every man that the Son of God willingly offered Himself on the cross. The part the Jewish leaders of Christ's day played in bringing about the crucifixion does not exclude the guilt of all mankind. But the personal guilt of these leaders cannot be charged to the whole Jewish people either of His time or today. It is therefore unjust to call this people "deicide" or to consider it "cursed" by God. St. Paul, in his letter to the Romans, assures us that God has not rejected the people whom He has chosen.

"The document presented goes on to affirm that the church can never forget that it was from Abraham's stock that Christ, his Blessed Mother and the apostles were born.

"In keeping with its objectives, the Council document does not propose to deal with the various causes of anti-Semitism. However, it does indicate that the sacred events of the Bible and, in particular, its account of the crucifixion cannot give rise to disdain or hatred or persecution of the Jews. Preachers and catechists, the text states, are admonished never to present a contrary position; furthermore they are urged to promote mutual understanding and esteem.

"It is clear, therefore, that both the contents and purposes of the document are purely religious. It cannot be called pro-Zionist or anti-Zionist since it considers these as political questions and entirely outside of its religious scope. In fact, any use of the text to support partisan discussions or particular political claims or to attack the political claims of others would be completely unjustified and contrary to every intention of those who have composed it and presented it to the Council.

"Some recent newspaper accounts have mentioned the immediate possibility of an official observer to Vatican Council II delegated by the World Jewish Congress. The incident referred to is not a recent one, but took place in the summer of 1962. The Secretariat for the Promotion of Christian Unity did not consider the proposal seriously at that time and is not doing so now."

STATE DEPT. SAYS AID TO EGYPT WOULD NOT BE STOPPED DESPITE SENATE

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11, (JTA) -- State Department sources today predicted that a Senate amendment passed last week pertaining to severance of aid to any country "engaging in or preparing for aggressive military efforts" would not be applied to Egypt, although the amendment's sponsors made clear they had Egypt in mind.

The officials said they were not convinced that the Nasser regime was either currently engaged in aggression or aggressive preparations as defined by the amendment. They also maintained that it was not in the national security interest of the United States to sever aid to Nasser.

The general prediction from these sources was that the Administration would not implement the amendment because it requires the President to act only if he determines that Egypt is engaged in or preparing aggression. They said it was unlikely that the President would act owing to the alleged absence of proof of aggressive behavior by the UAR and the conviction of American policy makers that Nasser is growing friendlier to America. Abrupt severance of aid to Egypt at this juncture, said the State Department sources, would "throw Nasser into the hands of Moscow."

The amendment, adopted by a Senate vote of 65 to 13, restored to the foreign aid authorization bill the so-called "Farbstein amendment" adopted by the House but eliminated by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. It requires an end to aid, including surplus food, if the President determines a country like Egypt is engaged in or preparing aggressive military efforts against the United States or any other recipient of American assistance.

The adoption of identical wording by both Senate and House assured the retention of the amendment in the final version of the bill. A watered-down version offered by the Administration was rejected by a Senate vote of 46 to 32 against the substitute.

Secretary Rusk Criticizes Senate Amendment Affecting Egypt

Secretary of State Dean Rusk told a press conference he was deeply concerned about "the tendency in Congress to legislate foreign policy as it might apply to special situations or special countries," referring to the Senate amendment pertaining to Egypt and similar restrictions on aid to specific countries.

He charged that Congress was trying to legislate the American foreign policy toward particular countries but it was the President and not Congress who had to deal with aid problems on a day-to-day basis. He said he hoped Congress would "not try to legislate in detail about the application of an aid program to a particular country."

Senator Wayne Morse, Oregon Democrat, took issue with Secretary Rusk's comments. He said Congress had a duty to check on the spending of billions of dollars furnished by the American taxpayers on such programs as foreign aid. Chairman Fulbright of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee supported Mr. Rusk's position. He said "we have put specific restrictions on executive authority -- some irrelevant to the aid bill, like the amendments on fishing and the security of Israel."

FRENCH DELEGATION REPORTS FAILURE TO WIN KHRUSHCHEV ON JEWS

PARIS, Nov. 11, (JTA) -- French Socialist leaders today admitted that they failed completely in their efforts during a visit last week to Russia to induce Premier Khrushchev and other Soviet leaders to change their attitude on the question of Soviet Jewry and on Israel and the Middle East.

Reporting at a press conference on their discussions with Soviet leaders on the situation of Russian Jewry, Professor Quillot said the French delegation was told that no anti-Jewish discrimination exists in the Soviet Union and that the Soviet authorities were considering terminating the use of the term "Jew" which now appears on passports of Soviet Jews. He noted that Soviet officials looked with suspicion on all Zionist movements.

Former Premier Guy Mollet admitted that the delegation found a "total difference on approach and appreciation between ourselves and the Soviets on possible solutions to existing conflicts" in the Middle East. "When we raised the problem of limiting and controlling the armament supply to the whole of the Middle East and the creation of a demilitarized zone in the area, the Soviet leaders denied that dangers to peace exist there," M. Mollet declared.

Another member of the delegation said that the Soviet leaders said they considered Israel "an aggressor state" and that Premier Khrushchev seemed skeptical of any proposals for neutralization of the Middle East.

JEWSH PUBLICATION IN BULGARIA CELEBRATES THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

LONDON, Nov. 11, (JTA) -- The Jewish newspaper in Sofia, Bulgaria -- Yevreisk Vesty (Jewish News) -- celebrated its 30th anniversary last night, according to a dispatch received here today from the Bulgarian capital. A gala event at the Jewish Cultural Club of Sofia was addressed on the occasion by the newspaper's editor, Israel Meyer.

C.J.F.W.F. ASSEMBLY URGES COORDINATED JEWISH ACTION ON SOVIET JEWRY

HOLLYWOOD, Fla., Nov. 11, (JTA) -- The 32nd General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds concluded its five-day session here today with the adoption of a number of resolutions dealing with the situation of the Jews in the Soviet Union, American Jewish participation in the fight for equal rights for Negroes, aid to Israel and to other overseas Jewish communities. Jewish education, immigration legislation and other subjects of interest to the American Jewish community, Louis Stern, of South Orange, N.J., was re-elected to a second term as CJFWF president.

Expressing "grave concern and dismay" over the "continued and intensive assaults in the Soviet Union on Jews and on all aspects of distinctive Jewish life," the resolution on the situation of Soviet Jews enumerated the developments which have taken place recently against Jews in Russia, and stated:

"We join with others in the appeals to the conscience of the world to press the Soviet Union for the early and full removal of these discriminations, and we urge coordinated participation of the Jewish community in appropriate actions for this objective."

In its resolution on the role of the Jewish community in the struggle of the Negroes and other minority groups for civil rights, the General Assembly placed every Jewish organization in the United States under obligation to advance the cause of equality by all means appropriate to it as a sectarian agency.

"The Jewish organizations," the resolution declared, "should review their policies and practices on employment, their services when offered to the general public, and other aspects of their operations, to assure that they are fully consistent with this principle: They should strive to place their patronage, including the holding of public functions, only with companies and places that practice non-discrimination."

Commends Kennedy's Immigration and Civil Rights Proposals

The 1,200 delegates lauded President Kennedy for his proposals to enact legislation which would replace the national origins quota system with a more equitable, non-discriminatory formula for the admission of those seeking to enter the United States as immigrants.

In another resolution, they voiced approval of the President's civil rights legislative proposals, and called upon both political parties to join in bi-partisan action to assure the earliest possible enactment by Congress of comprehensive and effective civil rights legislation.

The Assembly expressed gratification over the fact that the Jewish Agency for Israel, Inc. was considering recommendations by the CJFWF with regard to the merger of overlapping organizations "notably the Jewish Agency for Israel, Inc. and the United Israel Appeal," and also the elimination of the confusion in the names of the several organizations called "Jewish Agency for Israel."

The Assembly also expressed gratification over the further progress made during the past year in implementation of the recommendations of the CJFWF on community-financed services in Israel, notably: The study of voluntary fund-raising in Israel, use of American expert technical assistance, initiation of long-range planning and establishment of priorities, consolidation of agricultural settlements, increased rental housing for immigrants, elimination of American grants to the "constructive enterprise" welfare and educational institutions.

Jewish Agency Treasurer Appeals for Increased Aid for Israel

An appeal to American Jewry to increase their contributions to meet the extremely urgent needs in immigration and absorption work in Israel was made here by Louis A. Pincus, treasurer of the Jewish Agency for Israel. He told the Assembly delegates that the great progress in Israel had tended to "dazzle the onlookers" but, he stressed, there were also "less inspiring sights" which are the reverse of the bright developments of the State of Israel.

"While Israel and American Jewry have played so important a role in the great work of helping the settlement of immigrants in Israel, and can point with pride to the epic greatness in the achievements of the immigration of over a million Jews, there are seeds of prejudice in the relatively less successful, more prosaic work of integration," Mr. Pincus stated. Specifically, he said:

1. Thirty thousand families in Israel still live in one-and-a-half room flats, with scores of thousands more living in vacated Arab homes in new open slums.
2. Four thousand families continue to live in asbestos huts in 17 temporary maabarot quarters that have become all too permanent.
3. There are at least about 8,000 families and individuals who comprise a backlog of social welfare cases for which no rehabilitation has been accomplished--elderly men and women with no families to fall back on, invalids and handicapped, the blind sufferers from chronic diseases, mental and retarded cases, and lastly, the bedridden.
4. Despite great progress in agriculture, and the well-cultivated appearance of the Israeli landscape, not one of the 400 settlements put on the land since the establishment

of the State has reached the stage of full viability. Even the needs of youth have not been met. With the fourth Aliyah training programs limited by budget to 10,000 annually, no more than a half and possibly only a third of the youngsters have been properly trained.

"And all of this," he emphasized, "applies to the older immigrants, not to the thousands of families who came to Israel this year and will come next year."

"With immigration showing no signs of abating," Mr. Pincus continued, "and with a class of second-grade citizens being created, the Jewish Agency has had to reduce its next year's budget by \$10,000,000, and is being hampered in long-term planning.

"It is essential that we should no longer be weighed down by the unsolved problems of yesterday," the Jewish Agency treasurer appealed. "Sweeping them under the carpet may give temporary relief to our consciences. It is no answer to the humanitarian challenge facing the United Jewish Appeal in the days to come."

Mr. Pincus stressed that there is a disproportionate division of responsibility for financing this program, which places an unfair burden upon the people of Israel. The Israeli people, he said, account for 70 per cent of this cost, while the Jews of the rest of the world contribute only 30 per cent. He urged the delegates to go back to their communities and mobilize Jewish people for an outpouring of generosity that will more truly reflect their proportionate share of this world-wide Jewish responsibility.

J. D. C. Faces Increased Demands in North Africa and Europe

Moses A. Leavitt, executive vice-chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee, reported at the session that the massive movement of Jews from North Africa and Eastern Europe in the past two years has increased demands for help on the Jewish communities and the JDC in Western Europe, as well as on the JDC-Malben program aiding aged, ill and handicapped newcomers to Israel. "But despite this emigration there has been no lessening in the JDC burden in North Africa," he stressed.

In North Africa, Mr. Leavitt reported, an "internal migration" has brought thousands of Jews from the isolated villages of the hinterlands to the large cities almost as rapidly as the emigrants departed. Many arrived with only what they were able to carry and had to turn to JDC-supported welfare and medical agencies for food and other basic necessities. They brought with them also diseases which the JDC medical program had eradicated in the cities.

"The renewed movement of refugees to other lands has created problems in areas where problems did not exist before," he stated. "All of Western Europe is in a state of flux as refugees continue to pour in, seeking a haven and struggling to rebuild their lives. JDC must provide not only basic health and welfare needs but also the necessary communal institutions to enable them to live as Jews. These include synagogue-centers, Jewish schools and homes for the aged."

The Assembly adopted a resolution lauding the JDC on its 50th anniversary and emphasizing that this anniversary is an event of worldwide significance and acclaim. "The massive humanitarian achievements of the JDC through this half century are inestimable--in emigration, resettlement, and reconstruction of hundreds of thousands of families, meeting every type of need, restoring entire communities to independence and self-respect. The salvation of these lives and the well-being of these communities are the living and enduring monuments to the JDC," the resolution said.

Lowenstein Reports on Cooperation in Community Relations

Alan V. Lowenstein, head of the CJFWF Committee on Cooperation in Jewish Community Relations, reported at another major session of the Assembly that discussions are proceeding between the National Community Relations Advisory Council and the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League for the purpose of having the ADL join the NCRAC which is composed of six national agencies and 69 local and regional agencies involved in community relations activities.

Mr. Lowenstein also reported that his committee has met separately with representatives of the American Jewish Committee and the NCRAC with a view to starting joint discussions on the participation of the American Jewish Committee in the NCRAC cooperative process. The Assembly adopted a resolution urging early initiation of such joint discussions and the utmost effort to reach an agreement.

In another session, Henry L. Zucker, executive director of the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland, pointed out that Jewish federations in the U.S. and Canada are turning more to foundation and endowment funds as an additional source of income. He reported that, since 1953, endowment fund programs of 12 large-city federations have grown from a total of nearly \$32,000,000 to more than \$70,000,000. He said that this experience indicates that endowment funds are "a rich potential source of supplementary financing for the federation and its agencies."

At the banquet which climaxed the Assembly, Dr. Buell G. Gallagher, president of City College of New York, delivered the third annual Herbert R. Abeles Memorial

Address, honoring a past Council president. His topic was "American Human Goals-- A Paradox of Affluence and Poverty." Another highlight of the banquet was the eleventh annual presentation of the William J. Shroder Memorial Award, honoring the founder and first president of the Council. The Awards were presented for pioneering advances in social welfare.

In addition to re-electing Louis Stern as president of the CJFWF for a second term, the Assembly also re-elected at the closing session the following officers: Vice-presidents--Louis J. Fox, Baltimore; D. Lou Harris, Toronto; Judge Irving Hill, Los Angeles; Carlos L. Israels, New York; Benjamin Lazrus, New York; Judge Theodore Levin, Detroit; treasurer--Edwin Rosenberg of New York. Mrs. Joseph Cohen, New Orleans, and A.D. Davis, Chicago, were elected as vice-presidents and Lewis H. Weinstein, Boston, was elected secretary.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NAZI 'CRYSTAL NIGHT' OBSERVED IN GERMANY

BONN, Nov. 11. (JTA) -- The 25th anniversary of Crystal Night, the night of terror in 1938 when Nazis roamed cities in Germany and Austria burning synagogues and beating and killing Jews, was observed throughout West Germany this weekend by memorial services for the Jewish victims of the Nazi holocaust.

The German Evangelical Church held special services at Dachau, site of the infamous concentration camp, where church leaders announced plans to build a church on the site dedicated to German repentance for the crimes committed there. Similar services were held at the site of the Flossenburg concentration camp.

In a message addressed to the country's Jewish community, West German Chancellor Ludwig Erhard said that, while nobody could make reparations for the crimes of Crystal Night, the anniversary observance should "strengthen our will to make certain that freedom and the worth of the individual are defended as the supreme value."

Newspapers throughout West Germany carried lengthy articles in connection with the anniversary of Crystal Night. Die Welt, leading German weekly, noted that the anniversary coincided with the publication of the document submitted to the Ecumenical Council refuting Jewish guilt for Christ's death.

Addressing the dedication ceremonies of the new Hannover Synagogue, Dr. Hendrik George VanDam, secretary-general of the Central Council of the Jews in Germany, said that Jewish hopes for the future in Germany have grown. He stressed that there were greater prospects for harmonious living together with the Germans, and for more German understanding for Jewish fellow citizens.

Haifa Symphony Orchestra Cancels Wagnerian Concert on 'Crystal Night'

HAIFA, Nov. 11. (JTA) -- The Haifa Symphony Orchestra changed its program at the last minute last night and canceled plans for performing a work by the German composer Richard Wagner, after pressure was exerted on orchestra officials by leading Israeli personalities, including a number of sponsors of the orchestra, who objected to the inclusion of the German work in the program on the night commemorating the 25th anniversary of Crystal Night.

Along with the Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra and the Kol Yisrael broadcasting service, the Haifa orchestra had been unofficially boycotting the works of Wagner until the Haifa group decided to include the composer's work in last night's program. They were forced to change the program, however, due to public pressure.

Two organizations of Austrian Jews held mass meetings last night in Tel Aviv, commemorating the 25th anniversary of Crystal Night in 1938, when the Nazis began their campaign of terror against Jews by burning synagogues and beating and killing Jews throughout Germany and Austria.

One of the meetings was held by the Central European Settlers Association, and the other by the World Association of Austrian Jews. The participants decided to send a delegation to Bonn to try to secure reparations granted to German Jews.

Austrian Officials Attend 'Crystal Night' Commemoration

VIENNA, Nov. 11. (JTA) -- Senior Government officials, prominent personalities in civic and cultural life and leaders of the Austrian Jewish community were among those taking part here in observances commemorating the 25th anniversary of Crystal Night, when the Nazis set fire to 191 synagogues throughout Germany and Austria, destroying 76 of them.

Speakers at the commemoration ceremonies included former Chancellor Leopold Figl, a former concentration camp inmate, who represented the Austrian Peoples Party; Vienna Mayor Franz Jonas, representing the Socialist Party; and Dr. Ernst Feldsberg, president of the Austrian Jewish community. The speakers emphasized that the memory of the victims of Nazi persecution still burned in the hearts of all democratic Austrians.

Also commemorating the anniversary were Austrian Catholic youth organizations, including groups of Catholic high school and university students. Speakers at the youth meeting included Dr. Kurt Schubert, well-known author of books about Israel, who told the gathering that Catholics must realize that they failed and are laden with guilt.

YOUTH ALIYAH HOLDS 30TH ANNIVERSARY WORLD CONFERENCE IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Nov. 11. (JTA) -- Moshe Kol, world head of Youth Aliyah, declared at the 30th anniversary world conference here that the organization was preparing to care for 25,000 wards "from three centers" in other countries.

He reported that during the 30 years of its existence, Youth Aliyah had helped bring into the country and absorb more than 110,000 youth. The opening session was attended by Cabinet Ministers, Members of Parliament and of the Jewish Agency executive and several hundred overseas visitors representing organizations in various countries supporting Youth Aliyah programs, as well as representatives of international childcare organizations.

Deputy Premier Abba Eban greeted the assembly on behalf of the Government. He said the Youth Aliyah mission was not ended and called the organization a "remarkable enterprise even within its extraordinary context" of the past three revolutionary decades.

SEN. SCOTT ADDRESSES CONVENTION OF MIZRACHI WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11. (JTA) -- A comprehensive program involving a change in American policy regarding Israel and the Middle East was outlined here by Senator Hugh Scott, Pennsylvania Republican, in an address before the 38th national convention of the Mizrahi Women's Organization of America. The Senator also called for "emphatic" U.S. Government condemnation of Soviet anti-Semitism.

The convention went into its third day today, with delegates from 37 states and the District of Columbia, representing 50,000 members in 350 chapters and regions, attending the parley. The convention is slated to last until Wednesday.

Senator Scott, who was given the organization's America-Israel Friendship Award, told the Mizrahi women that President Kennedy was not getting the kind of advice he should receive regarding the Middle East. The Senator called for a change in policy, including severance of U.S. aid to Egypt, a collective defense agreement with Israel, American initiative for Arab-Israeli peace talks, and steps to bring Israel into closer ties with the Atlantic community. The Mizrahi women telegraphed President Kennedy, asking him to implement the Scott proposals.

LATIN AMERICAN RABBIS DECIDE TO ESTABLISH RABBINICAL SEMINARY

BOGOTA, Nov. 11. (JTA) -- The Union of Orthodox Rabbis of Latin America decided to establish a rabbinical seminary in Buenos Aires to train Orthodox rabbis and teachers for all Latin American countries. The decision was one of the resolutions adopted at the closing session of a six-day conference attended by 18 rabbis representing 10 countries. Rabbi Abraham Hersberg of Mexico City, who was elected president of the organization, will shortly fly to Buenos Aires to implement the resolution.

The rabbis also acted to strengthen religious education in all Latin American countries to help build religious schools. The goal of seeking to unite all Orthodox Jewish communities in the countries was approved.

The rabbis voted also to accept an offer of the Israeli Ministry for Religious Affairs to send students to Israel to be trained as rabbis and educators for their native countries. A plan was approved to prepare religious literature in Spanish and to open special headquarters for traveling rabbis visiting the Jewish communities in those countries.

A proposal to organize semi-annual rabbinical conference was approved. The next conference will be held in Argentina. Countries represented were Argentina, Mexico, Chile, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Colombia, Panama, Nicaragua and Peru.

MRS. REBECCA SIEFF RESIGNS WORLD WIZO PRESIDENCY HELD POST 42 YEARS

TEL AVIV, Nov. 11. (JTA) -- Mrs. Rebecca Sieff resigned last night from the presidency of the World WIZO, the Women's International Zionist Organization, a post she held for the past 42 years. The announcement of her resignation came as a surprise to the hundreds of WIZO leaders attending a world plenary session held at Sokolow House here.

Mrs. Rosa Ginossar, who was recommended by Mrs. Sieff for the post, was unanimously elected the new president. Mrs. Ginossar was formerly chairman of the world executive of WIZO. Mrs. Sieff explained that her decision to step down was prompted by reasons of health.

CORNERSTONE LAID FOR \$500,000 SYNAGOGUE AT NEW YORK AIRPORT

NEW YORK, Nov. 11. (JTA) -- Cornerstone-laying ceremonies were held yesterday for the \$500,000 synagogue now under construction at New York International Airport under the auspices of the New York Board of Rabbis. The new structure, adjacent to the proposed sites for Protestant and Catholic chapels, will include a sanctuary, reading rooms and a museum which will exhibit Jewish religious objects gathered from all parts of the world.