



Jewish Telegraphic Agency DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

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Vol. XXX - 45th year

Tuesday, December 3, 1963

No. 227

ECUMENICAL COUNCIL ENDS ITS WORK; FAILS TO ACT ON DECREE ON JEWS

ROME, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- The Ecumenical Council at the Vatican concluded its final working day of the current session today without a decision to discuss Chapters Four and Five of its proposed schema on ecumenism. Those chapters deal with the relations of the Catholic Church toward the Jewish people, and with religious liberty.

However, Augustin Cardinal Bea, head of the Vatican's Secretariat for the Promotion of Christian Unity, the principal proponent of both chapters, told the assembled 2,200 prelates at the Council that he expects written comments on the chapters by March, and will present both subjects again for discussion and voting when the Council reconvenes, next September.

Questioning the failure of the Council even to admit the two disputed chapters as a basis for discussion at the current session, Cardinal Bea told the prelates:

"One could ask: Could not a vote have been taken at least to admit these chapters as a basis for discussion? To this question, one might perhaps answer in the affirmative. Nevertheless, I think we should be grateful to the moderators (the cardinals who administer the Council's proceedings) because they wished to give ample opportunity for speaking on these fundamental chapters, to prevent creating the danger that someone might say that a hasty vote was taken on two chapters which treat of matters that are sufficiently difficult, that present something new and are of greatest importance for the life and activity of the Church in our time."

Cardinal Bea started his discussion of the chapters--one of which, Number Four, absolves the Jewish people of responsibility for the crucifixion of Jesus--by telling the Council: "We all regret that it is not permitted to us to have at least a foretaste of discussion concerning these chapters because of lack of time and for no other reason." He emphasized that phrase, and continued: "In this way, our Secretariat would have received greater illumination toward making a definitive edition of each chapter. However, as things turned out, I am sincerely persuaded that even this offers several useful things to us."

Prelates Urged to be Prepared for Discussion at Next Session

After expressing regret about the failure of the Council to decide even to discuss the two chapters, Cardinal Bea said: "It is fitting, therefore, to meditate and ponder everything carefully, over and over again, without haste and with tranquil spirit, so that, at the next session of the Council, they (the two chapters) may be treated at once and judged with mature consideration. The ancient saying applies here: 'What is put off--is not put away.'"

"Therefore, the questions treated in these two last chapters remain entrusted to your study and examination during the months to come. Discussion which we could not accomplish here will be held in the next session of the Council, and will be properly prepared during the next months. For this reason, I earnestly ask attentive consideration of these chapters and indication of proposals and corrections before March. For our part, we shall diligently examine both what has already been said in this hall, and what we will receive in writing, and will propose them in the presentation of these two chapters for discussion, so that we may obtain what will contribute to the greater service of God and the more efficacious good of our souls."

Meanwhile, today, another Council prelate, Cardinal Lercaro, of Bologna, said in an address to a conference of Catholic journalists here, that the two chapters presented by Cardinal Bea will be first on the agenda of the next Ecumenical Council session, in September. Tomorrow and Wednesday, the last two days of the current session, will be given over entirely to ceremonies. Pope Paul VI will formally announce, on Wednesday, the call for the third session of the Council, to open Sept. 14.

("Regret and sorrow" that the Ecumenical Council at Rome had closed without any action having been taken on the proposed declaration on the Catholic attitude toward Jews was expressed today by A. M. Sonnabend, president of the American Jewish Committee. "This inaction on the part of the Council, coming as it does at a time of great hopefulness for increased understanding among Catholics and Jews, is a source of deep disappointment," Mr. Sonnabend added.)

30,000 CIVIL SERVANTS STRIKE IN ISRAEL TO BACK GOVERNMENT BODY

JERUSALEM, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- A one-day strike of more than 30,000 civil servants hit the entire country today with drastic reductions in railroad and postal services, and all non-essential Government offices closed down. The strike was aimed at exerting counter-pressure following a strike carried out two weeks ago by Government-employed professionals opposing a recommendation by a Government committee that a single, unified wage scale be put into operation for all civil servants--professional or non-professional. The non-professional civil servants who went out on strike today are in favor of the committee's recommendations.

While essential Government offices were manned today by skeleton staffs, some chaos prevailed in the Post Office when cable office clerks at first refused to handle even press cables but it was later agreed that press cables as well as the most urgent personal cables would be processed. Some stoppage of trains brought pressure on interurban bus cooperatives, but the buses provided adequate transportation for all.

Last night efforts were made by the Histadrut and the Government offices to head off the strike but the executive of the Civil Servants Union decided to go ahead with the walkout which Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir labeled as "illogical and incomprehensible." The Cabinet yesterday approved the decision of a Ministerial Committee for the implementation of the recommendations of a Government committee headed by Bank of Israel Governor David Horowitz dealing with the demands of the Civil Servants Union. The Horowitz Committee had proposed a unified wage scale for all civil servants.

Bus cooperatives are planning their own strike on Thursday in protest against the recent decision to set special passenger stops for the country's "sherr" taxi services which carry passengers along fixed routes. The bus cooperatives claim that the taxi stops will hamper the smooth movement of buses along narrow roads.

GOLDA MEIR REPORTS TO KNESSET ON U.N. DECISION ON ARAB REFUGEES

JERUSALEM, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- Israel is ready for direct negotiations with the Arab states now regarding settlement of the Arab refugee problem, "but no resolution will force Israel to accept a single refugee," Mrs. Golda Meir told the Knesset, Israel's Parliament, today. She made that statement in reporting on the actions that were concluded two weeks ago by the Special Political Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, where a resolution sponsored by the United States had been adopted by a vote of 83 to one. Israel had cast the sole negative vote in that ballot, calling the American resolution "unacceptable."

Since the U.S. resolution tied the possible solution of the refugee problem to one clause of a 1948 Assembly resolution, calling only for "repatriation" of the Arab refugees or their compensation by Israel, Mrs. Meir told the Knesset that the 1948 clause was being interpreted "out of context and incorrectly."

Mrs. Meir told the Parliament that Israel appreciates the action of 19 members of the UN that had co-sponsored another draft, later withdrawn, calling for direct Israeli-Arab negotiations on the Arab refugee problem. She said that draft, had it come to a vote, would have obtained the support of 40 UN members and, perhaps, even a simple majority in the 111-member committee.

"Unfortunately, however," she said, "none of the Big Powers supported this move. While the Soviet bloc simply went along with the Arabs, others argued that the time for direct talks was not ripe and that the proposed resolution was impractical." She added that the United States, by its stand, undertook a great responsibility. That stand "also tends to create among the Arabs the illusion of the possibility of a mass return of Arab refugees."

EL AL MAKES DEPOSIT IN WASHINGTON FOR SUPERSONIC PASSENGER PLANES

JERUSALEM, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- El Al Israel National Airlines will be one of the first two foreign Atlantic flag carriers to put in service American-made supersonic passenger aircraft scheduled to begin coming off the assembly line within a few years, it was reported.

The Israeli airline has secured favorable delivery positions on two such aircraft by placing a substantial deposit with the Federal Aviation Administrator in Washington for the 10th and the 14th supersonic passenger planes to be manufactured in the United States.

The deposits for the two planes were placed in Washington by General E. Ben Artzi, managing director of El Al, and Colonel Lahat, chief executive of the airline. The down payments are refundable by November 1, 1965 should El Al wish to withdraw its option by that date and the El Al management made it clear that its decision would be subject to the aircraft's performance in accordance with the specifications and operational requirements.

CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER OUTLINES STAND ON SOVIET ANTI-JEWISH ACTS

OTTAWA, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- The Canadian Government is not taking any "official action" to intervene through diplomatic channels with the Soviet Government in regard to anti-Jewish discriminations in the USSR for fear that such action might "provoke further restrictions against the Jewish community of the USSR," Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson declared in Parliament.

The Prime Minister made that statement in replying at length to a question asked by former Prime Minister John G. Diefenbaker, leader of the Opposition. Mr. Diefenbaker had asked whether the Government was taking any action, in response to requests by Jewish organizations in the Dominion, "regarding shocking treatment of 3,000,000 Soviet Jews who have been subjected to increasing discrimination and persecution."

"Has the Prime Minister," asked Mr. Diefenbaker, "or the Secretary of State for External Affairs brought to the attention of the Soviet Ambassador a situation that is becoming more difficult and trying with the passing months?"

"Despite our concern," replied Mr. Pearson, "we have not made representations to the Soviet embassy on the specific question of anti-Semitism in the USSR. If such representations were contemplated, the more appropriate channel would be to make an approach directly to the Soviet authorities through the Canadian embassy in Moscow. However, I should remind my friend who asked the question of the fact that there is in the Soviet Union a deep-seated suspicion of cosmopolitanism, that is a mistrust of elements in the population and particularly of minority and religious elements which the Soviet authorities fear might have international connections and loyalties which could conflict with their allegiance to the USSR."

Explains Attitude on Complaints of Canadian Jewish Groups

"Because of this consideration, the present Government, as did the previous administration, wishes to avoid any official action which, by emphasizing the Soviet suspicion of the international affiliation of the Jews, might provoke further restrictions against the Jewish community in the USSR," the Prime Minister explained.

Mr. Pearson noted that several of the letters sent to the Canadian Government by Jewish organizations in this country had dealt specifically with the high percentage of Soviet Jews given the death sentence or long prison terms for "economic misdeameanors." Regarding that point, the Prime Minister stated:

"I find it particularly unfortunate that any government should find it necessary to resort to those penalties for economic crimes which were abandoned in many countries of the world at least a century ago. Although the penalties have been levied against persons of various nationalities and faiths within the USSR, the disproportionate number of Jews given severe sentences may reflect the historical tradition of anti-Semitism which has prevailed among the population, even though there is no evidence to suggest a state program encouraging anti-religious persecution within the USSR."

LEWIS H. WEINSTEIN ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF PRESIDENTS' CONFERENCE

NEW YORK, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- Lewis H. Weinstein of Boston was today elected chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. He was the unanimous choice of the 18 presidents of Jewish organizations that comprise the Conference.

The 18 organizations whose principal elected officers comprise the Conference are American Israel Public Affairs Committee, American Jewish Congress, American Zionist Council, American Trade Union Council for Histadrut, B'nai B'rith, Hadassah, Jewish Agency for Israel, Jewish Labor Committee, Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A., Labor Zionist Movement, Mizrahi Hapoel Mizrahi, National Community Relations Advisory Council, National Council of Jewish Women, National Council of Young Israel, Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, Union of American Hebrew Congregations, United Synagogue of America, and Zionist Organization of America. The President of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds participated as an observer.

Mr. Weinstein, who is chairman of the National Community Relations Advisory Council, succeeds Rabbi Irving Miller, president of the American Zionist Council, as Conference chairman. He will be the first chairman to serve in that capacity since the Conference expanded the scope of its concern last September, from American-Israel matters exclusively, to issues affecting Jews in other lands throughout the world. The Conference has been preoccupied since then with the problem of the situation of Jewish life within the Soviet Union to which all the participating Jewish organizations gave a very high priority.

Other predecessors of Mr. Weinstein in the office have been, in order of incumbency, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Jewish Agency for Israel; Philip M. Klutznick and Label A. Katz, respectively former and present president of B'nai B'rith.

REFORM RABBIS CRITICIZED STRONGLY FOR PERFORMING MIXED MARRIAGES

NEW YORK, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- A noted Reform rabbi charged here yesterday that other Reform spiritual leaders, who perform mixed marriages between Jews and non-Jews, contribute "to the ultimate destruction of Jewish life." The accusation was voiced by Rabbi Joseph Klein, of Worcester, Mass., at a conference on intermarriage, sponsored by the American Jewish Congress. He was supported by Dr. Leo Jung, an Orthodox rabbi, spiritual leader of the Jewish Center of New York City, who said that mixed marriages were "unfair to the millions of Jews who have fought for survival."

Conservative and Orthodox rabbis do not perform mixed marriages, but some Reform rabbis do. Dr. Klein's and Dr. Jung's views were opposed by Rabbi Max Eichhorn, of the Jewish Welfare Board, who said that, while he does not encourage mixed marriages, he has performed such rites. Stating that the present trend toward more intermarriage would probably continue, Rabbi Eichhorn declared that stiff opposition to such marriages would only create animosity. Instead, he held, efforts would be made to concentrate on strengthening Jewish values.

The conference was centered on a study on intermarriage recently published in the American Jewish Year book by Dr. Eric Rosenthal, associate professor of anthropology at Queens College. That study had shown that the rate of intermarriage between Jews and non-Jews increases with each of the American Jewish generations further removed from the generations of Jewish immigrants.

FEDERATION OF HEBREW TEACHERS DISCUSSES SHORTAGE OF EDUCATORS

NEW YORK, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- The National Federation of Hebrew Teachers and Principals declared yesterday that the only way to assure an adequate and continuing supply of teachers for Jewish schools was to equalize the salaries and fringe benefits of Hebrew teachers to that of teachers in the public schools.

The statement was approved at a special convocation called to formulate a program to alleviate the shortage of Jewish schoolteachers. The delegates said that many such schools were currently staffed "by part-time, temporary and unqualified teachers and that the Hebrew teachers exchange program, supplying Israeliteachers "has been at best only a temporary palliative."

The federation specifically called on leaders of local Bureaus of Jewish Education, "to revise their codes of practice upward as a first step in this direction." The federation represents 25 affiliated Hebrew Teachers associations throughout the United States.

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL 'ADMIRE' THE MATURING OF STATE OF ISRAEL

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- Sir Winston Churchill, who celebrated his 89th birthday last Saturday, hailed the economic development of the State of Israel and expressed the hope that Israel would prosper and "live in peace with her neighbors." In a letter last week acknowledging a Commendation Award by the Los Angeles Committee for Israel Bonds, the British statesman declared:

"I have been concerned with the developments of Zionism since their earliest days and I have viewed with pleasure and admiration the maturing of the State of Israel. It is my earnest hope that Israel may prosper and live in peace with her neighbors to the detriment of none and to the lasting benefit of the Middle East."

California Governor Edmund G. Brown, who was a special guest at a dinner at which the Commendation Awards were presented, described Israel as "a refuge from man's tyranny and a citadel of man's hope." He said that Israel is "more than the Jewish homeland. It is the ideological homeland of all who love liberty and who are willing to pay the often terrible price of liberty."

ISRAEL CONTRIBUTES TO UNITED NATIONS RELIEF FUND FOR REFUGEES

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Dec. 2. (JTA) -- Israel will contribute \$5,000 for the 1964 program of the United Nations High Commissioner for refugees, it was announced here today by Dr. Eliezer Yapou, member of the Israeli delegation. The announcement was made at the Ad Hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the announcement of voluntary contributions to the programs.

Felix Schnyder, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, said that the goal for 1964 was programs of \$2,600,000. Dr. Yapou thanked the High Commissioner for his statement that his office was concentrating on aid to new refugees. He said the Israeli contribution was subject to Parliamentary procedures.

MOTHER OF JEWISH GOVERNOR OF VIRGIN ISLANDS DIES; WAS 79

CHARLOTTE AMALIE, Virgin Islands, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held today for Mrs. Isaac Palewosky, 79-year-old mother of Ralph M. Palewosky, governor of the Virgin Islands. She died in the hospital where she underwent major surgery. Born Rebecca Kishner in Lithuania, she came to the islands at the age of 20 and was married to the late Isaac Palewosky, when she was 21. A pioneer in social welfare work, she had been revered as a philanthropist.