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STATE DEPT. ASKS U.S. EMBASSY IN MOSCOW TO REPORT ON MATZCH ISSUE

WASHINGTON, March 17. (JTA) -- The United States Embassy in Moscow has been asked by the State Department to investigate the question of matzoh supplies there, Sen. Kenneth Keating of New York disclosed on the Senate floor today. He expressed the hope that this new probe by U.S. officials "will spotlight the problem" and "contribute substantially toward prompt easing of harsh and arbitrary restrictions."

The Senator revealed that in reply to a recent letter from him, Assistant Secretary of State Frederick Dutton wrote that the embassy in Moscow was asked "to ascertain present Soviet policy in this question."

"This move, I hope, will mark the end of the hands-off policy that our Government has been following for too long where Soviet religious discriminations is concerned," Sen. Keating said. "I sincerely hope that our representatives in Moscow will take a long, hard look at the problem and report not only to the confines of the Department of State but also to the whole world, what crass disregard of religion and spiritual purpose takes place in the Soviet Union with the full backing of the Soviet Government."

On the House floor today Democratic Congressman Leonard Farbstein of New York called for the "immediate adoption" of a resolution he presented before Congress a month ago "to make evident our abhorrence of the discrimination practiced by the Soviets on some of its minority people." He referred to the matzoh situation in the Soviet Union.

Soviet Reports Reopening of Matzoh Bakery in Moscow

LONDON, March 17. (JTA) -- Soviet sources reported the reopening of the matzoh bakery of the Moscow Jewish Community yesterday after it was shut down last Friday for alleged fire hazards, it was reported here today from the Soviet capital.

According to the Soviet sources, the bakery, which operated for two days before fire authorities shut it, was reopened after repairs were made to comply with fire safety requirements. The community rented the private bakery to bake matzohs for the coming Passover holiday after state bakeries, for the third year in a row, refused to bake the required unleavened bread.

The Moscow report said that, in the limited time remaining, production of matzoh would be far short of requirements. By March 27, the beginning of Passover, the bakery is expected to produce only about two tons of the unleavened bread. This will be enough for about 700 families, and Moscow has about 30,000 devout Jewish families. About 200 tons of matzoh are needed.

(David Miller, Moscow correspondent of the New York Herald-Tribune, reported today that Rabbi Yehuda Leib Levin of the Moscow Central Synagogue declined to tell him where the bakery was located.)

London Jews Send 10,000 Pounds of Matzoh to Russia

LONDON, March 17. (JTA) -- The Federation of Jewish Relief Organizations made a last-minute change today in procedures for sending matzoh to Russia because of administrative regulations at the receiving end.

The matzoh was to be sent today and Wednesday by regular air mail instead of air charter or air freight, as had been originally planned. The regular air mail is considerably more expensive than the originally planned means of shipment.

The parcels in the last consignment of 1,000 pounds will be shipped to Moscow, Leningrad, Tiflis and Vilna and should arrive in those cities in time for use during Passover. Total shipments will be 10,000 pounds.

Canadian Jewish Congress Sends Matzoh to Jews in Cuba

MONTREAL, March 17. (JTA) -- A shipment of matzoh and Passover supplies were sent to Cuba by the Canadian Jewish Congress. The shipment comprised 12,800 boxes of matzoh, 4,000 boxes of matzoh meal, 2,640 tins of canned meat, 1,200 bottles of wine and 200 pounds of horseradish.

The shipment will be received in Havana by the Adath Israel Congregation and will be available to the entire community, which has a coordinating committee comprising all groups.

WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCES VISIT OF ISRAEL'S PREMIER TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON

WASHINGTON, March 17. (JTA) -- The White House announced officially today that Israel's Prime Minister Levi Eshkol will visit President Johnson on June 1 and 2. This will be the first time the two statesmen meet. It was also announced officially today that King Hussein of Jordan will meet with President Johnson in Washington on April 14.

(In Israel, an official communique today said: "Prime Minister Eshkol will be happy to have the opportunity of meeting President Johnson and exchanging views on subjects of joint interest to the two countries. During the visit, the Prime Minister looks forward to meeting again with leaders of the American Jewish community and other friends in the United States.")

SHARETT PROPOSES CHANGES IN SYSTEM OF WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION

JERUSALEM, March 17. (JTA) -- Moshe Sharett, chairman of the Jewish Agency executive, placed before the current meeting of the Zionist World Actions Committee today a program of action which included proposals for major changes in the organization of the governing bodies of the World Zionist Organization.

These included a proposal to replace the shekel with a permanent WZO membership card with fees paid to the national Zionist Federations. He also proposed to make non-party Zionists eligible to join the WZO entitling such groups to join local Zionist Councils and to be represented on the council governing bodies and on the World Zionist Congresses.

Discussing the tasks of the Zionist movement, Mr. Sharett said that the rising assimilation of Jews compelled a reorientation in the direction of non-Israeli Jewry and the awakening of Jewish institutions in other countries to the peril of assimilation. He urged the active participation of the Zionist movement in the direction of the Jewish communities to deepen Jewish consciousness and for effective representation of the movement in international Jewish organizations.

Apart from direct Zionist action, the Zionist movement should strive to stimulate the initiative of other Zionist organizations, he urged. He added that in view of the Israel Government's recognition of joint responsibility with the movement for the future of Zionism, the full measure of Israel's support should be enlisted for implementation of the program in other countries while the Zionist movement's cooperation with the Israel Government ought to include promotion of Zionism in Israel, especially among the young generation.

Dr. Emanuel Neumann, chairman of the American section of the Jewish Agency, hailed the joint Israel Government-World Zionist Organization statement as a historic occasion which "may mark a new era in the checkered history of our movement." He also hailed the "profound understanding" displayed by Premier Levi Eshkol on problems confronting Jewries out side of Israel.

Dr. Neumann stressed that the planned intensification of the efforts of the Zionist movement was not meant to displace "the existing agencies or compete with them." He also emphasized the need to enhance Zionist consciousness and ties with other Jewries in Israel and he urged the establishment of an Israel Zionist organization or a "Council of Israel Zionists of all parties."

RABBI UNTERMAN OF TEL AVIV ELECTED CHIEF ASHKENAZI RABBI IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, March 17. (JTA) -- Tel Aviv Chief Rabbi Isser Yehuda Unterman, 78, was elected today as Israel's Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi, filling a post which has been vacant since the death of Rabbi Isaac Halevi Herzog in 1959.

Rabbi Unterman was elected over Chief Army Chaplain Shlomo Goren by a vote of 60 to 57. The incumbent Sephardi Chief Rabbi Yitzhak Nissim, was re-elected, over Rabbi Ovadia Hadaya.

FINANCE MINISTRY OFFICIALS WARNED BY HISTADRUT AGAINST STRIKING

TEL AVIV, March 17. (JTA) -- The Histadrut, Israel's Labor Federation, warned Finance Ministry officials planning to call a strike tomorrow over wage demands that they will be ousted from the Histadrut and from the Mapai party if they carry out the walkout.

Aharon Becker, Histadrut secretary-general, said "we will not tolerate chaos. We will strive for correct relations between employers and employees." Those planning to strike are mostly in the tax department and the walkout would delay collection of some 7,000,000 pounds (\$2,333,000) in taxes.

The Finance Ministry was seeking to recruit workers to keep the customs, income tax and other revenue offices open, posing the possibility of clashes between strikers and non-strikers.

U.N. BODY COMPLETES RECOMMENDATIONS ON OUTLAWING OF ANTI-SEMITISM

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., March 17. (JTA) -- The United Nations Commission on Human Rights completed today final action on two draft conventions vital to Jewry all over the world--one banning most forms of religious discrimination, the other forbidding racist practices, specifically including anti-Semitism in that category.

The proposed conventions, which would have the effect of international law after passage by the General Assembly and ratification by a sufficient number of states, were passed by the Commission to its parent body, the Economic and Social Council which, in turn, is to transmit the documents to the Assembly's next session. That session will convene next fall.

Completion of the Commission's action on both draft conventions came after more than a month of hot debate, most of it caused by a filibuster conducted by the three Communist delegations in the 21-member body--the Soviet Union, Poland and the Ukraine. The long discussions were marked by acrimonious debate in which the United States, other members, Israel acting as an observer, and Jewish nongovernmental organizations accused the USSR of persecuting Soviet Jews, especially in the religious and cultural fields.

Because of the lengthy debates, the Commission, originally scheduled to close its four-week session last Friday, extended its schedule, holding night sessions last week, convening on Saturday, and finally getting together here this afternoon to adopt those sections of its final report that deal with racial discriminations, anti-Semitism and religious freedoms for all peoples, including the Jews in the Soviet Union.

Other sections of the Commission's final report are to be scanned briefly at one further meeting tomorrow, after which the body will adjourn for this year.

The United States delegation, headed by Mrs. Marietta Tree, played a leading role in the Commission's work on the two drafts as these affect Jewish interests.

ARGENTINE JEWISH LEADERS EXPRESS CONCERN TO MINISTER OF INTERIOR

BUENOS AIRES, March 17. (JTA) -- Leaders of the DAIA, central organization of Jews in Argentina, met with Minister of the Interior Juan Palermo today, reiterating in person the grave concern they expressed in a note to him 10 days ago about the stepped-up activities of anti-Semitic, terrorist groups.

The delegation called the Cabinet member's attention to "the serious events" caused by the terrorist groups which, they pointed out, are "continuing their aggressions and intimidations." Mr. Palermo assured them that the Government would "repress inflexibly and immediately any terrorist outbreaks that may disturb the country's peace."

Meantime, the Yiddische Zeitung, leading Jewish newspaper in this country, declared editorially today that "facts have taken a particularly dangerous trend for the Jewish community and for the country." The newspaper stated that "the boasting tone by the Nazis in Argentina, and the audacity of their threats, evidence a change in method by the extremist groups which now flatly advocate crime and announce it."

AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR DISASSOCIATES HIMSELF FROM ANTI-SEMITISM

VIENNA, March 17. (JTA) -- Austrian Chancellor Josef Klaus dissociated himself today from every form of anti-Semitism in replying to Communist charges that in 1932 he opposed a Jewish university professor.

Volkstimme, a Communist paper, printed a facsimile of a letter written by the Chancellor at that time opposing the professor. In commenting on the publication, the Chancellor said that after three decades, he now had opinions different from those he held when he was 22 years old. He repeated the statement he made when he was elected head of the Austrian Peoples party in which he repudiated every direct or indirect form of anti-Semitism.

JESUIT PRIEST URGES CATHOLICS TO PROTECT JEWS FROM ANTI-SEMITISM

TORONTO, March 17. (JTA) -- A plea to Christians in general and to Catholics in particular to do more to "protect Jews from modern anti-Semitism" was voiced here by a Jesuit priest, Rev. Thurston N. Davis, editor of the weekly, "America."

Addressing the interfaith laymen's committee of the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews, Father Davis said "Catholics have a long way to go toward reaching a sympathetic understanding with Jews, despite the experience of Nazism." He advised also that "Christians of all types should speak up against the persecution of the Jews in the USSR."

American Christians, said the priest, "have been unfairly blaming the Jewish community for fighting against prayers and Bible-reading in the public schools."

\$1,673,000 ANNOUNCED AT OPENING DRIVE OF BOSTON JEWISH PHILANTHROPIE

BOSTON, March 17. (JTA) -- The 1964 campaign of the Combined Jewish Philanthropy of Greater Boston was inaugurated last night with the announcement by Roger P. Sonnenberg, general chairman, that \$1,673,000 in pledges had already been received; This represents a 10 per cent increase over the pledges at the start of last year's campaign, he said.

Israel's Deputy Premier Abba S. Eban was the guest speaker at a gathering inaugurating the CJP campaign attended by 1,000 Jewish communal leaders.

Benjamin Ulin, president of the CJP, warned the gathering against complacency amid the growing competition for the philanthropic dollar. Urging the community to make 1964 the "turnabout year" in order to maintain high standards of service in an orderly, respectable community, Mr. Ulin stressed that "our campaign figures are not an exercise in arithmetic. Every dollar is translated into helping people and serving people. Every dollar more may spell the difference between life and death."

Mr. Ulin paid tribute to the memory of the campaign chairman's father, the late A.M. Sonnenberg, national president of the American Jewish Committee, who was serving as vice-chairman of Big Gifts at the time of his death.

PARALLEL COURSES IN ENGLISH AND HEBREW PROPOSED FOR JEWISH EDUCATION

PHILADELPHIA, March 17. (JTA) -- Establishment of parallel courses in both the English and Hebrew languages in Jewish educational institutions was proposed here today by Dr. Solomon Grayzel, editor of the Jewish Publication Society.

Addressing the education committee of the Federation of Jewish Agencies, Dr. Grayzel said that "somewhere along the line, our schools fail to transmit something valuable, an intangible something that should bind the subjects studied to the personality of the pupil."

Emphasizing that he was in complete agreement with the importance of the Hebrew language to Jewish religion and culture, he said, however, that teaching of some subject in Hebrew only was not always practical. While he saw "enormous progress" in Hebrew teaching, he held that achievements are at times limited by the difficulty of the student's comprehension of Hebrew.

"Some people," he said, "are not linguistically gifted. Such pupils, if they do not drop out, are a drag on the more gifted ones. Other studies are also affected, and the entire scale of achievement is lowered. The solution," he proposed, "is not to eliminate Hebrew or reduce its objectives. A more sensible solution would be to establish parallel courses for the Hebraic and the less Hebraic pupil."

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS WILL HOLD FOUR-DAY 'DIALOGUE' IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, March 17. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress will hold a four-day "dialogue" in Israel in August, it was announced here today by Dr. Joachim Prinz, president of the organization. It will be the third successive year in which American communal leaders and writers will meet for discussion with their Israeli counterparts.

Under the general theme, "The Issues That Unite Us," the "dialogue" will seek to explore those areas of Jewish life that link American Jewry, as the largest Jewish community in the world, with the people of Israel, Dr. Prinz said.

JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOLDS THREE-DAY MEETING IN CHARLESTON

CHARLESTON, S.C., March 17. (JTA) -- Dr. Leon J. Obermayer, a Philadelphia attorney, was elected president of the American Jewish Historical Society at the three-day 62nd annual meeting which ended today. He succeeded Dr. Abram Kanof, a New York City pediatrician.

The delegates heard papers on Savannah Jewry, the Jews of Virginia, and on Pioneer Jews of Los Angeles. Citations were presented to members affiliated with the Society for 35 years or more. Arthur Hays Sulzberger, chairman of the board of the New York Times, was one of those receiving the citation. Dr. Philip D. Sano of Chicago was elected chairman of the executive council.

GOVERNOR OF VIRGIN ISLANDS ORGANIZES FIRST B'NAI B'RITH LODGE

WASHINGTON, March 17. (JTA) -- Ralph M. Paiewonsky, Governor of the Virgin Islands, has helped charter the first lodge of B'nai B'rith in his dominion and has become its first leader.

Upon installation of officers, the St. Thomas Lodge will become the first Jewish organization outside the synagogue in the Virgin Islands. Gov. Paiewonsky was appointed to his post in 1961 by the late President John F. Kennedy.