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WASHINGTON PARLEY URGES U.S. TO CHECK DRIFT TOWARD A MIDDLE EAST WAR

WASHINGTON, May 3. (JTA) -- Action on the part of the United States to halt the drift towards a war on the Middle East was urged by speakers here today at the opening of the two-day annual meeting of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee which is now observing its 10th anniversary.

The leaders of the organization declared that the Department of State underestimates the danger of war and of Arab expansion in the Middle East. They called for a stronger American policy to meet the threat to Israel and other Democratic outposts in the Middle East.

Rabbi Philip Bernstein, chairman of the Committee, paid tribute to the policies of the late President Kennedy in the Middle East and expressed confidence that President Johnson would continue to reflect the essential good will of the American people toward the State of Israel. He recalled the recent visit of Jordan's King Hussein here, and called on the Arab states to engage in an "agonizing reappraisal" of their present "completely negative, and destructive program which can only lead to calamity and failure."

I. L. Kenen, executive director of the Committee, analyzed recent State Department testimony before the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives and declared that the Department was too optimistic in its appraisal of the Cairo Conference of Arab Heads of State and of the threat to NATO and the Middle East. Since the Cairo conference Nasser predicted four times the inevitability of war with Israel, called for the liquidation of the American air base in Libya and the expulsion of the British from the port of Aden. If Nasser succeeds in carrying out his program, it will be a serious defeat for NATO and a great gain for the Soviets in the Near East, Kenen warned.

The session was also addressed by Mrs. L. Kramarsky, president of Hadassah and by Joseph H. Myerhoff, general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal. Mrs. Kramarsky devoted most of her speech to the human element involved in Israel's security and discussed the problems and requirements of education and the needs of raising the general level of the population which has immigrated from backward countries. Mr. Myerhoff dealt primarily with the problems of immigration, absorption and settlement of new immigrants, the financial issues involved and the implications of it for the security of Israel.

U.S. Official Sees Arab Refugee Problem Lasting for A Generation

WASHINGTON, May 3. (JTA) -- The Arab refugee problem will continue to exist for a whole generation, according to a top Administration official here.

William B. Macomber, Assistant Administrator for Near East and South East Asia in the Agency for International Development (AID), was extensively questioned on this subject by Congressman Leonard Farbstein during recent hearings before the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Parts of the hearings were now released by the Committee.

Mr. Macomber was asked by Congressman Farbstein whether there is any possibility of envisaging a date when the refugees will be absorbed and aid to them will not be necessary. Mr. Macomber replied: "I think the problem will be with us for a generation."

Later the top AID official indicated that the estimate of a whole generation's time for solution of the refugee problem was based on the assumption that there will be no agreement on the solution. "It will be expensive and we should get an agreement," he added.

SYRIA SEEKS TO BLOCK TRADE PACT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EUROMART LANDS

BRUSSELS, May 3. (JTA) -- Syria has asked the Arab League to convene its economic council immediately to reconsider the trade agreement reached between Israel and the European Economic Community, it was reported here today.

The Israel-EEC agreement, reached on April 27, will be signed on May 6 by Alex Herbst, director-general of external relations of the EEC and Ambassador Amiel Najjar, head of the Israeli mission to the EEC. The date of the final signatures and entry of the pact, which gives Israel substantial tariff cuts on a number of major exports, will be announced later.

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE PROPOSES COMPARATIVE RELIGION IN HIGH SCHOOLS

NEW YORK, May 3. (JTA) -- The five-day annual meeting of the American Jewish Committee concluded here today with a proposal by Morris B. Abram, who was re-elected president of the organization, to institute teaching of courses in comparative religion in the 25,000 public high schools in the United States.

"While the American Jewish Committee remained opposed to religious observances in public schools, it has long ago adopted a policy of recognizing the educational value of teaching about the major religions, their history and tradition in the country," Mr. Abram told the 1,100 delegates at the concluding session.

Mr. Abram's program was set forth in the context of the current controversy over religious observance in the public school system. Central to Mr. Abram's proposal on teaching courses in comparative religions was that the public school system would present "courses in religion solely from the historic and literary perspective." He stressed that the "courses were not religious in the sense of observance or ritual, but were to be designed as strictly educational curricula." The courses would be offered as electives to high school seniors.

In describing the design of these courses, Mr. Abram said the national educational program on religion would be "prepared by objective and knowledgeable educators." He added that "religious scholars could then be involved in a consultative capacity," but stressed that "organized religious denominations as such would not participate in the preparation of the courses."

Mr. Abram said that the Committee had developed this proposal to deal with the "many books which existed in the way of objective education about religion." He said that "few high school teachers are adequately trained to teach a course about religions." Further, he said, "there is a lack of suitable teaching materials for classroom use."

As part of the proposal Mr. Abram pointed out that only expert scholars and lecturers would be capable of compiling and developing the course. Therefore, "a film series prepared under their direction could be circulated throughout the country was the ideal means of making this specialized knowledge available to the local classroom," he said.

Distorted Statements on Jews Found in Catholic Textbooks

Mr. Abram also made public the results of a three-year study at St. Louis University analyzing the contents of Catholic religion textbooks most widely used in parochial school systems throughout the United States. The study shows that negative and distorted statements are to be found there in the textbooks when referring to Jews and other non-Catholic religious groups. The St. Louis University is a Jesuit institution.

The study also offers concrete suggestions for avoiding distortions in Catholic teachings about Protestants and Jews, and concludes that recently published materials are more constructive in their approach to intergroup themes than the older textbooks. The study was carried out by Sister Rose Albert Thering.

Mr. Abram pointed out that the American Jewish Committee also stimulated the seven-year self-study of Protestant materials which was completed at Yale University Divinity School and published last year. A Jewish self-study has been completed at Dropsie College for Hebrew and Cognate Learning and its findings will soon be made public.

The St. Louis Study reveals that Catholic religious textbooks mention other groups to a substantial degree. Sixty-five volumes were analyzed, comprising seven basic religion series; two church histories; one guidance series; four supplementary volumes; and the manuals of teachers' guidebooks accompanying them. For purposes of analysis, these were broken down into 2,790 lesson units.

The study revealed that of all groups mentioned in the textbooks, Jews are by far the most conspicuous. References to Jews and Judaism ranged from one-quarter to more than one-half of the basic textbook series. Protestants were the second most visible group mentioned in the textbooks. The study indicates that negative comments regarding Protestants and Jews tend to concentrate around certain themes, particularly those dealing with historic conflicts.

For Jews, negative references tended to concentrate around the following themes: 1. The Jewish rejection of Christianity; 2. The Crucifixion; 3. The Pharisees. Positive references to Jews abound in comments associated with the Old Testament heritage of Judaism, which is also the heritage of the Roman Catholic Church. For example, one religious text states: "Catholics of the world, regardless of their nationality, are all spiritually Semites, we are all children of Israel."

The St. Louis study offers recommendations for avoiding distortions and bias in teachings about Protestants and Jews. It cautions against generalizations, oversimplifications and overall judgments of an entire group.

Delegates Hear Reports on Arab and neo-Nazi Anti-Jewish Activities

One of the sessions of the American Jewish Committee's annual meeting was devoted to reports on the anti-Jewish activities abroad, based on material provided by the Committee's overseas offices. Ralph Friedman, chairman of the executive board, reported that an

extensive anti-Jewish campaign is "being waged with greatly increased intensity" by Arab propagandists, right-wing extremists and neo-Nazi groups, often operating jointly, in South America and Europe. He declared that three chief developments, in Arab and neo-Nazi agitation are cause for serious concern. These developments are:

1. A highly accelerated campaign by Arab League offices and personnel in South America backed by "unlimited funds and carried out with top level propaganda skill," which is fomenting a massive campaign of hatred not only against Israel but also of a general anti-Semitic character.
2. Efforts by European neo-Nazi and extreme right-wing groups to renew notorious anti-Semitic themes, particularly in relation to the forthcoming third session of the Ecumenical Council in Rome; Arab propagandists are intensifying their activities in Europe, particularly West Germany.
3. The growth of an "anti-Semitic publication network" which has made significant gains during the past years with the appearance of new neo-Nazi anti-Semitic publications in Western Germany, France and Spain.

Mr. Friedman cited data and reports provided by Zachariah Shuster, director of the Committee's European office, which has conducted a study of neo-Nazi activities in Europe during the past year. Mr. Shuster, who is in this country currently in connection with the annual meeting, reported that neo-Nazi groups are renewing "notorious anti-Semitic themes as part of their propaganda assaults on the Ecumenical Council which is scheduled to reopen its sessions in September 1964."

The publication network of European extremist groups which has made significant gains in the past year, Mr. Shuster said, means that "practically every country in Europe has at least one anti-Semitic publication appearing regularly." These publications have a hard core of readers and support those who seek vigorously to influence others with anti-democratic and anti-Jewish propaganda.

Abraham Monk, director of the Committee's Latin American office, drew particular attention to what he called "a massive campaign of hatred conducted by the Arab League with huge unlimited funds and a generous supply of all kinds of mass media resources." At the same time, however, he pointed out that the Argentine Government has taken strong measures against Tacuara, the underground neo-Nazi fascist group which is working jointly with the Arab League in "spreading hate and creating so much divisiveness among the Argentine people."

ESHKOL INVITES LAVON TO RETURN TO MAPAI LEADERSHIP; BEN-GURION SILENT

TEL AVIV, May 3. (JTA) -- Premier Levi Eshkol sought this weekend to consign to the past the celebrated controversy over Pinhas Lavon, by inviting the former Defense Minister and former Histadrut secretary-general back into the councils of the Mapai party. However, Mr. Lavon was not entirely satisfied with Mr. Eshkol's gesture.

Former Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion, who ousted Mr. Lavon from leadership, declined to comment on Mr. Eshkol's action. It was indicated that Mr. Ben-Gurion had written to Mapai officials stating that Mr. Eshkol was not competent to repeal the decision which led to Mr. Lavon's disappearing in 1961 from Mapai leadership, and that only party bodies could do it. Mr. Eshkol's invitation to Mr. Lavon was made after consultation with various party leaders but without approval from any Mapai body.

Premier Eshkol's invitation was contained in a letter to Prof. Nathan Rotenstreich, a leader of the intellectuals who have rallied to Mr. Lavon's cause in the controversy which began in a security mishap in 1954, when Lavon was Defense Minister. Despite his insistence that he had not issued any of the orders which led to the security mishap, he was forced to resign. Later, when he renewed his charges that he had been made a scapegoat for the mishap--the details of which have never been publicized--he was forced out of Mapai leadership in a battle with Mr. Ben-Gurion.

As the battle gained momentum, the case was investigated several times. One probe was conducted by a Ministerial Committee on which Mr. Eshkol served, which completely exonerated Lavon. Mr. Ben-Gurion refused to accept that finding. Mr. Lavon's backers within Mapai, as well as the intellectuals, continued to press for his complete rehabilitation.

The Premier's letter was read today by Prof. Rotenstreich to a gathering of 2,000 Lavon supporters who met to decide on splitting away from Eshkol if the Premier failed to act on the issue. Despite the widespread gratification in the party over the Premier's invitation, it appeared that at least one branch of the Mapai felt that the invitation was an implied rebuke to Mr. Ben-Gurion. Prof. Rotenstreich indicated that Lavon's supporters would withhold judgment until some definite action was taken by Mapai in the matter.

Premier Eshkol sent this letter after consultations with Mapai leaders who included Knesset Speaker Kaddish Luz, Foreign Minister Golda Meir, and Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir. Speaker Luz welcomed the letter saying it bridged over a serious gap and that it would help to strengthen Mapai and the Israel labor movement. Moshe Sharett, who was Prime Minister in 1954, said the letter "comes to correct an injustice" and that it prevented a crisis.

BRITISH JEWS URGE PUBLIC DISCUSSIONS ON SITUATION OF JEWS IN RUSSIA

LONDON, May 3. (JTA) -- Declaring that he has found "great anxiety" over the situation of the Jews in the Soviet Union, Maurice Edelman, president of the Anglo-Jewish Association, told a meeting of the AJA's Council here that "a public discussion of the condition of the Jews in Russia is important." "A public denunciation of anti-Semitism, wherever it is established, whether in the Soviet Union or elsewhere, is vital," he stated.

He denounced roundly the publication of the anti-Semitic book, "Judaism Without Embellishment," by the Ukrainian Academy of Science, at Kiev, as well as "other conspicuous manifestations of anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union." Noting that world public opinion had forced the withdrawal of the book from circulation, he said that book's appearance had nevertheless shown anti-Semitism "as hideous as anything that had ever appeared in Der Stürmer; and the fact that it could appear in the Soviet Union where, theoretically, it is outlawed."

He said that, after discussing the matter with "a considerable number of eminent and well-informed men, who are concerned with this problem, I am convinced that a public discussion and denunciation are vital." He pointed out that, as in the case of Nazi Germany, it is important that a manifestation of "the disease of racialism should be identified and condemned." He asserted that the AJA would be glad to cooperate with anyone or any organization, objectively and with good will, in the examination of this subject.

On another phase of international relations, Mr. Edelman emphasized his organization's friendship for Israel and "its readiness to contribute to Israel's security and the upbuilding of the Jewish State."

NEW YORK STUDENTS PLAN INTENSIFIED DRIVE AGAINST SOVIET ANTI-SEMITISM

NEW YORK, May 3. (JTA) -- Plans for an intensified campaign "of information and action," to involve every college campus in the New York area, in protest against persecution of Jews in the USSR, will be formulated this week by a new organization, Students Struggle for Soviet Jewry, which massed 1,000 pickets this weekend near the Soviet Embassy in New York, according to an announcement today.

The announcement was made by James Birnbaum, coordinator of the movement, who said the protests against the Soviet anti-Jewish persecutions had developed spontaneously on 13 college campuses whose students were among the USSR Embassy pickets. Colleges and universities represented, he said, included Columbia, Hunter, Barnard, Brooklyn, City, Queens, Yeshiva University and Jewish Theological Seminary.

The students, he said, will develop plans for further "dramatic" action against Soviet anti-Semitism, and will acquaint students in all summer camps this year with the religious and cultural oppressions suffered by Jews in the USSR.

BRITISH CHIEF RABBI SUMMONS CONFERENCE ON DISPUTE OVER RABBI

LONDON, May 3. (JTA) -- Britain's Chief Rabbi Israel Brodie today convened an emergency meeting of all Orthodox rabbis and ministers in the country to be held here on Tuesday presumably to deal with the current crisis which developed over the appointment to the pulpit of the New West End Synagogue of Dr. Louis Jacobs over the objections of the Chief Rabbi. Some 300 Jewish clergymen are expected to attend.

Last week the Council of the United Synagogue, British Jewry's governing synagogue body, discharged the officers and board of management of the New West End Synagogue after they defied the Chief Rabbi by appointing Dr. Jacobs to the post. The Chief Rabbi believes that Dr. Jacobs' views are not in line with Orthodox Judaism.

The deposed synagogue board, meanwhile, called a meeting today of the 700 members of the congregation aimed at forming a new congregation not affiliated with the United Synagogue and with Dr. Jacobs as spiritual leader. Such a new congregation would be obliged to build or purchase a new synagogue building since the property of the New West End Synagogue belongs to the parent body, the United Synagogue.

In a last-minute attempt to solve the impasse, a "Unity Appeals Committee" has been formed in London to organize a petition which will implore the Chief Rabbi to review the case. The Committee will ask the Chief Rabbi whether a way could be found "to permit Dr. Jacobs to serve within the ranks of the United Synagogue."

JEWISH GROUP VISITS WHITE HOUSE; BACKS CIVIL RIGHTS LEGISLATION

WASHINGTON, May 3. (JTA) -- A group of 100 Jewish business and civic leaders from 30 states visited the White House this weekend to point up their interest in early passage of the civil rights legislation now pending in the U. S. Senate.

Led by Dore Schary, national chairman of B'nai B'rith's Anti-Defamation League, the group then visited the Senate, where they urged proponents of the civil rights bill not to permit the current Senate debate to become "a race between the patience of Senators facing a filibuster--and the impatience of Negroes awaiting long-overdue rights."

PCPE PAUL SAYS ECUMENICAL COUNCIL MUST ACT ON MINORITY RELIGIONS

ROME, May 3; (JTA) -- Pope Paul VI asserted here this weekend that he will "not neglect any means" to have the Ecumenical Council adopt a decree committing the Catholic Church to the "defense of the natural rights of all non-Catholic religious minorities."

The Pontiff made that statement in an apostolic letter to all bishops, in which he spoke of last winter's visit to the Holy Land as an emotional experience which refreshed his concern for "all souls and all nations who also believe in one God."

EX-GESTAPO CHIEF WHO SHOT 22 JEWS IN POLAND GETS HEAVY PENALTY

BOCHUM, May 3. (JTA) -- The heaviest penalty yet imposed on Nazi war criminals-- 22 terms of life in prison--was fixed this weekend for Hermann Blache, 63-year-old former Gestapo chief of a Polish ghetto. He was convicted of shooting down 22 Jews in the Tarnow ghetto. The life terms, one for each murder, run concurrently. Blache was given an additional six years for complicity in the massacre of an additional 4,000 Tarnow Jews.

Another unique aspect of the trial was a statement by Presiding Judge Wilhelm Auferheide to the effect that before the three-week trial began he was one of the many Germans who wished to forget the Nazi past but after studying the documents and history of the trial had changed his mind. He now felt such trials were "vitally necessary."

Chancellor Ludwig Erhard appearing yesterday before West Berlin Schoolchildren's Parliament, was asked whether it was necessary to try war criminals 20 years after the event; He replied that he considered the trials necessary despite a "regrettable delay" which he said was partly due to West Germany's federal system and the difficulty of getting reliable evidence.

ISRAEL'S SUPREME COURT ACQUITS BARENBLATT; FINDS HE DIDN'T AID NAZIS

TEL AVIV, May 3. (JTA) -- Hirsch Barenblatt, the former Israeli opera conductor who was sentenced to five years' imprisonment on charges of collaborating with the Nazis as chief Jewish officer in the wartime Bendin Ghetto in Poland, was acquitted by the Israel Supreme Court.

The musician had served three months of the five-year term. He said, after being freed, that he was happy not for himself but for the Judenrat, the Jewish council set up by the Nazis in Bendin. The issue of whether the Judenrat was an organization hostile to Jews was the principal point in the appeal heard by the Supreme Court.

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL TESTIFIES IN WASHINGTON AGAINST SCHOOL PRAYERS

WASHINGTON, May 3. (JTA) -- The House Judiciary Committee's hearings on proposed constitutional amendments, which would remove the Supreme Court's ban against prayers and Bible-reading in the public schools, were seen here today as likely to be stretched out into six weeks. Originally, the hearings, being conducted under the chairmanship of Rep. Emanuel Celler, New York Democrat, were scheduled to last two weeks. The hearings go into their second week tomorrow, but there is a very long list of witnesses to be heard.

This weekend, opponents and proponents of constitutional amendments clashed repeatedly before the committee. Rabbi Irwin M. Blank, of Tenafly, N.J., representing the Synagogue Council of America, told the body that any public school prayer of the type advocated by those who favor an amendment "would necessarily be so devoid of any real spiritual content that it would come dangerously close to irreverence and blasphemy." He said that voluntary participation in classroom religious exercises by children was "an illusory concept."

Jewish Orthodox Congregations Urge 'Silent Devotion' in Schools

NEW YORK, May 3. (JTA) -- Religious leaders throughout the United States were called upon here tonight to support "a positive program aimed at instilling deep religious conviction in the minds and hearts of American schoolchildren which would render unnecessary the current attempts at securing a constitutional amendment permitting prayers in the public schools."

Moses I. Feuerstein, national president of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, proposed that "a moment of silent devotion at the start of each school day be instituted in public schools throughout the nation in accordance with the sincere desire on the part of the vast majority of Americans for some form of religious orientation in the schools." He made the proposal at the annual national dinner at the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, the organization serving 3,100 synagogues throughout the United States and Canada.

Mayor Robert F. Wagner was honored at the dinner for his contributions toward the enactment of the Fair Sabbath Law which permits family-operated businesses that are closed on Saturdays to be open on Sundays, a measure vigorously championed by the UOJCA.

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCES \$15,000,000 SCIENCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

NEW YORK, May 3. (JTA) -- Yeshiva University today announced plans for a \$15,000,000 Science Development program which will include the construction of a 15-story building at its Main Center here.

The development program also calls for an expansion of the teaching and research programs of the Belfer Graduate School of Science and increases in student enrollments and faculty. The school presently has 200 full-time students and 25 faculty. It offers programs in mathematics and physics leading to the Master of Science, Master of Arts, and Doctor of Philosophy degrees.

ARABS BOYCOTT ISRAEL AT WORLD BRIDGE OLYMPIAD; MAY FORFEIT GAMES

NEW YORK, May 3. (JTA) -- Officials of the Second World Bridge Olympiad, in which 30 nations participated, today ruled that if the Egyptian and Lebanese teams continue to refuse tomorrow to play against the Israeli team, they will automatically forfeit their games to Israel.

The Egyptian and Lebanese teams, led, respectively, by Omar Sharif and Jean Tuerni, announced that they had received "high level" orders against participating in any games with Israelis. The Israel team captain, Henry Contino, said his group was ready to play all scheduled games and that the Israelis were under no instructions whatever from their Government. Sharif, a film actor, told the Olympiad officials he was not personally averse to playing against Israelis, but felt compelled to follow the negative orders he had received.

Olympiad officials, saying they were "shocked" by the development, declared there was no course to follow except that of "giving" the games to Israel by default if the Arabs persisted in their boycott. Baron Robert de Nexon, of France, outgoing president of the World Bridge Federation, which organized the Olympiad, and the new president of the organization, Charles J. Solomon, of Philadelphia, said they would propose a rule forbidding any teams to refuse to play with other contestants, on pain of being barred from all play.

NO ACTION TAKEN AT WORLD'S FAIR FOR REMOVAL OF ANTI-ISRAEL MURAL

NEW YORK, May 3. (JTA) -- The anti-Israeli mural in the Jordanian pavilion at the World's Fair was still in place today, despite protests and in the face of a statement by Mayor Robert F. Wagner last week that he had requested the removal of the offensive painting. A spokesman for the World's Fair said that no action for the removal of the mural had been taken.

Two protests on the issue were voiced here today. James H. Scheuer, chairman of the executive committee of the New York Metropolitan Council of the American Jewish Congress, protested against the Jordanian display to Charles Poletti, vice-president of the Fair in charge of international relations, stating that the mural was intended to arouse "national hostilities," and demanding its removal. At the same time, representatives of the Arab League and a group calling itself the "Arab Palestine Delegation" wired Mayor Wagner, accusing him of being "pro-Zionist."

AGGRESSIVE ARAB ACTIVITIES IN LATIN AMERICA DISCUSSED AT W.J.C. PARLEY

BUENOS AIRES, May 3. (JTA) -- The aggressive anti-Jewish activities of agents of the Arab League in various Latin American countries and their connections with Nazi agents in these countries were discussed here at a two-day conference of leaders of the World Jewish Congress in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay.

The conference concluded with a dinner in honor of Mark Turkow, representative of the World Jewish Congress in Latin America, on the occasion of his 60th birthday. Mr. Turkow was lauded by speakers, including Israel's Ambassador Joseph Avidar, for his devoted activities to the Jewish cause in Latin American countries and other lands.

\$500,000 RAISED FOR NEW YORK U. J. A. IN HONOR OF JEWISH CHAPLAINS

NEW YORK, May 3. (JTA) -- More than \$500,000 was raised at the 1964 United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York Dinner sponsored by the National Jewish Welfare Board as a tribute to the Jewish military chaplaincy. Some 300 guests were addressed by Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman, executive vice-chairman of the United Jewish Appeal and a former United States Army chaplain during World War II.

FUNERAL SERVICES FOR AARON NISSENSON, YIDDISH POET, HELD IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, May 3. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held today for Aaron Nissenson, Yiddish poet, journalist, novelist and essayist who died here this weekend at the age of 66. Born in Russia, he came to the United States in 1911 and received a degree in pharmacy from Fordham University in 1923. However, he never practiced that profession, joining the staff of the Jewish Morning Journal in 1924.

He was the author of eight volumes of poetry, some of his verses having been translated into Hebrew, French and Russian. In recent years, he was on the staff of the Joint Distribution Committee. His first major work in English, "Song of Man," a novel based on the life of Eugene V. Debs, was published this spring.