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DEMOCRATS URGED TO REVISE IMMIGRATION LAW, CONDEMN EXTREMISM

ATLANTIC CITY, Aug. 24; (JTA) -- The Democratic Party's Platform Committee today adopted a plank calling for revision of the United States Immigration and Naturalization Act in such a way as to eliminate what the committee called the "discriminatory" national origins quota system.

The plank was part of the committee's section on domestic policies to be advocated by the full national convention, which got under way here tonight. The foreign policy planks were adopted by the committee yesterday. Regarding the immigration laws, the committee's proposed plank stated:

"True democracy of opportunity will not be served by establishing quotas based on some false distinctions we seek to erase; nor can the effects of prejudice be neutralized by the expedient of preferential practices. The immigration laws must be revised to permit families to be reunited, to welcome the persecuted and oppressed, and to eliminate the discriminatory provisions which base admission (into the United States) upon national origins."

Communists, KKK, Birchers Named; End of Employment Bias Emphasized

The Platform Committee also adopted a plank denouncing extremism. This plank stated: "We condemn extremism, whether of the right or left, including the extremist tactics of such organizations as the Communist Party, Ku Klux Klan and the John Birch Society."

(While the committee was debating the inclusion of this plank, eight members of the American Nazi Party, in full uniform emblazoned with swastika armbands, tried to stage a demonstration near the convention hall. Spectators, led by a man who said he was an ex-Marine, broke up the demonstration, and police arrested all eight of the self-avowed Nazis.)

On the domestic front, the committee adopted another plank which called for the elimination of all discriminations based on race, color or religion, in the field of employment.

The domestic planks, as well as the foreign policy sections of the platform, will be submitted to the full convention tomorrow. Adoption of the full platform as proposed by the committee was freely predicted here tonight.

Middle East Plank Stressed; Guarantees Arab-Israeli Borders

Friends of Israel here, in and out of the Platform Committee, including some of the leading members of both Houses of Congress, were particularly gratified today as they re-read the section dealing with the Middle East, adopted yesterday as part of the Platform Committee's draft. They pointed especially to the paragraph which, in full text, would pledge the Democratic Party to:

"Work for the attainment of peace in the Near East as an urgent goal, using our best efforts to prevent a military unbalance, to encourage arms reductions and the use of national resources for internal development and to encourage the resettlement of Arab refugees in lands where there is room and opportunity. The problems of political adjustment between Israel and the Arab countries can and must be peacefully resolved and the territorial integrity of every nation respected."

Meanwhile, today, an announcement was made that a religious service intended to underscore the Soviet Union's persecutions against Jews in the USSR, and appealing to the world's conscience to help eliminate those persecutions, was scheduled to be held here late tomorrow, near Convention Hall. Organizations scheduled to participate in this demonstration are the New York Board of Rabbis, groups of local clergymen, the American League for Russian Jewry, and Students Struggle for Soviet Jewry.

Los Angeles City Council Passes Resolution on Soviet Anti-Semitism

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 24; (JTA) -- A resolution designating this week as a week of protest against Soviet anti-Semitism was passed today by the City Council here. The resolution was introduced by Councilwoman Rosalind Wyman. The City Council also endorsed a petition against Soviet anti-Jewish policies which has been initiated by the Los Angeles Jewish Labor Committee and the Workmen's Circle.

ITALIAN PRIEST, PHYSICIAN HONORED FOR SAVING JEWISH CHILDREN

MODENA, Italy, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Special medals and certificates, hailing a Catholic priest and an Italian physician as "righteous of the nation," were awarded to two men here today at a ceremony conducted by the Jewish community of Modena, honoring the men for especially valorous work in saving the lives of more than 100 Jewish children during World War II.

The awards were made to Don Arrigo Beccare, a priest, and Dr. Giuseppe Moreali, by Yad Vashem, the documentation center of the holocaust at Jerusalem, which was represented at the ceremonies by one of the youths these men helped save, Josef Itai, of Israel.

During the war, Itai and more than 100 other Jewish boys and girls were the last of a group of children in Yugoslavia, being prepared for emigration to Israel, when the Nazis surrounded the area where they were being hidden. The children were evacuated to northern Italy, where the priest and the physician provided a haven for them. Soon, the Nazis took over that Italian region. Father Beccare and Dr. Moreali, however, succeeded in saving the children again, smuggling them into Switzerland, whence they were sent to Israel via Turkey.

SOUTH AFRICAN LEADERS HAIL JEWS AT GREAT SYNAGOGUE'S JUBILEE

JOHANNESBURG, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Leaders in South African Government and civic and communal affairs today hailed the contributions of the nation's Jewish community here, at ceremonies marking the 50th anniversary of the Great Synagogue of Johannesburg.

Dr. Du Preez van Wyk, provincial secretary of the Transvaal, said that the Transvaal was "deeply grateful" for the contribution of its Jewish citizens. Mayor Pieter Roos, of Johannesburg, hailed the "great influence which the Jewish people have had, not only on this city but on this province and South Africa as a whole."

Chief Rabbi Bernard Casper cited the complete freedom and equality which Jews enjoyed in South Africa, and their dedication to civic as well as Jewish causes. "The ceremonies were preceded by a solemn thanksgiving service at the synagogue, attended by church, civic and communal leaders.

ARGENTINE ARCHBISHOP FAVORS ABSOLVING JEWS OF DEICIDE CHARGE

BUENOS AIRES, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Antonio Cardinal Caggiano, archbishop of Argentina, told a delegation of Argentine Jewish leaders here today that he will support the proposed Ecumenical Council declaration, absolving the Jews of the ancient charge of deicide, when the Council reconvenes at the Vatican next month.

Asserting that he favored improvement of relations between the Jewish people and the Catholic Church, Cardinal Caggiano said: "The guilt for Christ's death cannot be assigned solely to the Jewish people. Therefore it is unfair to call the Jews 'killers of God.' The archbishop left for Rome today to attend the Ecumenical Council.

HIGH VATICAN OFFICIAL CAUTIOUS ON MENTIONING STATE OF ISRAEL

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Leaders of the Mexican Jewish community, headed by Gregorio Shapiro, president of the Jewish Central Committee of Mexico, were among the guests attending a banquet given here last night by Archbishop Miguel Dario Miranda Y Gomez, in honor of Eugene Cardinal Tisserant, dean of the Sacred College at the Vatican, who is currently visiting Mexico.

In his address, the cardinal seemed to be careful not to mention the State of Israel by name, when he addressed the audience gathered in his honor. In speaking of states that are identified with specific religions, he mentioned "Greece and the Jews." Discussing the Holy Land trip last January, when he accompanied Pope Paul VI to Jordan and Israel, he mentioned only Jordan and "Palestine."

MOSLEY'S FASCIST MEETING BROKEN UP; THREE MEN HURT, ONE ARRESTED

LONDON, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Three men were treated in a hospital, and one man was arrested yesterday, after a crowd of about 400 persons broke up a meeting of Sir Oswald Mosley's Union Movement, a Fascist group, on the Brighton seashore. The rostrum and loudspeaker equipment were smashed and the speaker was knocked to the ground.

FRANKFURT JEWISH CEMETERY DESECRATED; SWASTIKA DEFACES CHURCH

FRANKFURT, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Police were today investigating the desecration of a Jewish cemetery here, in which 11 tombstones were toppled by vandals who also painted a swastika in oil on the entrance to a Roman Catholic church, and uprooted seven tombstones in an adjacent Christian cemetery.

A police spokesman said that it was possible that the vandals desecrated the Christian cemetery to disguise their anti-Semitic intent. He said a \$250 reward had been offered for information leading to the capture of the vandals.

U.N. REPORT SHOWS RISING ISRAELI RATE OF PRODUCTION, INCOME

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Israel leads the Middle East in the rate of industrial production and income, and has also achieved a substantial increase in agricultural income, according to a United Nations report on economic developments in the Middle East published here today. The report covers in detail the economies of Israel, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria during the years 1961-1963.

Israel's rise in industrial earnings was due mainly to manufacturing, but was also contributed to by the metal, chemical food and mining industries, the report showed. Israel's index of industrial production was reported to have risen by 31 per cent during the two-year period under study. According to the UN, the contribution of industry to the incomes of Iraq, Lebanon and Syria remained "relatively small" during the same period.

In Israel's agricultural income, these two years saw a rise of 23 per cent. Israel's exports, the report said, also rose significantly during this time, with an increase in the sale of manufactured goods. The ratio of agricultural exports to total exports had declined.

The UN study found that a "substantial" trade deficit continued in Israel. A marked increase was shown in the country's imports of foodstuffs, raw materials and capital goods. Although most of Israel's imports came from Western European countries, her exports since 1960 have, according to statistics published in the report, found new markets in several countries.

ISRAELI DIPLOMATS KNOWN IN U.S.A. GET NEW POSTS; PRATT IS ILL

JERUSALEM, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Shmshon Arad, for the past two years director of the Foreign Ministry's United States Department, was appointed today as Ambassador to Mexico. He will succeed Simcha Pratt, who was prevented by illness from returning to his ambassadorial post in Mexico.

It was believed that Michael Arnon, now Israel Ambassador to Ghana, may be appointed to the U.S. desk being vacated by Mr. Arad. All three men involved in these changes are well known in the United States, having served with the Israeli missions in New York, the United Nations and Washington.

Israel Raises Rank of So. American Missions; Benno Weiser Named

NEW YORK, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Israel has raised its diplomatic missions to the rank of Embassy in two Latin American countries, it was learned here today. Until now, the Israeli missions in Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic have been accredited to the Israeli envoys stationed in Guatemala and Mexico, respectively. Now full ambassadors will represent Israel in San Jose, capital of Costa Rica, and in Santo Domingo.

The first of the new Latin American envoys, Benjamin Varon, arrived in New York today on his way to his new post, as Ambassador to the Dominican Republic. Mr. Varon, whose name prior to his hebraization was Benno Weiser, was director of the Latin American department of the Jewish Agency in New York. For the last four years, he has been head of the Central Institute for Cultural Relations Israel-Ibero America, Spain and Portugal, with headquarters in Jerusalem.

EL AL REPORTS LARGE INCREASES IN OPERATING PROFITS, TRAFFIC

TEL AVIV, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- El Al Israel National Airlines enjoyed a 27.6 per cent increase in air traffic to Israel during the fiscal year ended last March 31, it was reported here today. The increase, a company spokesman said, was due largely to the introduction of reduced-rate group fares for tourists in place of chartered flights.

The airline showed a record operating profit during the year of \$3,576,042, compared with \$1,401,729 in the previous year. Also increased during the year was the airline's load capacity, which rose 52.6 per cent compared with an industry-wide jet load capacity increase of 50.4 per cent.

SYNAGOGUES TO PARTICIPATE IN \$85,000,000 ISRAEL BONDS DRIVE

NEW YORK, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Approximately 700 synagogues throughout the United States will conduct special campaigns for selling State of Israel bonds during the coming High Holy Days, Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, executive vice-president of the Israel Bond Organization, announced here today.

In addition, he said, many congregations will also organize special bond drives outside the synagogues during the holiday period. The State of Israel Bond drive this year has set a goal seeking to raise \$85,000,000.

J.N.F. OF AMERICA APPOINTS RABBI PASSOW TO FOUNDATION POST

NEW YORK, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Rabbi Isidore Passow, former executive secretary of the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, and former executive director of New York University's Jewish Cultural Foundation, was appointed today as national director of the Jewish National Fund Foundations, according to an announcement by the JNF of America. He was also formerly chairman of the executive council of the Weizmann Institute of Science, and assistant to the president of Dropsie College.

EDUCATIONAL GROUP BACKS SUPREME COURT BAN ON BIBLE READING, PRAYERS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- A commission of educators appointed by the American Association of School Administrators to study the problem of religion in public schools, issued a report here today endorsing the Supreme Court decision banning prayer and Bible reading in public schools and opposing any amendment to the Constitution which would permit such practices.

The commission, which includes public school superintendents and principals representing "a wide range of experience" and "denominational persuasion," said that the Supreme Court decisions offer "new hope for a larger and deeper place for religion in our culture."

Among the suggestions offered by the commission aimed at accommodating the "religious pluralism that exists in the nation's public schools," were the elimination of any "religious orientation" of Christmas observances and the accommodation, whenever possible, to the religious obligations of students and teachers in the school calendar and in personnel policies.

The commission also urged public schools to cooperate with other agencies, including churches interested in the education of children and to minimize conflicts with these agencies in scheduling activities for children. The report said that baccalaureate services should be left to the individual churches in place of combined mass services which have religious bases.

Denies Public Schools are Irreligious, Favors Objective Studies

The commission, which is headed by Sidney P. Marland, Jr., superintendent of schools in Pittsburgh, stressed in the report that although the public schools must be neutral, this does not mean that they are against religion.

"To say that the public schools are irreligious," the report declares, "merely because they do not follow the prescribed prayer of a religious segment of the population or because they do not recognize officially the distinction, practices or creed of any religious segment is to say that government is irreligious or even anti-religious. This is not true. There is no threat to the individual, to religion, or to the common good in the removal of religious exercises from schools."

The commission declared that knowledge about religion cannot and should not be kept out of the public schools, since "knowledge of religion and society go hand in hand." However, it stated, the teaching involved must be objective.

The commission stated it "strongly favors," possibly with the help of foundation grants, the production of material "of the highest educational and technical excellence in the history of religion and comparative religion."

ZOA BODY FAVORS EXTENSION OF PRESIDENT'S TENURE TO 3 ONE-YEAR TERMS

NEW YORK, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- The next convention of the Zionist Organization of America, to be held in Washington beginning October 1, will have before it a proposed amendment to the ZOA's constitution, permitting a ZOA president to serve three consecutive, one-year terms. At present, a president may serve only two consecutive one-year terms. A decision to recommend the amendment was adopted here yesterday, after a comprehensive discussion, by the national executive council of the ZOA, the ruling body between annual conventions.

DR. ADOLF FASTLICHT, NOTED MEXICAN ZIONIST LEADER, DEAD AT AGE OF 58

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Dr. Adolfo Fastlicht, a prominent dentist, Jewish communal leader and honorary consul of Israel in Mexico, died here last night at the age of 58.

Born in Poland, Dr. Fastlicht emigrated to Mexico in 1925. A leading Zionist and active in Jewish communal affairs, he was a former president of the Zionist Organization of Mexico; a founder and vice-president of the Mexican-Israel Institute of Cultural Relations; and honorary president of the Mexican-Israel Chamber of Commerce. He served on the boards of governors of the Hebrew University and Tel Aviv University. He was closely associated with Alpha Omega, the dental fraternity which recently donated the new dental school building at the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem.

DR. MOSES LEO GITELSON, ACTIVE IN JEWISH CULTURAL AFFAIRS, DIES AT 67

NEW YORK, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held here today for Dr. Moses Leo Gitelson, prominent Jewish businessman, economist and philanthropist, who died yesterday at his home here at the age of 67. He was a leading supporter of libraries and Jewish culture.

Born in Russia of American parents, Dr. Gitelson was brought to this country at the age of 3. He was a member of the board of governors of the Jewish Theological Seminary, and a trustee of the Jewish Publication Society of America.