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J.D.C. CONFERENCE IN GENEVA HEARS REPORTS ON INCREASING JEWISH NEEDS

GENEVA, Oct. 26; (JTA) -- The Joint Distribution Committee faces the need for much larger funds, this year, to provide care, social services and relief to increasing thousands of Jews uprooted by political and economic dislocations in their homelands, it was revealed here today.

These mounting needs were disclosed at the opening session of the 19th annual JDC Country Directors Conference; Sixty members of the JDC's executive and field staffs came to the conference for a re-examination of the needs and programs in Western Europe, Israel, North Africa, the Middle East, the Far East and Latin America;

Emphasizing the increasing expansion of JDC services, involved, Moses A. Leavitt, of New York, JDC executive vice-chairman, warned that the increasing needs come at a time "when JDC faces a critical drop in income." Pointing out that JDC receives \$7,000,000 a year from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, and that this income will end when the Conference ceases to provide funds in 1965, he declared:

"There is little likelihood of our being able to make up this sum from other sources. For that reason, despite the fact that the 1964 campaign of the United Jewish Appeal--main source of JDC funds--has maintained the level of previous years, we feel we must make an exceptional appeal to our friends in the United States and elsewhere to raise this budget of giving."

Number of Jews Assisted by J.D.C. in Europe Reported Growing

Summarizing reports from 30 West European countries, Julian Green, JDC budget and finance director, told the conference that the number of Jews assisted by the JDC in Western Europe has doubled in the last five years, going up from 37,000 persons to 73,000. Nearly \$6,000,000 will have to be spent in this area alone, he said. He pointed out that various political developments have contributed to this higher caseload. The events included the uprooting of Jews from Tunisia, beginning in 1961; the exodus of 110,000 Jews from Algeria to France in 1962; the continuing arrival of Jewish immigrants from Egypt and Morocco; and the increased movement of Jews from Eastern Europe.

"In addition," he said, "immigration of Jews from Tunisia to France has again been assuming serious proportions in recent months." He added that in France, where 55,000 persons will benefit from operations supported by JDC, about two-thirds of the funds expended for Western Europe are consumed. In France, he said, the influx of some 150,000 Jewish immigrants, in the last three years, came on the top of "already substantial requirements" for aid to displaced persons and refugees who settled in France after World War II, and remained on relief rolls as "hard-core cases."

In Italy and Austria, he reported, the ongoing welfare programs today are financed mainly by the local Jewish communities. However, he stated, "the JDC is held responsible for giving full care and maintenance to refugees en route to Vienna and Rome, while waiting for their migration papers to be processed by United Hias Service."

Analyzing other European problems, Mr. Green noted that the "push" given JDC in the past 10 years by funds from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, used for the rebuilding of much-needed communal buildings and facilities, made it possible for a number of Jewish communities to become completely self-supporting again. He cited as illustrations of such developments the Jewish communities of Denmark, West Germany, Holland and Switzerland. However, he said, the Belgian, Swedish and Norwegian communities have been so swelled by the advent of newcomers from DP camps in Eastern Europe "that they have not yet caught up to their increased communal needs."

Large Immigration to Israel Causes New Problems for Malben

Theodore Feder, country director for Israel, told the conference that the continuing large immigration from Europe and North Africa is causing new problems for Malben, the JDC program for the aged and handicapped immigrants in Israel. Recently, he said, there has been an increase in the proportion of the aged among the new immigrants to Israel. The aged percentage now, he said, is about 13, compared to 8 percent for 1963. "This," he said, "comes at a time when we have been trying to effect an orderly transition

from direct to indirect programs and services." For the first time, he said, Malben is experiencing a waiting list for applicants to homes for the aged.

"For some time," he declared, "we have been giving applicants extramural care, and admitting to institutions only the old people who cannot look after themselves; Now we shall have to take another look at our plans for continuing to reduce the number of aged in Malben-operated homes."

Other reports were presented at the opening session of the conference today by country directors and representatives from Greece, Norway and Sweden.

Yesterday, Charles Jordan, Overseas Director-General of JDC, was presented with the "Nansen Ring," an honor created in 1961 in memory of Fridtjof Nansen, first High Commissioner for Refugees. The award was presented to Mr. Jordan by Prof. Martin Kornrumps, of Munich, president of the International Nansen Committee, and Prof. Sahreddin Kerim Gokay, former Turkish Minister of Populations, who was one of the founders of the International Nansen Committee. The "ring" is given to persons outstanding in the field of international refugee relief.

WHITE HOUSE AND ISRAEL EMBASSY ISSUE JOINT STATEMENT ON DESALINATION

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26; (JTA) -- The White House today reaffirmed President Johnson's hope that a nuclear desalting plant of unprecedented magnitude will be built in Israel with the active participation of the United States Government;

This reaffirmation came in a joint press release issued here by the White House and the Embassy of Israel. It stressed that the joint American-Israeli team of experts completed preliminary studies and envisages that a detailed engineering study, recommended for immediate implementation, be completed by mid-1965, at which time the two Governments would consider further steps;

The experts have now concluded their work in Washington with the recommendation that the Governments of Israel and the United States "without delay engage the services of a consulting (engineering) firm to prepare detailed studies." The joint undertaking was agreed upon by President Johnson and Israel's Prime Minister Levi Eshkol in June during talks in Washington.

RIFT BETWEEN BEN-GURION AND ESHKOL WIDENS; GOLDA MEIR BACKS ESHKOL

TEL AVIV, Oct. 26; (JTA) -- The rift between Prime Minister Levi Eshkol and former Premier David Ben-Gurion over plans for an alignment of the Mapai and Ahdut Avodah labor parties widened last night when a meeting of the Mapai secretariat failed to reach an agreement on the matter;

Mr. Ben-Gurion is opposing Mr. Eshkol's terms of the alignment. Premier Eshkol, who was supported at the meeting by Foreign Minister Golda Meir, is rumored to have threatened to resign if Ben-Gurion persists in his objections;

At the meeting, Reuven Barkat, secretary-general of Mapai, read a letter from Mr. Ben-Gurion strongly attacking the plans for alignment, which he said, would accomplish nothing. Another letter, from Mrs. Meir, warmly supported alignment. Education Minister Zalman Aranne favored alignment while Agriculture Minister Moshe Dayan opposed it. Another meeting of the secretariat was scheduled for tonight.

STRIKE OF POSTAL WORKERS IN ISRAEL CONTINUES; STRIKERS WARNED

TEL AVIV, Oct. 26; (JTA) -- The strike of some 100 postal porters, now in its third day, was causing chaos today in Israeli commercial life with the suspension of all mail with the exception of special delivery letters, which are not handled by the porters;

All efforts to end the strike have failed in spite of warnings by the Histadrut, Israel's labor federation, that it would not take up the matter unless the strikers returned to work. Government officials have urged that drastic steps be taken to prevent the continued interruption of vital services because of a small group of workers;

HEAD OF LEAGUE AGAINST ANTI-SEMITISM ACQUITTED OF LIBEL IN PARIS COURT

PARIS, Oct. 26; (JTA) -- After a trial lasting more than three weeks, the Paris Criminal Court today acquitted Bernard Lecache, president of the International League Against Anti-Semitism, of a charge of libel leveled against him by a man he had publicly called "neo-Nazi."

The plaintiff was Paul Rassinier, writer and lecturer, who had claimed in his public statements that Nazi death camps had "practically never existed," that such reports were only "parts of Jewish propaganda," and that most Jewish casualties during World War II were caused "by their fellow concentration camp inmates who stole their food and maltreated them." In his organization's periodical, "The Right to Live," M. Lecache called Rassinier "a neo-Nazi who, together with his friends, had reached the depths of infamy."

In acquitting M. Lecache, the court ruled that "the plaintiff's outrage against the Resistance movement, and the lack of respect toward war victims, justified the indignation expressed in the writings of the defendant." The court also upheld the right of M. Lecache to protest against the plaintiff's "outrageous affirmations."

POLISH COURT SENTENCES ANTI-SEMITES TO HARD LABOR FOR ATTACKING JEWS

LONDON, Oct. 26. (JTA) -- A Pole was sentenced to 14 months at hard labor by a court in Legnitz, in Western Poland, on charges of anti-Semitic hooliganism, it was reported here today from Warsaw. The Pole, Jan Horoszkewicz, was convicted of having insulted and attacked two Polish Jews--Abraham Moneta and Mendel Tastowsky--and of shouting anti-Semitic remarks; Horoszkewicz also attacked a policeman summoned by the Jews;

During the trial, Moneta told the court that he was a survivor of several concentration camps, including the notorious Mauthausen, and that he had lost a leg in the war.

Asserting that only a few Jews remain in Poland after the terrible slaughter there, the public prosecutor said that Jews "are, of course, citizens like the rest of us, entitled to the protection of the law. Furthermore, we shall not tolerate in Poland anti-Semitism or anti-Semitic hooliganism, and we shall eradicate it for good so that there is no trace of it within the Polish people."

Following the trial, the father of the accused went up to Moneta, apologized for his son's behavior, and said he thought the sentence was just.

QUEEN JULIANA DENIES PARDON TO GERMAN WAR CRIMINALS IN HOLLAND

THE HAGUE, Oct. 26. (JTA) -- Applications for pardon were denied here by Queen Juliana today to four German war criminals still incarcerated for life terms at Breda Prison, in Amsterdam.

The four, who are the last of wartime Nazis still in the prison, are: Willy Lages, wartime chief of the Central Office for Jewish Deportation, in Amsterdam, who had been responsible for the deportation of 70,000 Dutch Jews to their death; his deputy, Fritz Ausderfueren; Fritz Fischer, who had been convicted of deporting 13,000 Jews from The Hague; and Josef Kotaella, commander of the Amersfoort concentration camp.

All had originally been sentenced to death, when they were tried after the war. However, they had their sentences commuted to life imprisonment on appeals in 1951 and 1952.

BELGIAN GOVERNMENT SEEKS EXTENSION OF TIME FOR WAR CRIMINALS

BRUSSELS, Oct. 26. (JTA) -- A bill to extend for 10 years the statute of limitations on death sentences meted out by Belgian courts against persons condemned for major war crimes was introduced in Parliament here today by the Ministry of Justice. The bill would extend to 1975 the right to carry out the death sentences "for infractions or attempted infractions against the security of the State between May 9, 1940 and May 8, 1945."

An explanatory statement appended by the Ministry declared: "The memories of atrocious crimes committed during World War II cannot be forgotten because of their gravity and because of the great number of victims. Additionally, it is obvious from the behavior in exile of the principal condemned that they have shown no remorse. Thus, no impunity can be bestowed on them."

The Ministry made it clear that the draft measure has a limited objective, does not affect the ordinary statute of limitations, and concerns only those who have been condemned to death for crimes committed during World War II. The Ministry stated it had the draft examined by the Council of State, the country's highest judicial body, which, it stated, does not believe the bill would violate the Convention of Human Rights or any fundamental liberties.

JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN HUNGARY TO HONOR ITALIANS WHO SAVED HUNGARIAN JEWS

LONDON, Oct. 26. (JTA) -- The Association of Jewish Communities in Hungary has announced plans to honor 16 Italians who, during the Second World War, risked their own lives to save thousands of Hungarian Jews from certain death, it was reported here today from Budapest;

The 16 Italians had organized a rescue operation to aid Jews fleeing from trains bound for the Auschwitz death camp. The group is credited with saving 3,000 Jews from death at the hands of the Nazis. The Hungarian Jewish leaders have expressed the hope that the Italian heroes will be able to go to Budapest and participate in ceremonies in their honor.

ANTI-SEMITIC SLOGANS APPEAR ON WALLS IN SEVERAL AUSTRIAN TOWNS

VIENNA, Oct. 26. (JTA) -- The walls of houses in several Austrian towns were found today to be daubed with anti-Semitic slogans such as "Austria must be cleansed of Jews." Police are now searching for the culprits responsible for these acts.

TORONTO JEWS PROTEST TELEVISION INTERVIEW WITH ROCKWELL IN CANADA

TORONTO, Oct. 26. (JTA) -- Jewish leaders and Canadian Legion members filed protests and 25 pickets paraded outside the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. studios last night when the CBC put on a 12-minute filmed television interview with George Lincoln Rockwell, commander of the American Nazi Party.

ESTABLISHMENT OF U. S. HISTADRUT CULTURAL EXCHANGE INSTITUTE ANNOUNCED

NEW YORK, Oct. 26, (JTA) -- The establishment of the American Histadrut Cultural Exchange Institute to serve as a forum for American and Israeli intellectuals was announced here today by the National Committee for Labor Israel. Howard J. Samuels, a prominent Rochester industrialist, has accepted to serve as chairman of the Institute, and Dr. Judd L. Teller, author and former director of education of the National Committee for Labor Israel, has been named executive vice-chairman.

The Academic Board of the Institute, now in formation, includes such renowned personalities as Dr. Albert B. Sabin, discoverer of the Sabin oral polio vaccine, and Dr. Joseph Kaplan, chairman of the United States National Committee for the International Geophysics Year.

The Institute, which will draw together academic, religious, civic and trade union intellectuals, will sponsor international conferences in this country and in Israel, with the participation of American, Israeli, Afro-Asian and Latin American experts; It will publish and disseminate books and other informational material dealing with public health, education and cooperation. The first project of the Institute was publication, this month, of the volume, "The Free World and the New Nations," edited by Dr. Teller and Nahum Guttman.

ARGENTINE MINISTER LASHES OUT AGAINST INCITEMENT TO ANTI-SEMITISM

BUENOS AIRES, Oct. 26, (JTA) -- A sharp attack against incitements to anti-Semitism, "violence and mistrust" in this country was delivered here last night by Minister of the Interior Juan S. Palermo. He was the principal speaker at a gala event arranged here by the leading Jewish organizations in this country, celebrating the 75th anniversary of the founding of Mosesville, the first Jewish colony in Argentina. That colony was founded by the Jewish Colonization Association with funds provided by the late Baron Maurice de Hirsch.

"We must root out once and forever," said Mr. Palermo, "hate, violence and mistrust. Let each defend his ideas without offending others. We must all pursue ideals of progress through united efforts."

Other addresses were delivered by Dr. Isaac Goldenberg, president of DAIA, the central body of organized Argentine Jewry; Gregorio Fainguersch, on behalf of the Kehillah, the Jewish community of this city; Jack Calius, on behalf of the Jewish Colonization Association, who lauded Argentina's government for its "positive attitude toward immigrants"; and Israel Ambassador Joseph Avidar. The Israeli envoy told the meeting that the immigrants who came here 75 years ago to establish Mosesville were "motivated by the same national Jewish movement which drove Jews to pioneer in Palestine."

Argentine Envoy Says Anti-Semitism Is 'Wild Growth' in His Country

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 26, (JTA) -- Anti-Semitic incitements in Argentina constitute "a wild growth grafted onto the healthy Argentine soil," and do not at all represent either Government policy or the wishes of the people of the country, Argentine Ambassador Silvano Santander declared here today.

Mr. Santander made that statement to leaders of the Jewish community of Mexico who visited him to welcome him to the Ambassadorial post he has just assumed. "You may be sure," he told the Jewish leaders, "that our Government is doing all in its power to fight against anti-Semitic incitements. You may be sure also that the Argentine people as a whole rejects such unhealthy manifestations."

The delegation, led by Gregorio Shapiro, president of the Jewish Central Committee, included I. Z. Berebichez, general secretary of the central body of organized Jewry; Mrs. Dounia Wasserstrom, president of the Mexican Union of Jewish Women; and Fernando Jeno, head of Tribuna Israelita.

CONVENTION OF CONSERVATIVE SYNAGOGUE SISTERHOODS OPENS IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO, Oct. 26, (JTA) -- The biennial convention of the National Women's League of the United Synagogue of America decided today to work actively within their own communities toward solving the problem of the "breakdown of moral values." The convention, which opened last night, will run through Thursday, then suspend for a final session scheduled to be held in Jerusalem next May.

More than 2,000 delegates representing 200,000 members of Conservative synagogue sisterhoods are attending the convention. Among the speakers and seminar leaders at today's sessions were Dr. Louis Finkelstein, chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, and Dr. Seymour Siegel, associate professor of theology at the Seminary. The delegates held a reception tonight honoring 37 Conservative rabbis from the Midwest area.