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INTERNATIONAL B'NAI B'RITH PRESIDENT OUTLINES STAND ON TEL AVIV BAN

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3: (JTA) -- Dr. William A. Wexler, international president of B'nai B'rith, said today in a statement to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the decision to deny use of the B'nai B'rith building in Tel Aviv for Jewish Reform worship was a local decision that required careful study by the international organization, and would be reviewed at a meeting of the B'nai B'rith International executive committee in New York, on March 6.

Dr. Wexler said the B'nai B'rith International Council's recommendations would be submitted to the organization's board of governors for a final determination and course of action. "It appears that B'nai B'rith has become a sudden and innocent focus of the otherwise drawn-out controversy over the status of religion in Israel," he declared. "We regret this deeply.

"The basic purpose of B'nai B'rith is to encourage Jewish life in all its options. Our programs are specifically designed to respect and embrace all religious ideologies of Judaism with partisanship toward none. This has been, and persists as, our philosophy and practice.

"There is another fundamental aspect of B'nai B'rith: As a mass membership movement with an international constituency in 44 free nations, we respect the fact that diversities in policies and practices will arise out of local cultures and customs. Therefore, B'nai B'rith traditionally has operated with a large measure of local autonomy among its nationality groups.

"The decision affecting the B'nai B'rith building in Tel Aviv was a local one. We believe, on the basis of preliminary reports, that the B'nai B'rith leadership in Israel acted in good faith and without hostility toward any form of Judaism. But the reports also point up the fact that the issue was complicated by many factors, some of them contradictory, as well as by legal issues. These need to be studied carefully, not hastily.

"We are still gathering pertinent information, and the matter will be reviewed at the executive committee meeting of the B'nai B'rith International Council, next month, in New York. The Council's recommendations will then be submitted to B'nai B'rith's board of governors for a final determination and course of action," Dr. Wexler concluded.

HAIFA TECHNION FACES SERIOUS FINANCIAL CRISIS; EXISTENCE THREATENED

HAIFA, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- The Board of Governors of the Haifa Institute of Technology, grappling with a financial crisis so severe as to pose the danger of a shut-down of the Institute, today authorized its president, Alexander Goldberg, to appeal to Premier Levi Eshkol for aid.

Technion administrative board members told an emergency meeting of the Technion Senate yesterday that they would be unable to continue their work unless the Government provided enough financial help to see the Technion through the current crisis, and to plan for several years ahead. Mr. Goldberg told the Senate that, because of the financial difficulties, which have led to a strike threat by both faculty and non-academic staff members, it was impossible to do any advance planning.

Mr. Goldberg said that the Technion needed a budget of 39,000,000 pounds (\$13,000,000) a year, but was assured of only 26,000,000 pounds (\$8,666,000) annually from all possible sources.

Meanwhile a committee of non-academic staff workers announced that those workers would hold a one-day warning strike next Sunday. At issue is the failure of the Institute to pay salary arrears for which Institute officials have said they do not have the funds.

BEN-GURION READY TO TESTIFY ON SHORTCOMINGS IN ISRAEL'S DEFENSE

JERUSALEM, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- Former Premier David Ben-Gurion said today he was ready to give details to "a competent state body" about his recent charges of "grave shortcomings" in Israel's defense system under Premier Levi Eshkol.

Mr. Ben-Gurion made the offer after Mr. Eshkol told the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs and Security Committee this week that Israel's security had not deteriorated since he assumed the Defense Portfolio two and a half years ago, as Mr. Ben-Gurion had charged at a meeting of his Israel Workers Party (Rafi).

GOLDA MEIR FORMALLY ELECTED SECRETARY GENERAL OF MAPAI PARTY

TEL AVIV, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- Mrs. Golda Meir, for many years Israel's Foreign Minister, was formally elected today secretary general of Premier Eshkol's Mapai party by the Mapai Secretariat and Central Committee. Mrs. Meir, who retired as Foreign Minister last month, agreed to accept the post last night at a meeting of the Mapai Appointments Committee.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS IN HOLLAND PETITION MOSCOW ON JEWISH POLICY

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- All student organizations in Holland start today to circulate petitions to the Soviet Government protesting against anti-Jewish discriminations in the USSR and urging that Soviet authorities permit Jews who want to do so to emigrate. The petitions will be presented to the Soviet Ambassador at the Hague for transmission to Moscow.

The situation of Russian Jewry has been highlighted in this country by an exhibit, which opened a week ago in the Amsterdam Municipal Library, showing documentary evidence of anti-Jewish measures taken by the authorities of the USSR. The exhibit has been viewed by many non-Jews as well as Jews here.

SWISS JEWS START INQUIRY INTO PUBLICATION OF ANTI-SEMITIC BOOK

GENEVA, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- Jewish authorities in Switzerland began inquiries today into the publication in Vevey of a 728-page anti-Semitic volume containing substantial excerpts from the Protocols of the Elders of Zion and other standard anti-Semitic canards.

Written by a Dr. J.A. Mathez of Vevey, the book, entitled "The Past, the Present Time and the Jewish Question" is unique in Swiss recent history. Various anti-Semitic pamphlets have been published in Switzerland but not for the last 20 years.

The volume contains chapters on the "hardening of the Jews" toward Christianity, alludes to the Crucifixion of Jesus and includes references to the whole arsenal of French anti-Semitism.

BAVARIAN CABINET VOTES LARGE SUM FOR ERECTION OF MONUMENT AT DACHAU

BONN, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- The Bavarian Cabinet decided today to provide 8,600,000 marks (\$2,150,000) for erection of a monument on the site of the Dachau concentration camp. The Cabinet also decided that Bavaria should take over immediately the management and administration of the Museum of the camp.

It was also announced that the International Dachau Committee of Former Inmates had decided to build a memorial at the site where inmates were forced to line up each morning for roll call. The Committee welcomed the decisions of the Bavarian Cabinet on the monument.

MEMORIAL UNVEILED IN POLAND AT NAZI DEATH CAMP KNOWN AS 'AUSCHWITZ 3'

LONDON, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- The unveiling this week of a memorial at one of the branches of the Auschwitz death camp was attended by several thousand persons, it was reported here today from Warsaw.

Manowitz, also known as "Auschwitz Three," was a subsidiary camp where thousands of victims, most of them Jews, perished during the Nazi occupation of Poland. It was at this site that the inmates performed forced labor in a factory built by the I.G. Farben company for the Nazis. The memorial monument was erected by public subscription with a substantial sum collected for the monument and for clearing the site.

SWASTIKA-SMEARER CONFINED IN BELGIUM TO PSYCHIATRIC INSTITUTION.

BRUSSELS, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- A Brussels correctional court ordered a twice-arrested swastika smearer today to be confined for an indefinite period in a psychiatric institution.

R. van Avermaete, 26, was accused several months ago of smearing swastikas on a number of shops of Brussels Jewish merchants. He was arrested, released, then arrested again on charges of repeating the smearings. The court then ordered him to be placed under psychiatric observation. The correctional court ordered his institutionalization in accordance with recommendations of the psychiatrists.

The man's case evoked great interest here among the non-Jewish population, no less than among Jews, since there is considerable sentiment in Brussels against neo-Nazi activities.

U. S. FRIENDS CELEBRATE ESTABLISHMENT OF SHARETT INSTITUTE AT TEL AVIV U.

NEW YORK, Feb. 3: (JTA) -- "While Israel's adversaries have the capacity to harass her growth and strain her resources, it is beyond their power or prospect to alter the essential reality of her integrity and independence," Israel's Foreign Minister Abba Eban, declared here tonight. He spoke at a dinner of the American Friends of Tel Aviv University at the New York Hilton Hotel.

The event celebrated the establishment of the Moshe Sharett Institute of Educational Science at Tel Aviv University. Mr. Eban paid tribute to the late Mr. Sharett, who was Israel's first Foreign Minister and was also at one time the Prime Minister. "Mr. Sharett's vision of an Israel securely planted in the family of nations has become closer to fulfillment than seemed possible two decades ago," Mr. Eban said. He also lauded Dr. George S. Wise, the president of the Tel Aviv University, for "having paid early and pious respect to the founding father of Israeli diplomacy."

Prof. Yuval Ne'eman, vice-president of the university, described the growth of the university and the role of the late Mr. Sharett in fixing its spiritual profile. He especially lauded Dr. Wise for his achievements as president of the university. "With a dynamism the like of which has not often been seen on the Israeli scene, this man of action provided the university with the necessary impulse," he told the assembled guests.

Designed further to improve the general educational standards of Israel, the Sharett Institute will train urgently needed teachers in specialized fields, principals, school superintendents, administrators, educational psychologists and social workers, and other specialists in the country's expanding school system. Funds raised in the U.S. will supplement those granted by the Israel Government to construct a building on the university's new campus in the Ramat Aviv suburb of Tel Aviv, to set up a number of chairs in the educational disciplines, to recruit the necessary faculty in Israel and from abroad, and to establish research projects and to grant advanced study scholarships.

5,000 Students Attending Tel Aviv University; Has Various Faculties

Tel Aviv University, Israel's youngest and fastest growing institution of higher learning, opened its current 1965-66 academic year with an all-time high in student enrollment. From a student body of 148 in the 1956-57 school year, it grew to 3,100 last year and reached almost 5,000 this year. This number is expected to double in the next three years. Its academic body of 56 in 1956-57 now totals more than 550. Despite its rapid growth the university was forced to turn away more than 1,000 of the 3,000 qualified applicants who sought entrance this year because of lack of space.

Tel Aviv University consists of a Faculty of Science, Faculty of Humanities, Faculty of Social Sciences, a School of Medicine, Faculty of Continuing Medical Education and a Department of Pedagogy, which will become part of the Sharett Institute. It also is planned in the near future to establish a School of Business Administration and Finance, a School of Fine and Applied Arts and other facilities.

Principal speakers at tonight's dinner included also Dr. Wise; Daniel G. Ross, chairman of the board of directors of the American Friends of TAU; Harry E. Brager, chairman of the American organization's executive committee; and Maurice Rosen, president of the American Technion Society. New York Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller greeted the guests. Representing the family of the late Moshe Sharett was Mr. Sharett's elder son, Yaakov, a specialist on East European affairs, formerly with the Foreign Ministry and today a practicing journalist.

In presenting Mr. Eban, Dr. Wise said that the "mantle of Moshe Sharett has fallen on his worthy friend, disciple and successor, Abba Eban. The deep faith in the cause of Israel and the profound belief in the conscience of mankind, the nobility of spirit, the power of moral persuasion which permeated the life and thinking of Sharett are also an inseparable part of the intellect, character and activity of Abba Eban."

CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS OPPOSES TEACHING RELIGION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

TORONTO, Feb. 3: (JTA) -- The Canadian Jewish Congress today informed the Ontario Government Committee on the Aims and Objectives of Education that it opposes "sectarian teaching of religion in the public schools," and objects to ethical teachings in the schools which are officially based on "the Christian ideal."

The committee was told by the CJC that the Jewish community feels "the Christian ideal" is in no way incompatible with the ideals of Judaism, when it comes to teaching the Ten Commandments and other ethical concepts. But the CJC noted that "in a truly democratic and ethical society, another formulation could be found outside 'the framework of Christian theology, a somewhat exclusivist formulation which places the child of another religion without a preference in our society.'"

JEWISH FAMILIES TEND TO QUIT SYNAGOGUE AFTER BAR MITZVAH OF CHILDREN

NEW YORK, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- A survey by the United Synagogue of America, the association of Conservative congregations, disclosed today that Jewish families tend to "drop out" of congregational membership after their children become Bar Mitzvah or graduate from elementary religious school.

The survey found that of 7,817 families in 398 Conservative congregations who resigned for reasons other than death or removal from the area, 3,718 left when the son, and in some cases, the daughter became Bar Mitzvah or Bat Mitzvah or graduated from the elementary division of the religious school they attended.

The survey found that an additional 1,459 families left their congregations because of a "lack of interest." The survey indicated that more than 5,000 families thus "could not be persuaded to retain their synagogue affiliation."

The Reconstructionist magazine, commenting on the findings, said that the problem was "accentuated by the fact that fewer than 50 percent of Jewish families join in the first place." The survey queried congregations on their membership potential. Of the 323 congregations replying, a total membership of 102,522 families was reported as contrasted with an estimated 238,367 Jewish families in their areas "who are not members of any congregation."

CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE OF PROGRESSIVE SYNAGOGUES OPENS IN CURACAO

CURACAO, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- A Caribbean Congregational Conference opened here today under sponsorship of the World Union for Progressive Judaism in cooperation with Congregation Mikve Israel-Emanuel, the oldest Jewish community and synagogue in the Western Hemisphere. The conclave will continue through Sunday.

The 312-year-old congregation and the Curacao Jewish community are serving as hosts to delegations from Panama, Guatemala, Jamaica, Venezuela, Curacao and the United States; Rabbi Jacob K. Shankman of New Rochelle, N.Y. will address the convention which will seek to coordinate activities of liberal Jewish congregations of Central America and the West Indies.

Projects to be considered by the delegates include rabbinical placements, establishment of a children's camp and expansion of World Union local activities; Some 800 Jews live in Curacao, among the 30,000 Jews in countries on the Caribbean Sea, other than the United States and Mexico.

THREE AMERICAN AND CANADIAN PERSONALITIES JOIN J.T.A. BOARD

NEW YORK, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- Eleazar Lipsky, president of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, announced today that three wellknown American and Canadian Jewish personalities had accepted invitations to join the JTA Board of Directors and the American Jewish News Foundation in which ownership of the worldwide news service is vested.

The three new members are Robert H. Arnow, of New York City; Sol Kanee, of Winnipeg, Man., and Jacob M. Lowy, of Montreal. Mr. Arnow, a builder and real estate developer, is active in the United Jewish Appeal and in Jewish educational fields. Mr. Kanee, a business executive and attorney, is active in the Canadian Jewish Congress and in the Winnipeg Jewish community. Mr. Lowy is a prominent figure on the national scene and is president of the Allied Jewish Community Services of Montreal.

DROPSIE COLLEGE OFFERS FELLOWSHIPS FOR MIDDLE EAST STUDIES

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- Fellowships ranging to \$1,000 each were offered here today by the Dropsie College for Hebrew and Cognate Learning, which noted that applications for these grants must be submitted before March 1.

One group of fellowships is for Middle East studies by qualified students who are candidates for the master's or doctoral degrees in the area studies of the modern and contemporary Middle East; In this area, fellowships in modern Arabic and Hebrew are also available under Title VI of the National Defense Education Act.

Another group of fellowships covers graduate study in education. These programs, offered through the college's department of education, are for graduate students seeking the degrees of master of arts, doctor of education or doctor of philosophy.

DRAMA SCHOOL FOR YIDDISH ACTORS IN POLAND PLANNED IN WARSAW

LONDON, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- Plans to open a drama school for young Yiddish actors in Poland were approved at a meeting of the executive committee of the Jewish Social and Cultural Association, it was reported here today from Warsaw.