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U. N. COMMISSION VOTES TO URGE MEMBER STATES TO COMBAT ANTI-SEMITISM

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., March 16. (JTA) -- The United Nations Commission on Human Rights adopted today a clause in a draft Convention on the elimination of religious intolerance, calling upon all states to "combat prejudices such as anti-Semitism and other manifestations, which lead to religious intolerance."

The vote was 12-4, with four abstentions. The Soviet bloc in the Commission -- consisting of the USSR, Poland and the Ukraine -- which had fought bitterly against any proposals calling for the specific mention of anti-Semitism, abstained from voting when it came to a final ballot.

This is the first time a major U. N. Convention is to mention anti-Semitism. The USSR fought not only such specific reference to anti-Semitism but, for six years, has been using many parliamentary maneuvers to keep the entire draft Conventions on religious freedoms from adoption by the United Nations.

The clause adopted today had been introduced by Narciso Irureta, of Chile, after the move to mention anti-Semitism by name had been initiated yesterday in the current session of the Commission by Israel's representative on the U. N. body. He is Associate Israeli Supreme Court Justice Haim H. Cohn. When Justice Cohn introduced the move to call for the combating of anti-Semitism, he was supported staunchly by the United States delegate, Morris B. Abram, and opposed as firmly by the USSR representative, Evgeny Nasinovsky. After Mr. Irureta presented his own formulation in an amendment today, Justice Cohn withdrew his version, and accepted the Chilean clause.

The Soviet bloc's abstentions surprised members of the Commission since, just prior to the voting on the Chilean clause, a USSR effort to eliminate the word anti-Semitism had been badly beaten. Mr. Nasinovsky had proposed that, instead of mentioning anti-Semitism, the clause should call upon adherents to the Convention to combat "prejudices in respect of the Christian, Moslem, Buddhist, Hindu, Judaic and other religions." Mr. Nasinovsky's proposal received only three votes -- his own and those of the Ukraine and Poland. Twelve voted against the Soviet amendment while six members abstained.

The members who voted in favor of the Chilean amendment mentioning anti-Semitism were: Israel, the United States, Britain, France, Argentina, Austria, Chile, Costa Rica, Dahomey, Italy, the Netherlands and Sweden. Those who voted against the clause were India, Iraq, the Philippine Islands and Jamaica.

The Israeli proposal to include anti-Semitism in the draft of the Convention as a manifestation that has to be combated by all nations was backed by Jewish organizations that enjoy nongovernmental status at the United Nations, giving them the right to participate in the deliberations of the Human Rights Commission. A memorandum "strongly" urging that "the international instruments include an article specifically condemning anti-Semitism and placing it beyond the pale of civilized society" had been presented to the Commission by the Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations. Speaking in favor of explicit mention of anti-Semitism at today's session was Dr. Isaac Lewin, representing the World Agudath Israel.

SOVIET MATZOH ISSUE RAISED IN U. S. SENATE; RESTRICTIONS CITED

WASHINGTON, March 16. (JTA) -- Sen. Jacob K. Javits, New York Republican, said today in a Senate speech that while there has been some easing of Soviet matzoh production, "the obstacles to obtaining matzoh still continue."

The Senator said that "only at synagogues in certain communities may matzoh be baked and in ordering these matzohs Soviet Jews must register their names with the authorities, a procedure designed to intimidate all except the courageous few." He added that the opening of the 23rd Communist Party Congress offered the Kremlin an opportunity to redeem pledges of religious and racial freedom.

"I hope that the USSR will extend to its Jewish citizens the religious rights guaranteed them by Soviet law and that they may be able to obtain without restriction or intimidation the matzoh needed for the proper observance of Passover," Sen. Javits said.

NONCONFIDENCE MOTION AGAINST ESHKOL GOVERNMENT DEFEATED IN KNESSET

JERUSALEM, March 16: (JTA) -- A motion of nonconfidence in Israel's coalition Government, introduced in the Knesset (Parliament) by two opposition parties, was overwhelmingly defeated in the house today by a vote of 65 to 30, with five abstentions. The motion had been presented by Rafi, the dissident party led by former Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion, and by Gahal, the fusion of Herut and the old Liberal Party, led by Menahem Beigin.

The motion was based on remarks allegedly made by Foreign Minister Abba Eban, in a recent interview printed by the Parisian newspaper, Le Monde, in which Mr. Eban was quoted as presumably labeling the former Ben-Gurion Government as "military adventurists." In the heated debate, Mr. Eban told the Knesset his remarks on "military adventurism" referred not to Mr. Ben-Gurion's tenure as Prime Minister but to the last election campaign, when Mr. Ben-Gurion ran for the Knesset on the independent Rafi list.

The debate on the motion marked the first open collaboration between Mr. Ben-Gurion and Mr. Beigin. The voting marked the first time the Israel Communist Party supported the Government coalition, the Communists lining up with the pro-Government forces this time to defeat the joint Rafi-Gahal move.

STATE DEPT. INVESTIGATES SYRIA'S DETENTION OF AN AMERICAN JEW

WASHINGTON, March 16. (JTA) -- The State Department today made known that it is investigating the detention of an American Jew in Syria for almost two years in apparent violation of international law.

Edward J. Levy, 25, was released by Syria last week to Israel in exchange for a Syrian held by Israel. Mr. and Mrs. Irving Levy, of New York City, had reported the disappearance of their son to the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv. But his whereabouts emerged only with the exchange last week.

The State Department spokesman, Robert McCloskey, said today this was the first word he was held by Syria. Mr. McCloskey emphasized that under international law, a country should notify another nation when her national is held. "We are investigating the circumstances of this detention in Syria and are in touch with Syrian authorities," he said.

The 25-year-old American who returned last night to New York after two years in a Syrian prison, charged today that the Syrian authorities confiscated his United States passport; did not permit him to contact the American Embassy and kept him in solitary confinement for most of the time.

Levy strolled across the Israel-Syrian border in June 1964, intending to hitchhike to Turkey and was immediately arrested by the Syrians. He reported today in New York that the Syrians, who accused him of spying for Israel, spat on him when he asked to see an American Embassy representative. He charged that letters he had written to his parents during his confinement in Syria were never received by them.

BAVARIAN PREMIER EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER GAIN OF NEO-NAZI PARTY

MUNICH, March 16. (JTA) -- Bavaria's Prime Minister Alfons Goppel today deplored the success of the right-wing National Democratic Party in last Sunday's municipal elections, when the NDP increased its statewide votes to 3 percent of the Bavarian total, by comparison with 2 percent nationally in the last general elections, last October.

In some Bavarian cities, the percentage of NDP votes was much higher than the state average. The party scored 10.6 of the vote in Bayreuth, 7.5 percent in Nuremberg and 7.4 percent in Kulmbach. The NDP is West Germany's newest political grouping. It is a fusion of various extremist, right-wing groups, some of them outright neo-Nazi.

"I cannot hide my deep concern over the gain of the National Democratic Party," said Mr. Goppel. "The State Government of Bavaria can do nothing by itself to prevent the NDP from participating in the state elections to be held next November, because the party claims to have a democratic viewpoint." The State Premier conceded that the NDP gains in the municipal voting "showed certain dissatisfactions among the voters with things as they are."

Despite the high showing in some cities and the 3 percent vote statewide, the NDP still came out far below the Social Democrats, who had polled 52.3 percent of all of the votes in Bavaria. Chancellor Ludwig Erhard's Bavarian ally, the Democratic Union, ran second on a statewide basis, getting 27.4 percent of the total vote.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY STUDENTS OPPOSE BONN-SPONSORED VISITS TO GERMANY

JERUSALEM, March 16: (JTA) -- The Students Union of the Hebrew University today denounced plans by a group of geography students to visit West Germany under the auspices of the Bonn Government to study the country's industrial development.

EDUCATION STUDY SHOWS JEWISH YOUTHS CRITICAL OF RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS

NEW YORK, March 16. (JTA) -- Jewish adolescents throughout the country were found to be critical of subject matter taught in the Jewish elementary religious schools they have attended, indicating that "this instruction is often accompanied by poor teaching and uninteresting material that makes for boredom," a report of a study released here today, disclosed.

The views of the teen-agers were being distributed today to 250 Jewish educators and communal leaders from 38 key cities in the United States and Canada, who are to participate in the National Conference on Jewish Education, which begins tomorrow at the New York Hilton Hotel. The sessions will continue through Sunday, March 20.

The mandate from the youth is the end-result of an extended study conducted among 1,051 Jewish students by the National Curriculum Research Institute, a division of the American Association for Jewish Education, the convener of the Conference. The survey was made during 1964, 1965, and early 1966 under the supervision of Dr. Judah Pilch, director of the Institute, on college campuses, in secondary schools and summer camps.

Home Influence Found Waning Among Jewish Adolescents

One finding, especially disturbing, the report noted, was that the Jewish home, "always considered an impregnable fortress, inspiring and shaping positive ethical standards," has been dislodged from its previous position of eminence. "We found that Jewish adolescents, like their peers in the general community, are now in full retreat from the home, which we can no longer consider an important cohesive agent in the Jewish educational process," Dr. Pilch said.

On the subject of Jewish religious instruction, the report found that students felt that much of the training "takes the form of religious entertainment, utilizing tranquilizers," and that its instruction is frequently dull and vapid. "Most of the respondents indicated that their criticism did not imply a lack of interest or a negation of Jewish studies. They felt, the research showed, that 'Jewish schools must inspire their students to want to live Jewishly and to better understand their role as individuals and members of the group.'"

Students Give Reasons for Discontinuing Jewish Education

The study showed that 88 percent of the respondents who continued their Jewish education went to Jewish secondary schools of their own volition, and that only 12 percent were influenced to attend these schools by their parents. Among those who discontinued attendance, 36 percent showed a lack of interest in further Jewish studies, irrespective of experience in the elementary school, and 30 percent discontinued because of conflict with public school schedules.

The students queried, Dr. Pilch stressed, feel strongly that "radical changes" are needed in present-day Jewish school curricula. They believe that instruction should be more selective, in marked contrast to the programs of Jewish education followed during the past quarter of a century. A majority recommended that Jewish schools emphasize and clarify the role of the Jewish people among the nations and religions of the world today, as was done heretofore in regard to the past.

The report disclosed that 49 percent of those questioned opposed mixed dating, with 41 percent favoring it, and 10 percent undecided as to whether they would date persons of another faith. "Since the objective of Jewish education is the preservation of religious and cultural identity, it is evident that this attitude represents an alarming statistic that must be coped with by Jewish educators," Dr. Pilch asserted, noting that the replies to this particular question conformed to the present-day trend of behavior of adolescents in general.

ORTHODOX RABBIS FILE \$1,000,000 LIBEL SUIT AGAINST 'FRIENDS OF ANIMALS'

NEW YORK, March 16. (JTA) -- The Long Island Commission of Rabbis, an Orthodox group, has filed a \$1,000,000 libel suit against the Friends of Animals, Inc., the New York Times and 58 individuals whose names were listed in an advertisement that appeared in the Times on March 1 protesting what it called the "obviously cruel procedure" of "shackling and hoisting" conscious animals prior to kosher slaughter.

The rabbinical group contends in the suit that the advertisement, which was sponsored by the Friends of Animals and the 58 individuals, maliciously characterized the organization's views on proposed legislation governing kosher slaughter as being motivated by economic rather than religious motives.

They charged that the advertisement libeled them by saying that they were "paid to supervise kosher catering establishments and butcher shops." The Commission declares in the suit that none of the rabbis in the organization was paid for his dietary supervision.

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL OF AMERICA PROTESTS U.S. ARMS CONTRACT FOR GERMANS

NEW YORK, March 16; (JTA) -- The Synagogue Council of America, in a letter to President Johnson, today expressed its "deep concern" over an impending Pentagon award for machineguns to a German arms manufacturer which refuses to pay claims of slave laborers it used during the Nazi regime.

Rheinmetall, the second largest munitions manufacturers in West Germany and a member of the Reichswerke Herman Goering steel trust in the Nazi period, is the only leading German enterprise which used slave labor during the war which has refused to recognize any moral obligation to compensate "the pitifully few survivors who worked for it as slave laborers," the letter said.

"It is therefore with incredulity and with profound chagrin that we learned that our Government is considering awarding a contract to this firm," the letter stressed. "The moral insensitivity of the proposed action is the more surprising in view of Assistant Secretary of State Douglas MacArthur's recent statement that three of the five present principal officers at Rheinmetall were members of the Nazi Party during World War II."

ISRAELI 'PEACE PILOT' RECEIVED BY POPE; BLESSED FOR HIS PEACE EFFORT

ROME, March 16. (JTA) -- Abie Nathan, the Tel Aviv solo peace emissary who flew recently to Egypt in an abortive effort to start peace talks between Egypt and Israel, was received at the Vatican today by Pope Paul VI, who told the Israeli: "Our benediction goes to everybody who makes an effort for peace."

Mr. Nathan presented to Pope Paul a Bible, in Hebrew and English, and the pontiff gave the Israeli in return one of the medals struck last fall by the Vatican to mark Pope Paul's visit to the United Nations, where he called for global peace.

Pope Paul received Mr. Nathan in what is formally called "a particular audience" in Vatican protocol language. Such an audience is reserved for "persons of some value and distinction." Ordinary visitors are received in "general audience," while outstanding diplomats and heads of government are given "private" audiences.

HISTADRUT TO BUILD \$1,000,000 CARDINAL CUSHING MEDICAL CENTER IN ISRAEL

BOSTON, March 16. (JTA) -- A \$1,000,000 medical center to serve the largely Arab population of the Nazareth area of Galilee and to be named for Richard Cardinal Cushing, will be built in that Israeli city through joint efforts of the Histadrut, Israel's labor federation, and the Israel Histadrut Campaign in this country, it was announced here today.

Construction on the Richard Cardinal Cushing Medical Center is expected to begin this summer. The announcement was made here by Archbishop George Hakim of Nazareth and Galilee following an audience with Cardinal Cushing. The medical center will be built in Shefar Am, a suburb of Nazareth.

SAUL KAPLUN \$300,000 BUILDING DEDICATED AT HEBREW UNIVERSITY

JERUSALEM, March 16. (JTA) -- The new Saul Kaplun Building for Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics was dedicated here today at the Hebrew University campus in the presence of Minister of Tourism and Development Moshe Kol, Hebrew University president Eliahu Elath and Morris J. Kaplun, of New York, donor of the \$300,000 facility.

Named for Mr. Kaplun's son, Saul, a gifted researcher in mathematical physics at the California Institute of Technology, who died in 1964 at the age of 40, the new structure includes 22 seminar, staff and research rooms, a large library and reading rooms.

SYNAGOGUE DONATES \$100 TO JESUIT COLLEGE AS TOKEN OF AFFECTION

JERSEY CITY, N.J., March 16. (JTA) -- Temple Beth-El has contributed \$100 to St. Peter's College, a Jesuit institution, "as a token of deep affection" for the Rev. Victor R. Yanitelli, president of the college. The donation followed a visit to the synagogue last month by Father Yanitelli and the St. Peter's glee club. The money will be used to buy books for the college library.

COPENHAGEN JEWISH COMMUNITY PRESENTS 10 TORAH SCROLLS TO ISRAEL

COPENHAGEN, March 16. (JTA) -- Ten Torah scrolls were handed over at Copenhagen's main synagogue today to Yaacov Hess, charge d'affairs of the Israel Embassy here, as a gift to the Israeli Army from the Jewish community of Denmark. The synagogue's associate rabbi, Rabbi Bent Melchior, presided over the ceremony. The gift to the Israeli army resulted from an appeal made here a month ago by Israel's deputy chief chaplain, Rabbi Peron, who said that the Israeli army suffers from a shortage of Torah scrolls.