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ESHKOL WARNS OF POSSIBLE WIDESPREAD UNEMPLOYMENT; APPEALS TO LABOR

TEL AVIV, Aug. 4. (JTA) -- Israel is threatened by widespread unemployment, involving loss of jobs for "thousands, perhaps tens of thousands" of Israelis in the coming months, unless the situation is changed by hard work and the surrender of luxuries, Prime Minister Levi Eshkol warned today.

Mr. Eshkol voiced this warning, bracketing it with stern appeals to Israel's organized workers, in an address to the 19th national convention of Hakibbutz Hameuhad, the organization of kibbutzim affiliated with Achdut Avodah, the Mapai Party's alignment group in Israel's present coalition Government. The convention, at Kibbutz Yagur, near Haifa, is being attended by 400 delegates representing 24,000 persons living in 57 settlements throughout Israel.

Mr. Eshkol told the Israeli workers they cannot "pass the buck" on the current economic difficulties "to the rich and the capitalists." Israeli's workers, he noted, earn 70 percent of the national income. He voiced sharp criticism of industrial and other enterprises owned by Histadrut, the Israel federation of labor, which is the backbone of his own Mapai Party, and of firms owned jointly by Histadrut and the Government.

Too many enterprises of this type, he charged, "eat off the country," being more interested in perpetuating the plants or jobs than in aiding the country's economy. They cannot raise capital to enlarge industry, but keep going, he said.

"Only foreign investors, who quite properly insist on a fair return, could provide the means for Israel's industrial growth," he declared. "The State-Histadrut enterprises face serious problems, of which the human aspect is the most important, because they have built up a labor force that would identify itself with the job and the plant. In fact, they merely put forward big demands regardless of the plant's capability."

Continuing to castigate labor, Mr. Eshkol stated: "Wages in public industry are higher than those in private industry -- but not the output -- due to inflated expenses and low productivity. The public enterprises must be made more productive and more efficient. Work, morale, social benefits, output, norms and premiums -- all of these cry for re-examination and for improvements. Otherwise, these public enterprises may have to close down."

Austerity Program to Affect Lives of Majority of Israelis

JERUSALEM, Aug. 4. (JTA) -- Details of a proposed austerity program which is expected to radically affect the lives of the overwhelming majority of Israelis, were disclosed here today. The broad-ranging program, which is still under discussion among the Mapai-Achdut Avodah economic ministers themselves and between them and leaders of the leftwing Mapam Coalition members, reflects a number of changes sought by Mapam to "more evenly distribute the burdens and sacrifices" among the Israeli population.

Among the projected measures, which are aimed at cutting production costs and thereby increasing exports, is an 18-month freeze on wages, taxes, distributed profits, subsidies and prices. Other provisions of the program, which was discussed last night by the Ministerial Economic Planning Committee, include:

1. The freezing of the cost-of-living allowance until the end of next year and the cancelation of a five percent wage rise approved by the Histadrut, Israel's labor federation, for 1967;
2. The imposition of a 55 percent tax on any increase over last year's dividends paid by companies to shareholders;
3. The reduction of foreign currency allowances for Israeli travelers abroad from the current \$500 per trip to \$400 for the first trip and \$200 for each additional trip.

Although the proposed austerity measures are still to be discussed among the Coalition factions, Mapai, Achdut Avodah and Mapam leaders in the Histadrut today informally expressed their opposition to that part of the plan which would cancel the five percent in-

crease next January. The Histadrut leaders informed their respective party secretariats that they will oppose such a decision since it was their task to protect the interests of the Israeli worker.

Even more formidable opposition to the plan was indicated by the National Religious Party, another Coalition partner. NRP leaders have asked for an urgent meeting with Premier Eshkol to discuss the program and to express their dissatisfaction at being kept out until now of the negotiations between the Alignment's economic ministers and Mapam. Finance Ministry circles, meanwhile, said that foreign currency allocations will not be curtailed before the summer vacations are over.

SHAZAR CONCLUDES VISIT TO U.S.; SPENDS LAST DAY WITH JEWISH LEADERS

NEW YORK, Aug. 4. (JTA) -- Israel's President Zalman Shazar culminated his week's visit to the United States today with a full day of conferences with Jewish leaders at his Plaza Hotel suite here, then left for his return trip home tonight on an El Al plane.

Among his visitors on the last of his seven days in the U.S.A. were Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, of Boston, one of the outstanding Orthodox rabbis in the world, and delegations from the American Jewish Committee, the National Community Relations Advisory Council, the Poale Zion, the Hebrew PEN Club, and the Shomrim Society, the organization of Jewish members of the New York City police department.

Prior to his departure, President Shazar received one more gift from President Johnson. The U.S. President sent to Mr. Shazar a leatherbound folder containing a photograph of Israel and the eastern basin of the Mediterranean Sea, taken from a height of 470 miles above the earth by the American Tiros satellite. President Johnson autographed the photograph.

The meeting between President Shazar and Rabbi Soloveitchik, which lasted an hour and a half, was devoted chiefly to a discussion of Hassidism and of talmudic studies. President Shazar told his guest that one of his teachers in Talmud, nearly 30 years ago, was the late Rabbi Moshe Soloveitchik, father of the present rabbi of Boston.

The American Jewish Committee group, composed of 10 leaders, was headed by Morris B. Abram and Dr. John Slawson, president and executive vice-president, respectively of the AJC. Aaron Goldman of Washington, and Isaiah Minkoff, national chairman and executive vice-chairman, respectively, of the NCRAC, headed 10 members of that Council who visited President Shazar.

President Shazar is due to arrive in Switzerland tomorrow morning. Because it will be the eve of Sabbath, he will remain in Zurich until Sunday, then fly home. He will have been absent from Israel since June 21, when he left for a tour of South America which took him on state visits to Uruguay, Chile and Brazil. Mrs. Shazar and six aides from Israel have been with President Shazar on the entire trip.

ISRAEL PARLIAMENT PASSES LAW TIGHTENING THE ISSUANCE OF PASSPORTS

JERUSALEM, Aug. 4. (JTA) -- Israel's passport law was amended by the Knesset (Parliament) here when the house passed on final reading last night a provision that would deny Israeli passports to Jews who come here for a very brief stay, then go to other countries where they register as Israelis.

Under the new law, an immigrant into Israel must be in the country for a year before he can obtain a passport. Previously, it was possible for him to get a passport within a week or two after arriving.

The new passport law would exempt some cases from the provision for a year's delay. It would also tighten rules for renewal of passports by those living abroad. An official of the Ministry of the Interior said today there are 80,000 to 100,000 holders of Israeli passports living abroad, and that about three-quarters of them hold dual citizenship.

Knesset members were told that in many cases around the world Israeli passports are being held merely for convenience. Under the new law, those living abroad will have to demonstrate their ties to Israel at least by visits, even if only for a short time, in order to get a passport renewal. The final passage of the passport law was one of several actions taken by the Knesset as it was hurrying to adjourn for the summer by tomorrow.

The Knesset also voted to authorize one of its standing committees to probe charges that one of the country's largest enterprises has conspired with the Treasury's foreign currency division to transfer profits from foreign operations to Swiss accounts, thus bypassing Israel income taxes. The accused firm is the Federman organization, which operates large hotels in this country and other enterprises.

At today's Knesset session, Mr. Eshkol, in his capacity as Minister of Defense, also proposed streamlining of personnel in various army departments, saying that such action would save the Government about 1,000,000 Israel pounds annually, without harming the country's defenses.

PRESIDENT OF GERMAN PARLIAMENT ADDRESSES DRAMATIC W.J.C. SESSION

BRUSSELS, Aug. 4. (JTA) -- The most dramatic session, thus far, of the current plenary Assembly of the World Jewish Congress being held here, took place tonight when, in a tense atmosphere engendered by bitter attacks against Germans by leading delegates, one of West Germany's most prominent leaders addressed the delegates during a symposium on "The Germans and the Jews."

The speaker was Dr. Eugen Gerstenmaier, president of the Bundestag, the lower house of Bonn's Parliament. He had been invited to participate in the symposium by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, WJC president. Hot debates took place on whether or not to let that invitation stand. Finally, two-thirds of the delegates approved the invitation, but voted to let those who wish to boycott the session do so without showing disloyalty to the World Jewish Congress. Today, a parade of speakers addressed the session preceding the symposium, complaining bitterly that it was far too early in history to hear a German speak of Jews.

Dr. Gerstenmaier, speaking at the symposium, conceded that there are still "serious worries" in West Germany about some of the "rising voices" of reaction and anti-Semitism. "There is still a great deal of confusion," he said. "At the same time, it is true to say that the residue of anti-Semitism and Hitlerite ideas in Germany plays a small part in the life of the country."

"Those who daub anti-Semitic slogans on the walls, and desecrate cemeteries, are hooligans who don't even know what anti-Semitism is," Dr. Gerstenmaier continued. "But they know that such acts create nervous tensions in the country, and that is why they do it. Some people have pointed out correctly that anti-Semitism in Germany cannot be cured by simply loving the Jews. It is a question of normalization, of going back to decent values."

Alluding to the sharp protests against his appearance on a WJC platform, the German leader said: "I realize that I might have overstepped my limits. I realize that we Germans will still, for a long time, not be able to feel that we can go back, in regard to the Jews, to a normal relationship. But let me thank you again for letting me speak here. And I say thank you not only for myself. It is the German Parliament that says thank you through me to the World Jewish Congress."

Dr. Goldmann, as president of the WJC, and the plenary session's presidium, received cables from West Germany's Chancellor Ludwig Erhard and Berlin Mayor Willy Brandt, lauding Jewish contributions to the world, endorsing the invitation to Dr. Gerstenmaier and, in general, voicing attitudes toward Jewry similar to those expressed by the Bundestag president. But none of those messages mollified the symposium opponents inside the Congress.

Opponents and Proponents of German-Jewish Dialogue Voice Arguments

Statements against the invitation to Dr. Gerstenmaier were made by representatives of Herut, Mapam and Achdut Avodah. Additionally, Mrs. C. Chaya Grossman, of Israel, spoke on behalf of four Israeli organizations of fighters against Nazism.

"It is much too early," she maintained, "to hold a dialogue between Germans and Jews. Even today, in Germany, former SS men are freely organized; judges and professors who began their careers under Hitler are today at the top of the social ladder; revanchist propaganda is extremely lively. All this is going on with, at least, the tacit approval of the West German Government." Representatives of Mapam and Achdut Avodah spoke in similar vein.

Isaac Remba, on behalf of Herut, told the session: "In thousands of German homes, there are still the candlesticks of our mothers. Countless German women still wear the jewelry given by Jewish parents to their children on festive occasions. Thousands of Germans still enjoy Jewish possession without remorse -- otherwise, they would have returned these. Large numbers of murderers are free all over Germany. The German who will appear on our rostrum will be faced with the ghosts of the millions of people who died a thousand horrible deaths at the hands of his nation."

Viewing the situation in a moderate manner were some of the participants in the symposium proper, among them Prof. Gershom Scholem, of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and Prof. Salo W. Baron, of Columbia University.

CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONS IN ISRAEL HAILED AT WORLD SYNAGOGUE PARLEY

GENEVA, Aug. 4. (JTA) -- The World Council of Synagogues, attended by 250 delegates from 11 countries, today concluded its deliberations here with a resolution hailing the founding of the International Synagogue of Israel made up of 20 Conservative congregations. Emanuel G. Scoblionko, of Allentown, Pennsylvania, was reelected president of the Council. The concluding session was addressed by Dr. Louis Finkelstein, head of the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, who lauded the growth of the Conservative movement. (See earlier report on page 4.)

INDIFFERENCE TO SYNAGOGUE IN ARGENTINA REPORTED AT GENEVA PARLEY

GENEVA, Aug. 4. (JTA) -- The Jewish communities of South and Central America "are practically devoid of rabbinical leadership or of a dynamic and vibrant synagogue," the 250 delegates attending the biennial convention of the World Council of Synagogues were told here today.

The speaker on this subject, before the gathering of Conservative Jewry from 11 countries, was Rabbi Marshall Meyer, of Buenos Aires. As an example of synagogal "void" in Latin America, he cited the fact that, of the 350,000 Jews in Buenos Aires, only 50,000 attended services during the last High Holy Days.

To overcome the indifference toward the synagogue on the part of Latin American Jewry, Rabbi Meyer reported, the Conservative movement is attempting to concentrate on the Jewish youth. The rabbinical seminary in Buenos Aires, established by the Conservative movement, now has 20 young Latin American Jews studying for the rabbinate, Rabbi Meyer said.

In another address, Rabbi Stuart E. Rosenberg, of Toronto, warned that "the new entente" between Judaism and Christianity, resulting from the spirit of ecumenicism, involves "concealed dangers." "To be effective," he said, implementation of that spirit "must exact from both Christians and Jews revaluations of traditional attitudes toward each other. As Christians seek Christian renewal, so must Jews seek Jewish renewal."

Other addresses were delivered by Rabbi Raphael Posner, professor in residence of the American Student Center of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem; and Rabbi Bernard Segal, executive director of the United Synagogue of America.

JEWISH CONGRESS TESTIFIES AGAINST AMENDMENT PERMITTING SCHOOL PRAYERS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress today deplored the Constitutional amendment proposed by Republican Senator Everett Dirksen which would permit children to offer "voluntary prayers" in public school classrooms. Leo Pfeffer, testifying on behalf of the AJCongress, told the Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Amendments that "the voices of organized religion do not support" the amendment.

Mr. Pfeffer submitted the names of 223 Constitutional lawyers who were, he stated, "unanimous in the view" that Sen. Dirksen's proposal "is entirely unwarranted." He gave emphasis to this point in noting that some among the 223 lawyers did not agree with the Supreme Court decision outlawing Bible reading and prayer recitations in the public schools.

SUMMER CAMPS TO CONDUCT PROGRAMS ON TREATMENT OF SOVIET JEWRY

NEW YORK, Aug. 4. (JTA) -- Summer camps under Jewish communal auspices have been asked by the National Jewish Welfare Board to conduct programs which will awaken young campers and counselors to the "problems of fellow Jews in the Soviet Union, and, equally important, keep the issue in the public spotlight," it was reported by the JWB today.

The National Jewish Welfare Board, in cooperation with the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry of which it is a member, has distributed materials on the treatment, legal position and rights of Jews in the Soviet Union to all camps under Jewish auspices. It also distributed suggestions which include the organization of bus caravans by day camps in the New York area to demonstrate in front of the Soviet Mission to the United Nations, and similar caravans to historical sites, state houses or city halls in other communities; a relay of the Eternal Light by clusters of camps; a mass letter-writing campaign to Soviet officials from Jewish campers throughout the United States, and inter-camp meetings on Soviet Jewry by teenage campers.

JEWISH CEMETERY IN NEW JERSEY CHARGED WITH 'SHOCKING' TACTICS

TRENTON, N.J., Aug. 4. (JTA) -- Beth Israel Memorial Park, a Jewish cemetery in Woodbridge, N.J., was charged at a hearing conducted by the New Jersey State Senate's Business Affairs Committee, of attempting to "shock" customers into buying burial plots. The Committee is investigating practices of cemetery operators, headstone and vault dealers and funeral directors who accused each other at the hearing of alleged irregular practices.

The charge against Beth Israel Memorial Park was made by Howard Stern, a lawyer representing the New Jersey Monument Builders Association, who read excerpts from a manual of Beth Israel in which the salesmen were urged to confront the prospect with what was called a "shocker" describing the possibility of the sudden death of a member of the family. Irwin Shipper, vice-president of Beth Israel Memorial Park, said that the sales manual was no longer used.