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NEW YORK U.J.A. HONORS BEN-GURION; ANNOUNCES \$10,000,000 IN GIFTS

NEW YORK, March 13. (JTA) -- More than \$10,000,000 in giving was announced here tonight by the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York at a dinner formally launching its 1967 campaign with David Ben-Gurion as honored guest. About 1,200 leading contributors to the UJA attended the dinner, at which Mr. Ben-Gurion was presented with the Herbert H. Lehman Memorial Award for his "prophetic vision" and leadership.

Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller made the formal presentation to Israel's former Prime Minister of the medallion which symbolized the New York Jewish community's tribute to Mr. Ben-Gurion at the age of 80. Presiding over the dinner was Charles Mayer, chairman of the trustees of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York.

Mr. Ben-Gurion made a plea on behalf of one group of those overseas depending on the help of UJA-supported agencies -- the immigrants who come to Israel from backward lands "without skills, without knowledge of life in the Twentieth Century and without education." Immigrants from North Africa and Asia are the equal of any of Israel's citizens, when they are given the opportunity to develop their potential, he said. "Hundreds of thousands of them have already taken their places as full participants in Israel's modern, rapidly industrializing, democratic society," he stressed.

There must be a great expansion and intensification of educational and cultural programs, social services and economic assistance to enable these immigrants and their children to achieve full citizenship in Israel, Mr. Ben-Gurion stated. Other speakers at the dinner included Jack D. Weiler, honorary chairman of New York UJA trustees; Charles C. Bassine, a co-chairman of its board of directors; and Mrs. Burt J. Siris, chairman of its speakers bureau.

The inaugural dinner was also an occasion for honoring the five general chairmen of the 1966 New York UJA campaign -- Andrew Goodman, Morris L. Levinson, Gustave L. Levy, Albert Parker and Chester H. Roth, in recognition of their "outstanding leadership in saving Jewish lives."

Ben-Gurion Tells Truman 'You Have Become an Immortal in Israel'

Two old friends -- former President Harry S. Truman and David Ben-Gurion -- were reunited by long-distance telephone today. Mr. Ben-Gurion who had placed his call earlier in the day, received the call during a meeting with 75 members of Mahal, an organization of Americans who fought as volunteers in the Israel army during the War of Independence.

"I couldn't leave the United States," Mr. Ben-Gurion told President Truman, "without expressing the gratitude that our people and Jews throughout the world feel for what you have done to help establish the Jewish State. Our heart is with you and I know yours is with us. You have become an immortal in our country." Mr. Ben-Gurion closed with a "Shanaim Rabot" -- may you have many years -- and with "Shalom."

Returning to the meeting, he explained to the Israel war veterans that Mr. Truman did more for Israel than any other man, noting that Mr. Truman was the first head of state to recognize Israel and made possible Israel's first grant-in-aid, which amounted to \$100,000,000. The veterans group is composed of 500 members in the United States and Canada, 5 percent of whom are Christian. Reuben E. Gross, a Staten Island lawyer, who served in the Israel Air Force, is national commander.

Earlier in the day Mr. Ben-Gurion addressed an audience of 300 students and faculty members at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, and appealed to them to encourage American Jewish youth and Jewish scientists to spend at least some part of their careers studying and working in Israel.

CYPRIOTE SOLDIER ARRESTED IN ISRAEL; CHARGED WITH SPYING FOR SYRIA

TEL AVIV, March 13. (JTA) -- A 23-year-old Cypriote soldier, who was spending his leave in Israel, was arrested today on charges of espionage, it was announced by police here today. Stalut Papageorgius, who had worked as a cook on Israeli ships before he joined the Cyprus armed forces, was arrested as he was about to return home at the end of his leave. Suspected of working for Syrian intelligence, he was remanded for 15 days.

DROP IN NUMBER OF ISRAEL'S UNEMPLOYED REPORTED BY LABOR MINISTER

TEL AVIV, March 13. (JTA) -- Labor Minister Yigal Allon, who reported to Parliament last month that 96,000 Israelis were jobless, said yesterday that the number of unemployed workers dropped last week by 6,700. He reported that on March 7, a total of 35,000 jobless workers were registered with labor exchanges. Many jobless workers do not register with the exchanges.

Of the total registered jobless, he said, 630 were academicians, and 4,000 were working youth. He added that the Government had expanded state projects to provide an additional 16,000 jobs daily as well as an additional 1,000 openings for youth.

ISRAEL OPENS LOAN NEGOTIATIONS WITH WORLD BANK IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, March 13. (JTA) -- The Israel Industrial Development Bank opened formal negotiations with the World Bank for a \$15,000,000 loan.

Among the Israeli negotiators were Dr. A. Neeman, bank director, Nahum Shamir, Israel Economic Minister, and Dr. S. Sittan, Economic Counsellor of the Israeli Embassy. Four loans totaling \$94,500,000, have been made by the World Bank to Israel to date. The most recent was a \$20,000,000 loan extended in September, 1965.

U.S. RENEWS CONTRACT WITH TECHNION ON SUPERSONIC FLIGHT RESEARCH

HAIFA, March 13. (JTA) -- The United States Air Force has renewed for an additional year its research contract with the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, it was announced here today. The contract covers research on certain aspects of supersonic and hypersonic flight.

United States Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Lucius Battle arrived in Israel today for a two-day visit during which he will meet with Prime Minister Levi Eshkol and other members of the Cabinet and will tour the country. Mr. Battle is former United States Ambassador to Egypt.

FOUR AMERICAN COMPANIES BARRED BY JORDAN FOR DEALING WITH ISRAEL

LONDON, March 13. (JTA) -- The Jordanian Government yesterday barred nine companies, four of them American, from doing business in Jordan, because they trade with Israel, it was reported here from Amman.

The four American companies are National Steel and Tinplate Warehouse, Inc., of Pennsylvania; Jantzen, Inc., and seven of its branches; Studebaker Corporation and 14 of its branches in England, Canada, Mexico, Switzerland and the United States, and Staples and Specialties International of New York. The other companies named were two in Britain and one each in India, Singapore and Belgium.

ISRAEL DENIES INVOLVEMENT IN DISMISSAL OF 'JEWISH OBSERVER' EDITOR

JERUSALEM, March 13. (JTA) -- The Foreign Ministry denied here today that the Israel Government had been involved in the dismissal of Jon Kimche, editor of the Jewish Observer and Middle East Review, of London. The Ministry's spokesman said the issue was one that concerned solely the British Zionist Federation.

The Foreign Ministry's spokesman said the only action taken by the Government was a protest by Israel's envoy to London, Ambassador Aharin Remez, against the Observer's call for the resignation of Minister of Justice Yaacov Shapiro, and the periodical's criticism of the Israeli Judiciary as a result of the secret arrest, trial and sentencing to one-year prison terms of two editors of Bul magazine.

Maxim Gilan, one of the two editors, was granted 48 hours of leave from prison today "for family reasons." It was reported that his mother was seriously ill and that he also had to take care of urgent financial matters. Under Israel's prison regulations, a prisoner who had served three months of his sentence may ask for "leave" on humanitarian grounds. Gilan and his co-editor, Chmuel Mor, have been in prison since December 13.

CATHOLICS, JEWS, MOSLEMS FORM FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY IN PARIS

PARIS, March 13. (JTA) -- "Abraham's Friendship," a society of Jews, Catholics and Moslems, held its first meeting to "promote justice, peace and freedom throughout the world." The official purpose of the new group was given as to "encourage sincere friendship between the three religions which have common roots from the days of Abraham.

Founders included Catholic philosopher Jacques Nantet, Jewish sociologist Robert Aron, Moslem leader Si Hamza Boubakeur and Catholic priests Fathers Danielou and Riquet

NAZI LEADER WHO DEPORTED 50,000 BERLIN JEWS ARRESTED IN GERMANY

BONN, March 13. (JTA) -- Otto Bovensiepen, 61, whom a Danish court sentenced to death in 1951 for his war crimes in that country during the German occupation, was arrested at Muelheim, West Germany, today, and turned over to the West Berlin authorities for trial on charges that he had given the orders for the deportation of 50,000 Berlin Jews to death camps.

Bovensiepen headed the Gestapo office in Berlin from 1941 to 1943. Later he was transferred to Denmark. The latter country released him in 1953, after his death sentence had been commuted to life imprisonment. He has been living in Germany since his return in 1953.

At Bremen, the prosecution in the trial of former SS officer Philip Messinger, accused on eight counts of murdering Jews during World War II, requested that the man be given a life sentence at hard labor. The court ruled that it would deliver the verdict in his case tomorrow.

At Darmstadt, the local prosecutor announced he has obtained indictments against 10 former SS men, charged with the killing of 34,000 Jews in the Kiev ravine of Babi Yar, during Germany's occupation of the Ukrainian capital in 1941. The men were accused of being members of Special Commando Unit 4-A, responsible for the killing of a total of 80,000 persons during Germany's occupation of portions of the Soviet Union.

LEADER OF EXTREME WING OF GERMAN NEO-NAZI PARTY CHEERED IN MAINZ

BONN, March 13. (JTA) -- Adolf von Thadden, officially still the deputy chairman of the neo-Nazi National Democratic Party but now the rival of national chairman Fritz Thielen for the organization's top post, was cheered loudly at an NDP rally held in Mainz last night. All but one of the members of the party's executive committee -- including not only von Thadden but also seven others unseated by Thielen but reinstated by a rump meeting at Frankfurt were present. The only absentee was Thielen.

Political circles here believe last night's rally at Mainz indicated that von Thadden has now in effect taken over the party's leadership, although Thielen has threatened to seek a court injunction against the Frankfurt meeting's action, declaring that the Frankfurt parley had been convened contrary to the NDP's constitution.

Von Thadden, a member of one of about a dozen splinter, right-wing groups that were fused into the NDP two years ago, is the scion of a Prussian monarchist family and is considered here as "more radical" -- in the right-wing sense -- than Thielen. However, he has consistently denied that he had ever been a member of the Nazi Party.

MENDES-FRANCE WINS SEAT IN FRENCH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY; DEFEATS GAULIST

PARIS, March 13. (JTA) -- Pierre Mendes-France, the French-Jewish statesman and former Prime Minister, who has been in political eclipse since 1958, was back strongly in national prominence today, having been elected again to the National Assembly as a result of yesterday's run-off elections. He defeated his Gaullist opponent in his constituency of Grenoble, and is believed to be in position to play an extremely prominent role in the next Chamber of Deputies.

M. Mendes-France, born in Paris in 1907, the son of a Sephardic clothing manufacturer whose family traced back to the Jews exiled from Portugal in the 16th Century, graduated from the School of Political Science here in 1926, and three years later obtained his doctorate in law from the University of Paris. Practicing law in Normandy, he was elected to the National Assembly in 1932, at the age of 25, becoming the youngest member of the National Assembly. He married Miss Lily Cicurel, a member of a wealthy Egyptian Jewish family in 1933.

Even before he was elected to the National Assembly, he served in the Popular Front Government of Premier Leon Blum -- also a Jew -- as Under Secretary of State for the Treasury. He was reelected to the National Assembly time and again until 1958, when he was run over by the bandwagon supporting Gen. Charles de Gaulle, and lost again when he tried to come back onto the national scene in 1962. His present election brings him out of eclipse for the first time in nine years. Throughout this period, however, he continued opposing de Gaulle as a lecturer and writer on politics and economics.

Two friends of Israel and the Jewish people in general, for whom many French Jews voted on the Gaullist ticket, were defeated. They are Foreign Minister Maurice Couve de Murville and Armed Forces Minister Pierre Messmer. Jewish circles expressed their hope today that they would be renamed to the next Cabinet under President Charles de Gaulle, who, though weakened, has retained power. In France, a Cabinet member may be chosen outside the ranks of those who are deputies in the National Assembly.

EBAN HONORED IN NEW ZEALAND; GREETED BY PRIME MINISTER AT LUNCHEON

AUCKLAND, N.Z., March 13. (JTA) -- Prime Minister Keith Holyoake declared here today at a Parliamentary luncheon for visiting Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban that New Zealand wanted to strengthen its friendly relations with Israel still further in the political and economic spheres.

Mr. Eban was given an ovation from the 90 leaders present, including most of the Cabinet Ministers, leaders of Parliament and church officials. N.E. Kirk, leader of the opposition, brought greetings on behalf of New Zealand labor and praised Israel's work in the developing nations.

The speeches were broadcast on the national radio network. Mr. Eban also discussed New Zealand-Israeli trade relations with officials and addressed an overflow meeting at the Wellington Town Hall. He then flew to Melbourne in the personal plane of Australian Prime Minister Harold Holt for a visit with the Melbourne Jewish community.

ISRAEL ECONOMIC CORPORATION REPORTS \$938,000 IN EARNINGS FOR 1966

NEW YORK, March 13. (JTA) -- PEC Israel Economic Corporation, New York, made public today its annual report for 1966 showing net earnings after taxes of \$938,134, or \$1.04 per share in 1966, compared with \$1,086,102, or \$1.28 for the previous year. The corporation paid a cash dividend of 80 cents per common share -- same as last year -- on February 15 to its 11,000 stockholders in the United States.

PEC, now in its 42nd year, has invested almost \$25,000,000 of private U.S. capital in Israel industry, construction and development, transport, marketing, finance, citriculture and other ventures. It provides management and know-how to many of the companies in which it participates. Noting that the annual growth rate of Israel's Gross National Product of 10 percent had been second only to Japan in recent years, the PEC report points out that government measures taken to curb overheating of the economy resulted in a slowdown of the growth rate to less than 2 percent in 1966.

The report also notes that "the corporation's balance sheet reveals its strong financial position. This will enable PEC to participate in new ventures as they are developed, and to assist any of its subsidiaries and affiliates in need of expansion or working capital. Among the new ventures is the Israel Research and Development Corporation now in process of formation which is expected to give a strong impetus to the development of science-based industry in Israel."

ISRAEL TO HAVE TELEVISION ONLY 30 MONTHS FROM NOW, MINISTER SAYS

JERUSALEM, March 13. (JTA) -- Television will come to Israel in about two and a half years, Minister of Information Israel Galili told the Cabinet here today.

At present, Israel has only educational TV. When the services are expanded, in about 30 months, Mr. Galili reported, it will broadcast general programs for two and a half hours daily, in black and white only, and there will be no commercials on the air.

EDITOR OF WARSAW YIDDISH NEWSPAPER VISITS ISRAEL; IS GREETED

TEL AVIV, March 13. (JTA) -- Hersch Smoliar, editor of the Yiddish newspaper, Folkstimme, published in Warsaw, told Israel journalists here today that his paper maintains the only contact possible "under the present circumstances" between Russian Jews on the one hand and Jews in Poland and the rest of the world on the other.

Mr. Smoliar, currently visiting Israel, was the guest of Tel Aviv journalists today and was greeted by a number of speakers. He stressed the importance of his paper to Polish Jewry which, according to his estimate, numbers now between 28,000 and 30,000 persons.

RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY ASSIGNS RABBIS TO LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES

NEW YORK, March 13. (JTA) -- Answering the appeal from Latin American Jewish communities for rabbis, the Rabbinical Assembly has assigned five members of this year's graduating class of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America to serve there, it was announced today by Rabbi Eli A. Bohnen, president of the Assembly.

One of them, Isidoro Aizenberg, a native of Buenos Aires, will be the first native-born Latin American to enter the rabbinate. He has been assigned to Caracas, Venezuela. The others will serve in Argentina, Brazil and Peru. Latin American Jewry is suffering from a severe shortage of rabbis and religious teachers. Formerly dependent for both on Eastern Europe, the communities were cut off from this wellspring of Jewish learning by the Hitler Holocaust. With no native rabbis or seminaries, the communities are feeling the shortage.